

# **Advanced Placement**

## *Summer Assignments*

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The Advanced Placement Studio Art Portfolio course is a college level studio class. In this class, we will explore different techniques and media together, but the most important ingredient is YOU. AP takes a commitment beyond the classroom in order for you to grow technically, creatively, and aesthetically. By signing up, you have indicated that you are ready for the challenge, and I am here to help you.

Over the summer you have the following assignments to complete for the first class meeting in September. Keep your failures as well as your successes. Do not throw anything away! PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE. **Just as the athlete must exercise each day to play well, so must the artist.**

**Summer assignments will be group critiqued and are a prelude to the first project of the fall term. It is imperative that you complete them prior to the first day of class.**

**We will have a class critique of summer work the first day or two of school. Please bring your work with you for our first class period.**

### **Supplies:**

A bound sketchbook cache (usually with a hard, black cover) 8x10" or larger

Drawing pencils (2H, HB, 2B, 4B, 6B,)

Charcoal pencils (soft and medium)

Sharpie marker (fine and ultra fine point)

3-5 larger pieces of drawing paper

A variety of color media (color pencils/markers, pastel, watercolor, etc.)

## Assignments:

1. Try to **daily** draw what you see... in your sketchbook. (*Your sketchbook must not be empty when you arrive to class!*) Try to draw mainly from observation (not pictures). Try contour line, gesture line, completed value drawings with strong darks and lights. *You are required to do drawings from each of the following categories:*

**People** – your family, friends, strangers – try them sitting still (watching TV) or capture movement (like an athletic event or people walking the mall).

**Still life** – an arrangement of inanimate objects like dishes, apples, etc. Keep your set up for several sittings. Do several views of the same still life and finish with one beautifully rendered piece after you do several views. Your bike, the family car, children's toys are good subjects.

**Landscape** – observe and record your surroundings.

2. **Choose three** of the following assignments to complete over the summer. These should be done outside your sketchbook, on good quality paper that you may take from the art room, or purchase at an art supply store. Please draw a frame on the paper before you begin to draw. You may use any media you like – charcoal, pencil, pastels, paint, etc. Render in the style you feel most comfortable with, but don't be afraid to try a new or more advanced technique.

Illustration 1 Kitchen table or counter set up with objects that involve pattern, and surfaces that reflect. This drawing should focus on correct perspective, a broad range of values, and a strong composition.

Illustration 2 Set up three to five eggs on a bath towel. Concentrate on the round forms of the eggs in contrast to the texture of the bath towel. Take time to place the eggs and develop a strong composition.

Illustration 3 A self-portrait that tells the viewer something about you. Avoid the straightforward, smack dab in the middle of the paper solution, unless you can do something unusual with it. Consider your expression and your head angle. A wide range of values and line quality in the hair is important in this drawing.

Illustration 4 Looking in or out a doorway or window. Both interior and exterior space should be clearly pictured. Try to show depth in your work. The viewer should be able to “walk” into the drawing and feel the physical space.

Illustration 5 A landscape that shows both near and far. This must be done from observation, so consider your backyard a landscape.

**Good Luck... and have a great summer. See you in September!!**