

Exploring Photography: Eighth Grade Arts Rotation (18 weeks)

Communication is basic to all social processes. Graphic communications is an industrial endeavor that pertains to the visual aspects of communicating. The purpose of this 18 week course is to develop basic skills and the appreciation for and understanding of the field of visual-graphic communications. Specific areas students explore include black and white photography and the matting or framing of photographs. There will be a laboratory fee to help defray the costs of the special materials needed for this course.

The Art Department Policies and Procedures included outline basic expectations for all courses offered at Rosa Parks. They are designed to clarify basic classroom behavior and expectations. Art Department teachers will also follow all guidelines presented in the school calendar/handbook on discipline, attendance and dress, etc. Please review those with your child.

Grading and Reporting

The use of rubrics and self-evaluation is a critical step in the grading process in Art class. Each evaluation allows for both student and teacher reflection on the project. Students are often required to submit an artists' statement describing their performance on the project. Other graded assignments in Art class may include, quizzes, art critique participation, and sketchbook drawings.

In accordance with the revised MCPS grading and reporting policy, we will distinguish *Academic Achievement* from *Learning Skills*. These two areas of performance will be reported separately on the report card. The two areas of performance to be reported include:

Homework and Coursework Completion

All art classes in Grades 6, 7, and 8 will be graded as follows:

10% - Practice/Preparation

30% - Formative Assessments

60% - Summative Assessments

Minimum Standards

All student grades will be recorded using percentages. If a student does not meet *minimum standard*, or submit an assignment before the deadline date, they shall receive a zero as their grade.

Minimum standard is met when a student attempts at least half, or fifty percent, of the assigned work. If a student meets this minimum standard, they shall not receive a grade any lower than a 50%.

Late and Missing Work Procedures

Each assignment will have a **due-date** and a **deadline**. The **due-date** is the date by which the students are expected to submit the assignment. Extended time, as well as chances to re-work an assignment will be given if necessary. However, once the **due-date** has passed, students may *no longer* work on the assignment *during class time*. The **deadline** is the last day the assignment will be accepted for a grade. Work not turned in by the **deadline** will be considered **missing**. **Missing** work may be recorded in the grade book as an **E**. ***Reworking graded projects is always encouraged. (The revised grade will replace the original grade.) However after the **deadline** has passed, revisions, while accepted for review, will not be accepted for an improved grade.***

General Art Room Expectations

- Be a responsible and active listener.
- Respect the people, artwork, and materials in the Art room.
- Each student will be responsible for maintaining their personal workspace as well as actively participating in specific classroom maintenance tasks for the good of the studio environment.
- Working on assignments for other classes is not acceptable unless the student has received prior verbal permission from the teacher for a specific exception. If the teacher finds the student doing work for another class, the work will be taken and kept until the end of the day.

Student Privileges

- Talking quietly with their table is permitted at non- instructional times.
These are privileges and if abused will be taken away.

Studio Lab Fees

The lab fees for the course is **\$15 per semester**. The teacher will collect funds for one full week. Checks should be made out to RPMS. Student and teacher's name should be included on check as well. Cash payments may be made as well.

I am available for additional support or questions before and after school- please notify me in advance if possible.

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