

## AP Studio Art Summer Assignments- Photography

*You will need:*

- A digital SLR
- A flash drive (2GB or larger)
- A sketchbook journal to jot ideas down, make sketches in, and do all written work below in.
- Photoshop or similar photo editing program

### **When shooting:**

Be sure your file size setting is set to FINE on your camera. Be sure your images are created and saved at a minimum resolution 240 DPI. When resizing in Photoshop, UNCHECK the Resample Image box when changing resolution. When then changing document size, you can check the Resample Image box. Be familiar with your camera, and use Aperture and Shutter Speed PURPOSEFULLY for the affects you want. ALWAYS backup your work, saving in at least TWO locations at all times (I suggest google drive and a flash drive). No excuses for losing a memory card or flash drive when the work was not backed up in a second location. In Photoshop, ALWAYS edit all of your final images. Do LEVELS, CURVES, and other basic adjustments to make ALL your images reach their full potential! Grayscale any images you feel are stronger for their design if gray scaled.

**All of the following summer work is due on the first day back to school. If it is not complete, a schedule change may be suggested.**

Art is an ongoing process. For most artists, creativity and personal expression through art is often a compulsion that must be fed. It is also critical to keep up artistic skills because even the best can become rusty. Therefore, your summer work is very important to your continued success in your artwork. Each assignment is designed to help with your AP requirements as well. In case you don't already know this, you will be submitting 12 excellent art works that show your "Breadth"- all the bells and whistles that you can do...as well as 12 outstanding works of art for your "Concentration" that reveal a developed theme throughout all the 12 pieces... Summer grading will be based on idea, craftsmanship, being a visually successful work, and being completed on or before the due date.

Google Classroom: I have included multiple examples of successful photography AP submissions. Please take the time to go through these examples. This will allow you to see what your final exam should look like and how it will be judged!

### **Part I**

*Please choose 12 of the following assignments: Log them in your sketchbook! (aperture/f-stop, shutter speed, light conditions, etc.)*

1. When you travel to a new place this summer, record the adventure. Take 3 to 5 photos.
2. Take 2 photos of the same friend or family member, focusing on a very different mood in each photo.
3. Take a series of photos that deal with repeating shapes in the composition.
4. Study faces and figures this summer. Take a "character" photo whose face really speaks to you personally.

- 5.** Do a series of photos where you are panning the subject/subjects.
- 6.** Create a composition where you freeze the action of your subject.
- 7.** Take a series of photos of the same landscape, cityscape or beach scene at different times of the day, capturing the changing light.
- 8.** Photograph night scenes. Try some time-lapse photography.
- 9.** Work with silhouettes. Try a series and improve your composition with each new photograph.
- 10.** Study the work of a famous photographer that you admire. Emulate his/her style but with your own twist...your own subject matter/concept.
- 11.** Take a series of photos that tell a story or present a social issue or something that you are passionate about.
- 12.** Set up an interesting still life of any related or unrelated items. Take a series of photographs as though you were a fashion magazine/ home magazine photographer on assignment. Concentrate on texture, shape, composition, negative and positive space, lighting...
- 13.** Take a strong photo using only natural lighting. Soft or strong contrast.
- 14.** Isolate a pattern you see in nature or a manmade pattern and photograph it.
- 15.** Go for the biggest pop, the most color impact you can imagine in a great color photo.  
Maybe try a primary color scheme...or go for warms or cools...have fun with this one!
- 16.** Think outside the box...go to a weird location or find some strange angles to a seemingly normal situation or subject. Photograph it. Maybe juxtapose a normal and a strange person/place...
- 17.** Photograph your subject with restrained color...use an analogous color range.
- 18.** Take a series of black and white photos. Experiment with lighting, contrast, light tones, dark tones, texture, etc.
- 19.** Photograph something that deals with perspective. Think of composition and leading the eye into the work.
- 20.** Experiment with different ways to use framing in your photographs. Try for a series of three different framing devices. (Doorway, window, foliage, hands and hair)
- 21.** Photograph your subject from an unusual viewpoint.
- 22.** Try using a screen or reflective surface in your work.
- 23.** Work with people, people and more people: try posed shots in different lighting, try informal street portraits, try group portraits, and try people in positions where the background helps explain the photo....
- 24.** Take some sky photos. Beach photos. Wherever you go photos.
- 25.** Enhance any and all of your photos. Try a collage of several of your best photos.
- 26.** Head to the junkyard, an industrial park, or at least find some interesting dumpsters or piles of garbage to photograph. With diffused light (overcast day), you'll be able to see shapes and color beautifully. With direct light (bright sun, late afternoon) you'll notice textures and lines.
- 27.** Experiment with horizontals and verticals.
- 28.** Make an image that will show scale: a large space surrounding a single, small figure, which is emphasized by breaking the pattern, or breaking the space.

