**Digital Photography 1 Syllabus**

2016-17

East High School

Classroom 107

Ms. Acker

[molly\_acker@dpsk12.org](mailto:alexandra_overby@dpsk12.org)

Office: Inside room 126

Class Website: <http://mollyackerartteacher.weebly.com/>

“*You don’t take a photograph, you make it*.” **Ansel Adams**

**Course Description**

Digital Photography is a course for students who have little to no prior experience in photography. Foundational camera and Photoshop techniques, portfolio development, and artistic inquiry are taught in this course. Entering work into art competitions and exhibitions is encouraged. Upon completion of this course, students may opt to take Digital Photography 2, Graphic Design, or Multimedia.

**Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to: (Essential Learning Goals)**

* Explore design elements, technical quality, and conceptual concerns at a beginning level.
* Understand and operate camera functions.
* Understand and operate Photoshop and iPhoto.
* Understand the Mac computer interface.
* Understand import, export, and file management operations.
* Understand basic print production and display options for digital images.
* Develop students into critical thinkers that can analyze and interpret their artwork and the artwork of others.
* Investigate works of art by artists and the visual problems they address.
* Create artwork that shows evolving thought and beginning mastery of the medium.
* Use decision-making skills to plan artwork and apply the correct techniques to create the work.
* Start to develop a style or voice that is unique to the individual student.
* Express ideas about art using visual, verbal, and written forms of communication.
* Demonstrate behaviors that reflect the habits of professional artists.

**Students MUST have a digital camera to be in this class – a point and shoot camera, smartphone, or (recommended) digital SLR camera.**

\*\*\*Students are expected to **pay $20.00 each semester**. This art fee helps to provide students with a full range of art supplies needed to be successful in this course. **Please see the treasurer to pay your fee and bring your receipt to me so I can mark you as paid in my grade book. FEE receipt and Small spiral Notebook DUE AUGUST 30th.**

**Colorado Standards for Visual Art**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1. Observe and Learn to Comprehend** | 1. | Visual art has inherent characteristics and expressive features |
| 2. | Historical and cultural context are found in visual art |
| 3. | Art and design have purpose and function |
| **2. Envision and Critique to Reflect** | 1. | Reflective strategies are used to understand the creative process |
| 2. | A personal philosophy of art is accomplished through use of sophisticated language and studio art processes |
| 3. | Interpretation is a means for understanding and evaluating works of art |
| **3. Invent and Discover to Create** | 1. | Demonstrate competency in traditional and new art media, and apply appropriate and available technology for the expression of ideas |
| 2. | Assess and produce art with various materials and methods |
| 3. | Make judgments from visual messages |
| **4. Relate and Connect to Transfer** | 1. | The work of art scholars impacts how art is viewed today |
| 2. | Communication through advanced visual methods is a necessary skill in everyday life |
| 3. | Art is a lifelong endeavor |

**Studio Habits of the Mind**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Develop Craft** | Learning to use and care for tools (e.g., viewfinders, brushes), materials (e.g., charcoal, paint). Learning artistic conventions (e.g., perspective, color mixing). |
| **Engage & Persist** | Learning to embrace problems of relevance within the art world and/or of personal importance, to develop focus and other mental states conducive to working and persevering at art tasks. |
| **Envision** | Learning to picture mentally what cannot be directly observed and imagine possible next steps in making a piece. |
| **Express** | Learning to create works that convey an idea, a feeling, or a personal meaning. |
| **Observe** | Learning to attend to visual contexts more closely than ordinary "looking" requires, and thereby to see things that otherwise might not be seen. |
| **Reflect** | Question & Explain: Learning to think and talk with others about an aspect of one’s work or working process.  Evaluate: Learning to judge one’s own work and working process and the work of others in relation to standards of the field. |
| **Stretch & Explore** | Learning to reach beyond one's capacities, to explore playfully without a preconceived plan, and to embrace the opportunity to learn from mistakes and accidents. |
| **Understand Art World** | Domain: Learning about art history and current practice.  Communities: Learning to interact as an artist with other artists (i.e., in classrooms, in local arts organizations, and across the art field) and within the broader society. |

**Career & Technical Education Standards**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| VA09-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.3-EO.c - Interpret the purposes of art across time, culture, and diversity, and be mindful of cultural sensitivities | |
| VA09-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.1-EO.a - Articulate ideas that can be expressed in traditional, advanced, and evolving media |
| VA09-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.1-EO.b - Investigate and document a wide range of traditional, advanced,  and evolving media used in creating images that communicate ideas |
| VA09-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.2-EO.a - Use sketches, plans, and models to create and/or design a functioning work of art |
| VA09-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3-EO.b - Research the range of careers available to artists such  as museum curation, automobile design, gaming design, medical illustration, and photojournalism |
| VA09-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3-EO.c - Outline required training for one’s individual career goals |

**Expectations**

* **Be Prepared for Class** Students must come to class on time and ready with their materials and assignments.
* **Be Respectful of Others and the Studio Space** A courteous studio environment maximizes the opportunity for learning.
* **Work Everyday** There is always something that can be accomplished in the studio – let’s make the most of our learning time.

