**AP ART HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS**

Welcome to AP Art History! If you take this course seriously, it will change the way you see the world. You will see elements of buildings, culture and media in ways you totally overlooked in the past. I’m glad you’ve accepted this challenge and I promise to do everything I can to make the class entertaining, inspiring, and highly informative. I also promise to never assign busy work. All the work that I will assign will help you learn the necessary material to pass the AP exam and build your understanding of how humans throughout the world (across time and cultures) have used art as a way of understanding, expressing, and commenting upon the human condition.

I will be here to help you along this journey so don’t hesitate to ask questions.

**Required Text**: Gardner’s Art Through the Ages by Fred Kleiner 15th ed. (You’ll receive this when school begins)

**Suggested Materials**:

* Barron’s AP Art History 3rd Edition (Amazon price: $12.19)
* The Annotated Mona Lisa (Amazon price: $19.06)

If you are new to art and have not taken an art class before you may want to consider getting this book:

Look! Art Fundamentals by D’Alleva (Amazon price: $23.00)

 This book discusses how to see art and how to write about art.

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**Assignment 1:**

Print the 250 required AP Art History images and glue them down on large notecards (one artwork per notecard). If you can’t find large notecards, you can use cardstock and cut it in half. Include image number beside/under each image. On the back of the notecard, write the title, artist, medium, etc. (You can just cut out the title, artist, medium, etc. and glue it on the back like I did. It saves space and time.) Store them in a container that you plan to use throughout the year. We will use these notecards throughout the year as we learn about each artwork. To locate the images and to learn more about the AP Exam, use this site: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-art-history>

If you click on “AP Art History Course and Exam Description,” you will notice that the images are broken up into 10 Content areas. The images should be small enough for you to cut out and paste on the notecards. Please print these in color as that is important when discussing artworks.

(250 points)

**Assignment 2:**

Read about the Elements and Principles of Art. Write a brief description of each term using your own words. This will let me know if you understand those concepts. If you have access to the internet, you can use these websites:

<http://www.getty.edu/education/teachers/building_lessons/formal_analysis.htm>

<http://kqedartschool.woop.ie/index.html>

OR if you don’t have internet access, go to the library and use their internet or check out a book in the Art section that has information.

With each description, draw a picture that illustrates each term.

Elements of Art: Line, Shape, Space, Value, Color, Texture, Form, Composition

Principles of Design (AKA Principles of Art): Unity, Variety, Balance, Pattern, Movement, Emphasis, Rhythm

(30 points)

**Assignment 3:**

Use one of the 250 required artworks and apply the elements and principles of art to describe and discuss the artwork. Include your opinion of the artwork. You are welcome to look up information about it to help you in this task but, I’m not looking to see if you know the context of the work. I just want to see if you can use what you’ve learned to talk about an artwork. I also want you to tell me what you think of the artwork itself. We will learn more about it during the school year. Write one to two pages to describe the artwork you chose using the elements and principles of art and include the artwork. You can cut and paste it on your page. If you are able or prefer, you can type the assignment.

(50 points)

**For this course you will need:**

* 2 inch binder & notebook paper
* Dividers for binder
* Glue sticks
* 5x8 notecards (can cut cardstock in ½ instead if necessary)
* Container for notecards (plastic shoebox size)
* Reminder App
* Flash drive (optional)

*Please bring all materials and assignments to school when we return in August.* ***All assignments will be due January 5 2018****.*

Alicia Cobler

**On the Right-hand side, include your name, course, and assignment. This will be required for assignments you turn in.**

AP Art History

Summer Assignment (example)



In this painting, Vermeer depicts a painter in the midst of painting a portrait of a young lady. She is dressed in a light blue dress holding a book in one hand and some type of horn with the other. She appears to be standing in front of a window because light appears to be coming from the left of her. Her dress has a very smooth texture. It looks as though it is made of satin. Vermeer uses a lot of blues, yellows, and browns in this oil painting, creating a sense of unity throughout the painting. There is a blue and brown curtain-like cloth that gives the viewer the illusion of space. It looks as though you, the viewer, is pulling back the curtain to see what the artist and his model are doing. The lady and the painter are further back. You can tell because they get smaller the further you go back in the painting. Vermeer uses a contrast of values to show form throughout the painting. You can see the folds in every piece of cloth and shadows being cast to the right of every object in the painting. The floor appears to have a black tile and marble checkerboard pattern. There are floral designs in the curtain that is in the foreground. He doesn’t appear to use atmospheric perspective because there are great details in both the foreground, middle ground, and background of the painting. You can see the minute details in the map that is hanging on the back wall of the studio. If you were to move closer to the actual image, you could see all the small line work he used when painting this artwork. The oil painting seems to have an asymmetrical balance because it appears to be heavier on the left side because of the mass of the curtain. The light from the window moves your eyes to the right where the painter and model are located. The light also seems to bounce off of the intricate metal chandelier and metal studs throughout the studio.

The Art of Painting. Johannes Vermeer. 1665-1668. Oil on canvas.

This is a beautiful piece of artwork. Instead of drawing lines, he uses values to paint. There is a lot of details that make you want to look closer to see what is really going on in the work of art. When I look at this artwork, I can almost feel the texture of the draping cloth and the smooth metals. I think it was very interesting how he emphasized the model and painter. The painter stands out because the colors that he is dressed in are different than the other colors in the painting. He is wearing a black and white outfit. His shirt is black and white striped.



Notecard example:

Front of note card: number and image

Back of note card: image number, location, date, media, etc. (the information from the AP Art History Course and Exam Description)

