

AP ART HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Greetings to you! We will be using humanity's creativity as our guide throughout this course! As with any AP course, there is much to accomplish in a short amount of time. This summer reading and related assignment should give you a good head start to a great year of examining and thinking about significant works of art created throughout the centuries.

The AP Art History Course prepares students for the AP Art History Exam. The course covers art from the Global Prehistoric Art through Global Contemporary Art and is designed to provide students with the same material covered in an introductory college course in art history. Students gain knowledge of architecture, sculpture, painting and other forms within diverse historical and cultural contexts. An emphasis will be placed on visual literacy: the ability to apply art historical methods to the student's visual environment and how images encode social ideologies. Students examine and critically analyze major forms of artistic expression from a variety of European and Non-European cultures. Writing skills will be important in the description, analysis, and comparison of these works. Attention is given to the interpretation of a work of art based upon its intended use, patronage, audience and the role of both the artist and the work of art in a particular society. Students will learn how art mediates all types of human experiences.

To prevent you from writing essays that simply describe a work of art, I'll be encouraging you to focus on five areas in your writings and in class discussion:

- Subject matter – What subject inspired the work? What subject is portrayed in the work?
- Function
- Artistic decision making – How did the artist make use of the elements of art and principles of design?
- Contextual analysis – How did the world around the artist affect the artistic process? What was the message (feeling, mood, idea) that the artist wanted to convey?
- Cultural impact – What message (feeling, mood, or idea) did you get from the work? This might be different from the message that the artist wished to convey.

Contemplating these five factors will help you to see art as a meaningful part of your life. (Looking at these five areas won't just apply to masterpieces but also to images and objects found in our everyday world that we consider to be art).

HERE ARE YOUR SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS:

Part I.

Go to the Khan academy AP Art History Website: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history>

Go to the **Start Here Section** and go over the resources located in that section. You will explore the basics:

1. The 250 Required Works of art for AP Art History
2. Why we look at Art?
3. How to do Visual and Formal analysis in Art history
4. A brief history of religion in Art History
5. How art can help you analyze

Part II:

Go to the Google Classroom set up for this course:

<https://classroom.google.com/u/0/c/MTQ5ODIyMDY3NjNa>

the code is: **enozp5r**

Here you will have your first Unit Workbook posted. This will cover Global Prehistory. Please make sure you go through and complete all elements of the work book. You will be asked to learn the name, approximate date, and significance of each work. Define each of the terms listed in your own words, as found in the readings (don't just use a dictionary as you might not get the same definition I want you to use. Please make sure you are familiar with (know the name, century created, and significance of these art objects listed):

Go to the Kahn Academy Website: **Global Prehistory:** <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/global-prehistory-ap> Use these resources to help you complete your work book.

Part III:

Exhibit Review: Sometime over the summer, visit a gallery or museum and write up your experience. In about two pages (double-spaced, 12 point type) explain the exhibit/museum that you visited, make mention of three of pieces that caught your eye, and discuss why and how they engaged you as a viewer. The link to a reading: *Writing a Review of an Exhibition*, is included to assist you with this assignment:

https://www.csus.edu/indiv/o/obriene/art112/Readings/Writing_a_Review_of_an_Exhibition.pdf

The workbook and paper is your admission ticket into the class on the first day of school !

My goal for Part I and II is to get a writing sample from you at the beginning of the year. It's also meant to encourage you to visit the museum and sit for a while and experience actual works of art (if you've never been, it's a different experience from just seeing them in a book/magazine/online).

If you find that you need guidance, I will be checking my email: kmiller@cghsnc.org throughout the summer. Please contact me as needed. (While it's my goal to assist you quickly, over the summer it may take me some time to get back to you – please bear with me in this process and thank you for your patience.)

See you in August!

Ms. Miller