

# Art Syllabus and Disclosure

Mrs. Ashton

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Classroom 38

Dear Parents and Students:

I am so excited to create art with you! This disclosure statement will provide a scope of the class and my expectations as we go throughout the year.

## About Me

I studied Art Education and English Education at BYU-Idaho, taking multiple classes in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and literature. I have always been an art lover, and I am very excited to share the wonderful world of art!

## Course Description:

Intro to Art and Art I will focus on the building blocks of art. These building blocks are called the “Elements of Design”. We will go through each element and do corresponding projects that will help us discover how to use and read these elements in artwork. We will also spotlight some famous artists in history that will help us learn certain techniques.

## Classroom Rules and Procedures

**Use your time wisely.** We are fortunate to be provided with the materials and tools to make this class possible. Wasted time in class also means wasted money and materials. For that reason, time in the art studio is precious and must be treated respectfully. Students are expected to always be working on their classwork. **No phones or other electronics (including earbuds and smart watches unless previously approved) should be on persons at any time during class.** Electronics should stay in lockers to be used if needed during passing periods or lunch. If they are found during class, they will be immediately taken and put in an envelope and sent to the office to be picked up at the end of the day.

**Keep the Classroom Clean.** For the same reason, the materials and tools in the art studio must be taken care of. These tools can last for a long time if we treat them carefully. It is the expectation for every student to respect the tools and supplies that are provided in the classroom. Every day we will take time to carefully clean our areas and tools to preserve the materials we have.

**Be aware of your surroundings.** Because we will be working on projects often, we need to be aware of what is going on around us to keep each other and our projects safe. I highly suggest leaving backpacks and jackets and other trippable items in your locker to eliminate items on the floor. For the same reason, **food and drink is not allowed in the classroom** as oils and other ingredients can be damaging to projects and create slipping hazards. Sealed water bottles are acceptable, but should stay under the tables so as to not accidentally spill on someone’s project.

## Grading Policy

Student projects will be graded by the same rubric every time. This rubric focuses on using time wisely, cleanliness in the classroom, application of specifically taught techniques, and professionalism of the project. Grades are provided on an A to C and Incomplete scale as all other classes at Diamond Fork Middle School. I am happy to help students redo assignments for better grades. If a student would like to redo an assignment, please meet with me to discuss the details. Similarly, I will accept late-work if the student consults me before the due date so that we can arrange an alternate plan. For students who turn in projects late without discussing with me previously, their final grade will be lowered a few points in professionalism according to the rubric (unless other accommodations need to be made per each student). I will share the rubric with each assignment on Canvas. For grades, please refer to Infinite Campus.

## Materials

Through our budget, we are blessed to have many different art materials in the classroom. Wasting or destroying a significant amount of materials may result in being charged for the materials lost or damaged. We will strive in class to take care of our materials so that we have enough for everyone and use them to our best advantage.

## Safety Concerns

In class, we will use a range of materials. While none of them are toxic, if materials are used incorrectly, they can be physically dangerous. As long as students follow our specific instructions and classroom procedures, there is no need to worry.

**Parents:** In my classroom, we have an art library that has accumulated over the years from past art teachers and classes. The books featured in this library cover various topics, including focuses on specific artists, materials, and time periods. As can be expected in any study of Art History, some of these books do show copies of famous artworks that contain undressed figures. None of the works are intended to be pornographic in any way, and are often reverent studies of the human form. This is a pivotal idea in the art world and has its place in your students' deeper understanding of art and cultural studies in the human body if they continue to pursue art. We will not have any assignments that require students to go through the books in this library, but the books are available for students to read or check out if they have deeper interests in any specific subjects. If this is something you are uncomfortable with, please discuss your personal guidelines with your student.

Please see me for any questions. I am excited to have a great year in Art!