**AP Art and Design Summer Assignment**

# 2025-2026

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I can’t explain how excited and hopeful I am to be teaching our AP art class! I also can’t wait to see the work you produce over the coming year. To help us get a head start on the coming school year and all that is required by the AP College Board you do have some summer art exploration to do. Over break you have a few assignments to help determine the direction for the art you will produce for the coming school year. Most of these steps should be centered around something you are deeply interested in, so hopefully you find most of them interesting and thought provoking.

These assignments will be completed weekly, hopefully, and everyone will complete these assignments differently. To store your work on these assignments you will need a sketchbook/journal. One with thicker paper will allow you to try different materials and techniques. Each journal assignment is a step to help you either understand the AP expectations, the creative process, or improve experimentation with media. The directions are hopefully clear enough for you to start work as soon as you are ready. Your work is due the first week back at school. We will discuss these projects, sketches, and written work as a class. You will be graded on this with the expectation that you will produce high level work as this is a course with college level expectations. DON’T WAIT UNTIL JULY TO START. **These assignments are designed to be done a little bit at a time throughout the whole summer. The more you think about these assignments the better your production and ideas will be as well. This assignment is about the Sustained Investigation (S.I.) that you are to demonstrate to the College Board, and it is about exploring your ideas for your project and having a final project to turn in. The College Board is also looking for what they call “synthesis”, which is the idea that your artwork’s materials, images, techniques, and ideas all work together to demonstrate your intended meaning or concept. This will be one of the main goals we work for throughout the coming year.**

**Here is a timeline of assignments. Each assignment is defined in order after the schedule.**

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| **Suggested Timeline**Mark each thing off as you complete the assignments. |
| **Work Days** | **Exercise Activity** | **Journal Expectations** |
| **April – May**  | Intro to AP Art, Course Overview, and Questions | Intro to AP: Review instructions, PowerPoint, and portfolio examples. Pick your portfolio type. Not graded. Begin Big Ideas, Essential Questions, and Creativity Packet Intro.  |
| **May 25 – May 31** | Step 1: Big Ideas, Essential Questions, and Zero Draft. | Finding Your Interests. Read about Big Ideas and Essential Questions. Produce your own Big Ideas, Essential Questions, and Zero Draft. Zero draft will focus your research. Graded.  |
| **June 1 – June 7** | Step 2: Research  | Visual and information research. Find new cross-curricular information related to your Big Idea and Essential Questions. Write down new information and paste visuals. Graded. |
| **June 8 – June 14** | Step 3: Brainstorming Connections and Visuals | Read through the different brainstorming descriptions. Take the whole week to think about your Essential Questions. Complete three brainstorming assignments of your choosing during the week. Fill a page for each. Graded. |
| **June 15 – June 21** | Step 4: Meaning Making  | Determine which project ideas are the most original and interesting. Determine the meaning for a minimum of one project. Begin collecting and taking images to use as reference images. Determine what materials help display your desired meaning.  |
| **June 22 – June 28** | Step 5: Material Experimentation | Experimentation 1: Experiment with chosen materials in your sketchbook. Practice and experiment with at least one new material and one unexpected technique. |
| **June 29 – July 5** | Step 5: Material Experimentation | Experimentation 2: Experiment with chosen materials in your sketchbook. Practice and experiment with at least one new material and one unexpected technique. |
| **July 6 – July 12** | Part 6 and 7: Planning & Reference Images | Begin sustained investigations of visual and compositional ideas. Create a minimum of 10 thumbnails and 2 rough sketches. Graded. Find a minimum of two reference images for each object of your final work.  |
| **July 13 – August 6** | Part 8: Final Artwork | Complete one final artwork. Demonstrate ideas, images, and techniques from the previous steps. |
|  | **A due date will be sent to you all as we finalize dates and course rotation for next school year. Expect to bring your work on the first day of school.** |

**Intro to AP** (Not graded- but I expect you to be familiar with what College Board expects)

1. View PowerPoint Presentation to get an understanding of what you will do in AP: [Intro to AP Art and Design(1).pptx](https://knoxvillecatholic-my.sharepoint.com/%3Ap%3A/p/alex_kaparos/EYhGdaaa3FpOnSa-Z1Z0rTMBrtyZE9S-3_odbOIkA7m29w?e=qkHmZ5)
2. View examples of AP portfolios on the AP website. Pay attention to what they scored and why. Start making connections as to what you are trying to achieve this year. Identify differences between different types of portfolios. Scroll down to find the examples.

2D Design Example Portfolios:

* + - Sustained Investigation and Selected Works:

[AP 2-D Art and Design | The Portfolio | AP Central – The College Board](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-2-d-art-and-design/portfolio?course=ap-2-d-art-and-design)

Drawing Portfolio Example:

* + - Sustained Investigation and Selected Works:

[AP Drawing Portfolio | AP Central – The College Board](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-drawing/portfolio?course=ap-drawing)

3D Portfolio Examples:

* + - Sustained Investigation and Selected Works:

[AP 3-D Art and Design Design Portfolio | AP Central – The College Board](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-3-d-art-and-design/portfolio?course=ap-3-d-art-and-design)

**Assignment:** Decide which type of portfolio you would like to do this year in AP.

It will be either 2D Design, Drawing, or 3D Design. If you are still uncertain, you should create based on what you know and are interested in. We will define it later.

**Follow the AP Art Creative Process Steps packet to help you complete each step of our summer project. There is no one way to do these steps and you do not need to do every single brainstorming or experiment concept listed, but please familiarize yourself with the options and determine some that you think will be helpful to get started on your summer work.**

**Have a wonderful summer and I will check my email from time to time if you need help,**

**Mr. Kaparos**