Visual Composition I / II Course Syllabus 2014-2015

**Instructor, Ms. Landers, Rm. H4004** **Tutorial:** Monday-Thursday 3:45 – 4:30 or by appt.

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course focuses on the continuation of developing skills in the use of visual design and acquiring a knowledge base of the elements and principles of design. Through the exploration of a variety of media and techniques, comparing and contrasting media relationships to other processes, and improving critical thinking skills through the application of aesthetic and value judgment concerning particular artists and art periods.

**OBJECTIVES:**

The student will be able to:

1. Identify, describe and apply the elements and principles of design.

2. Produce various artworks in a variety of media with different tools and processes, using correct procedures, techniques and terminology.

3. Analyze, describe and make aesthetic judgments of a variety of artistic styles and creations.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**First semester** we focus on composition, direct observation, visual thinking strategies, line, shape, color, pattern, value and symmetry.

**Second semester** we focus on application, color, perspective, form and synthesis of previously learned information and skills.

**Middle Years Program**

This course is part of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program at North Atlanta High School which emphasizes a format based on the following concepts: holistic learning, intercultural awareness and communication.  Students will gain analytical skills in order to promote informed decision-making.  Technology will be used appropriately through inquiry-based learning in order for students to gain an increased understanding of how Visual Composition I / II relates to the world around them. As content is studied throughout the year the following “areas of interaction” will be in constant consideration as part of the Middle Years Program (MYP):  approaches to learning (ATL), Thinking skills, Social Skills, Communication Skills, Self-Management skills and Research skills.

Assessments for this course also include how well student work relates to the following MYP criteria: knowledge, concepts, skills, and organization and presentation.  A year-long MYP personal project accompanied by a journal is to be produced at the end of the 10th grade year for the MYP Diploma.  Timelines and descriptions of tasks will be provided.

**MATERIALS:**

1. Spiral bound or hardbound sketchbook is **required** (available for purchase at a discount from NAHS).

2. #2 pencils (**NOT** Technical pencils)

3. Ink pens, blue, black and red ink

4. White vinyl eraser

5. 1” 3-ring binder

* All other materials will be supplied.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

**A. Grading categories**

30% Investigative Research Projects (sketchbook/classwork/research) (Knowledge and Understanding, Personal Engagement)

30% Studio projects (Application) (artistic integrity, technical skill, proper use of time and materials, craftsmanship)

15% Exams, Tests and Quizzes (Knowledge, Concepts, Skills, and Organization and Presentation.)

20% Critique (Reflection and Evaluation)

5% Homework/Attendance to 5 art events per semester. (Knowledge and Understanding, Personal Engagement)

* **ALL students must attend 5 art events per semester. Must include ticket stub, brochure or pamphlet.**
* **Examples**:

Any school performance, concert, ensemble or art exhibition*.(Must be signed by a NAHS teacher or administrator who is at the event)*, The High Museum, The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Jazz Festival, The Dogwood Festival, Atlanta Ballet, Inman Park Festival, Mason Murer, Grant Park Summer Shade Festival, Atlanta Childrens Museum, The Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Music Midtown, etc.

**B. Grading scale**

A 90-100 Excellent Achievement

B 80-89 Above Average Achievement

C 70-79 Average Achievement

F 0-69 Failure to Achieve

**C. Late/Redo work policy**  ALL projects have deadlines and due dates.

* **Late Work** -If a project is not turned in on specified due date, 10 points per day will be deducted. After the 4th calendar day a 0 will be assigned.
* **Redo** work will be given a due date and a total number of points to be gained by resubmission. If work is not submitted on due date the original grade will be assigned.
* **Missed Assignments, Quizzes, and Tests:** Students have 5 calendar days from the assigned due date to make up an assignment if a signed, dated excuse from a doctor or parent (with valid phone number) is received on the day the student returns to school. **EXCEPTIONS:** 1) Signed, dated parent note or 2) clear communication with parents about extenuating circumstances.

**D. Standardized Tests**

Atlanta Public Schools has developed content area standardized pre and post tests to determine if the content knowledge was acquired during the course of the semester.

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**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Be prepared and on time for class.

2. You are required to keep a sketchbook and notebook.

3. You must bring your own **writing utensils** for class or be prepared to purchase one for **25 cents**.

4. Try to maintain a sense of curiosity and respect for yourself and others.

**A. Classroom Procedures**

1. Come in, read the board for specifics, get your supplies.

2. Keep sketchbook & notebook updated and orderly.

3. Keep all work in your sketchbook, portfolio or in your drawer space.

4. Keep your area clean and always put things back where you got them from.

5. Maintain a sense of curiosity!

**B. Tardy/Attendance policy**

* When the last bell sounds, teachers are to close their door and direct students to get a tardy pass from the Attendance Office (Mrs. Jackson) or Dr. Black’s Office 5.172. **If a student refuses, a disciplinary referral will be sent to the Dr. Black via email or delivered via hard copy to his office.**
* **Any student late to 1st period must report to the Attendance Office to obtain a tardy pass.** Allow students to enter class after they have received their pass.

**C. Classroom rules and Consequences**

Classroom Rules:

1. Do not do anything that inhibits someone else from learning.

2. Respect yourself, each other, the space you are in and the materials you are using.

3. No food, drinks or candy. (Exception: Bottled water w/ lid, kept under the table.)

4. All electrical devices (except calculators) are to be turned off and out of sight in the classroom. Otherwise they will be confiscated.

Consequences:

1. Conference with teacher, detention, parental contact.

2. Parental conference with student/ formal written disciplinary referral to the administration.

3. Recommendation for ISS and/or suspension.

**DAMAGE/ THEFT POLICY**

Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of intentionally damaged, stolen, lost or misused books, materials, and tools. Ms. Landers, the parent/guardian, and the North Atlanta School administration will determine implementation of this policy. Damage and/or messes that affect the property or person of other students in the class are the sole responsibility of the offender. Action taken to rectify these types of situations will depend on the nature and intent of the offender’s actions. See the North Atlanta High School student handbook for administrative policies concerning discipline and enforcement.

* Borrowed books, materials, and tools must be signed out from Ms. Landers and are then the responsibility of the borrower until returned and **verified by Ms. Landers personally.**

Visual Art Comprehension I / II Course Syllabus 2013-2014

**Ms. Landers, Rm. H4004**

Parents please review the previous two pages and sign this page which will document your receipt and understanding of my syllabus.

This will also count as your child’s first homework grade of 20 points.

**If this syllabus is not signed and dated by parent and student and returned within 5 calendar days from date of receipt a grade of zero will be entered.**

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Parent/ Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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