**Assessments**

You will be graded on:

* Demonstrating artistic practice and maturity in work habits
* Creation of artwork
* Critique and reflection about artwork
* Development of a personal website about your artwork

*You may redo projects for a higher grade. Assignments may be marked penalized if turned in late due to unexcused absences, not working in class, etc.*

**Daily Studio Points**: You will earn points for being in class, being on time, being prepared, displaying positive behavior, following East HS guidelines, participating in class, using materials appropriately, cleaning up, and assisting classmates and the teacher. **If you lose points due to behavior or absences, it is your responsibility to discuss your options with the teacher to earn those points back.**

**Personal Website and Dropbox:** In this class, you will be creating a website through Weebly to present your artwork and demonstrate understanding of key concepts. This website is for your classwork only, however, you may add items of an academic nature (awards, exemplar essays, etc.) so that colleges may look at your work as part of your application process. Students will also be required to have a Dropbox account to turn in work. Both Weebly and Dropbox are no cost to the student.

**Attendance and Tardies:** Due to the hands-on nature of this course, it is crucial you attend all classes. Being late causes disruptions to the working environment of the class for the whole class, so it is important you are on time. NO WARM UPS CAN BE MADE UP FOR POINTS unless the student has an excused tardy or absence recorded in IC. There will be some homework involved in this course. Students are welcome to pre-arrange time to come and work in the studio to catch up on missing work or extend their learning. **If you are absent: you are responsible for coming in DURING LUNCH or AFTER SCHOOL to get what you missed. You will receive full credit for work missed during this time as long as you get your work in 1 week after your return date. After this 1-week period no guarantee of point for missed assignments will be awarded.**

**Cell Phones and Food:** Cell phones are only to be used during approved times and only for taking and sharing photos. No food in the studio, EAST POLICY, this will help keep our computer labs clean and long lasting. Water bottles that can seal are ok to bring in.

**Camera and Equipment Checkout:** East HS has a limited number of digital SLR cameras and equipment for student use. Students may check out cameras/equipment during class time or after school. It must be returned at the end of class, or if checked out after school, the very next morning. **Failure to return equipment will result in a loss of participation points. Repeated abuse of the check-out system will revoke the student’s privilege to check out equipment.**

**Artistic Integrity:** Plagiarism is unethical and will not be tolerated. Copying someone else’s work or taking someone else’s work and calling it your own will be cause for disciplinary action, including failing the assignment. When using reference material such as photographs, drawings, or designs, students must apply their own personal vision to sustainably alter the original work (move beyond duplication).

**Things to Remember…**

* YOU are responsible for your computer station and any equipment you check out. Be respectful to all who use the studio or you may lose privileges to the space and supplies.
* Work assigned in class is just the start to becoming a stronger artist. Feel free to create more work or refine past assignments.
* Be open to visiting art events around the metro area. Looking and learning about art outside of class time will help you become a stronger artist.
* Be receptive to criticism of your work. Participating in critique and reflecting on feedback is the best tool for growing as an artist. You do not have to agree with every critique of your work, but be open to hearing how others see and understand your art.
* Develop habits of a lifelong learner. Continue to seek new knowledge and experiences. Remember that even experts do not have all the answers.

**Parent/Guardian Role:** Parents and Guardian support is part of the answer to student success. Please ask to see your student’s artwork via their webpage on a regular basis and have them discuss what they are learning. If you need to contact me, please email me. Parents and Guardians are always welcome in the studio.

**Donations and Volunteers:** The East HS Photography program is growing! We welcome any donations of funds or camera/camera equipment to make our program even better. Volunteers are always welcome to help with field trips and all our art events.

**ATTENTION ALL**Any behavior that disturbs art creation:

1st offense- Verbal warning

2nd offense- Student will lose participation points and there will be a call home

3rd offense- Detention/Referral/ Call home

The teacher reserves the right to skip any step based on the severity of the offense. Any questions or concerns please contact me by email: [molly\_acker@dpsk12.org](mailto:Laura_Klein@dpsk12.org) please note that I do not answer email over weekends or holidays.

**EHS Digital Photography 1 Contract DUE AUGUST 30th**

*\*\*\*By signing below, I agree to adhere to all rules and regulations imposed by the Digital Photography 1 course as well as the East High School and Denver Public Schools guidelines.*

***Materials Fee for this course is $20.00 per semester. You can pay per semester or for the whole year ($40.00) Checks payable to East High School in the memo protion please put Visual Arts***

***I understand I need to have a digital camera (point and shoot, SLR, or smart phone) for this course, and I will get one by August 30th.***

***I understand that I will be creating a personal website that will focus on my artwork and assignments for this class only.***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Please contact Molly Acker at molly\_acker@dpsk12.org if you have any questions or concerns.*