## **Part II**

*Choose ANY 5 of these to do. BUT BE SPECIFIC when you do them! Log them into your sketchbook!*

Create blur  
Freeze  
Shallow depth of field  
Move in close  
Every angle  
Balance  
Low angle  
Incongruous  
Self-portrait in shadow  
Strong side light  
Available light  
Photograph at night  
Scale  
Leading lines  
Empty beach  
Reflections  
Movement of the sea  
Silhouettes  
Isolate subject  
Be precise  
Use window light  
Surface texture  
Underfoot  
Driftwood  
Unusual views  
Local detail  
Industry  
Sculpture

## **Part III**

In addition to your summer assignments students are required to complete two museum or Gallery visits. (A visit to a working artist's studio can be substituted for a gallery or museum visit)

This is very important! Any student/artist spends a great deal of time looking at the work of others, staying current on what is out there.

Visit the Smithsonian Museums. We are blessed to live where world-class art is available and free to view! Metro can drop you literally at the front door!

Document what you see in your sketchbook—write down the names of artists and work you like—make sketches of that work. Create ideas for your own work using the work of others as inspiration. *Online museums and galleries do not qualify for this assignment.*

Photo exhibits are best, but other types of exhibits are also beneficial! Take your sketchbook along, and while in the gallery or museum, write a review of the exhibit, highlighting two works, which particularly struck you as powerful. Do a

sketch or take a photo of the works and include them in your sketchbook. Also add your ticket, armband, sticker, or receipt!

#### **Part IV**

##### *Photographer Studies*

Do online or library research on any two of the following photographers.

Do a double page spread in your journal/sketchbook on each one, and on it, include 2 printouts of their most well-known works, with all credits given.

-Their name, years born and died, type of photography, why they're so well known, how to recognize their work, websites or sources you used.

Berenice Abbott

Ansel Adams

Diane Arbus

Eugene Atget

Richard Avedon

Margaret Bourke-White

Brassai

Irving Penn

Eliot Porter

Man Ray

Cindy Sherman

Edward Steichen

Alfred Stieglitz

Paul Strand

Weegee

Edward Weston

Garry Winogrand

Robert Capa

Henri Cartier-Bresson

Imogen Cunningham

Robert Doisneau

William Eggleston

Walker Evans

Lee Friedlander

Lewis Hine

Dorothea Lange

Sally Mann

Joel Meyerowitz

Annie Liebowitz

Andy Goldsworthy

#### **Part V**

Write a reflection on the process, inspiration, challenges, etc. you encountered shooting over the summer. No less than 1 page, no more than 2 pages, neatly written or typed. (Get used to the idea that there will be writing assignments in this course. Written artist's statements are a core part of the AP Studio curriculum.)

**Tips, words of advice, definitions**

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX...each of these themes/ideas/assignments can be considered in a literal way or in a creative way. Be creative in your thinking.

. Most successful students shoot at least 40-50 shots for each assignment. This is a college level class. Snapshots are great for your scrapbook and memories; they are not acceptable for this class though. If you are taking your camera on vacation and plan to shoot some assignments, then make sure you are focused on a theme that goes beyond sunsets, beach scenes, etc. For those of you who love nature and scenic shots, you will need to think outside the box and create images that cause the viewer to look at the scene in a new and different way. That is an extremely difficult task, even for seasoned artists, so I would recommend avoiding scenic/nature shots for these summer assignments. Keep a little mini-journal of your progress. Write down where you were, what you were thinking, why you took the photo...this will help tremendously when you have to write your final commentary on the AP EXAM!!!!

**The Elements are used to create the Principles of Design:**

**Rhythm**- the principle that indicates movement by the repetition of the elements.

Visual rhythm is created by repeating positive spaces separated by negative spaces. There are five types: random, regular, alternating, flowing, and progressive.

**Visual Movement** – The principle used to guide the viewer's eye through the image, usually using leading line, curved organic line, and contrast.

**Balance** – The principle concerned with equalizing visual forces, or elements, in a work of art. Two types: formal (symmetrical) and informal (asymmetrical – rule of thirds).

**Emphasis** – The principle that makes one part of a work dominant over the other parts. The element noticed first is called dominant; the elements noticed later are called subordinate.

**Contrast** – Technique for creating focal point by using differences in elements (all elements can be contrasted in photographs).

**Harmony**- The principle of art that creates unity by stressing similarities of separate but related parts.

**Unity** – The quality of wholeness or oneness that is achieved through the effective use of the elements and principles of design. Unity is created by simplicity, repetition, and proximity.

**Variety** – The principle of art concerned with difference or contrast.

**Proportion**- The principle of art concerned with the size relationships of one part to another within the whole.

**Scale** – The principle of art which pertaining to the relative size of things. (ex.: making something small look large, by placing it next to something way smaller than it is itself.)

*All work must be completed by the start of the school year!*

Email me your progress over the summer!

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Have ½ completed by July 30th.

Have the rest completed by August 29th.

If you do this, you will not fall into the trap of doing marginal work in a hurry!

Please note: This is not just “summer busy work!” If you take this seriously, and do a good job on these assignments, you will use them for your EXAM! You will not have to stress as much during the school year.