

# WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

## ART Level 1: Foundations GUIDELINES

**INSTRUCTOR: Rebecca Thomas**

**Room 141- Ninth Grade Center | 512-732-9280, Ext. 33440 | rthomas@eanesisd.net**

Art Level 1: Foundations is designed to develop and improve the students' basic skills in **observational drawing, creating original and imaginative compositions, design, color theory, painting technique and sculptural concepts**. We also focus on challenging the imagination, fosters critical thinking, encourages collaboration, builds reflective skills and develops disciplined effort.

Art Level 1: Foundations follows the state Art TEKS and offers not only **creative expression** through hands-on projects but the study and analysis of **art history and cultural relevance**. The process of making **informed judgments and reasoned evaluations** in reference to the artwork of self and others is also a crucial component.

### **I. Year-Long Course Content: Creating, Collaborating, Communicating!**

Art Level 1: Foundations focuses on:

- the **communication of creative ideas** through **original** artwork using a variety of media with appropriate skills.
- the identification and understanding of the **elements of art** (line, shape, value, form, space, color and texture) and the **principles of design** (unity, contrast/variety, balance, repetition/pattern, emphasis, movement/rhythm, and proportion) when creating and analyzing a piece of art.
- the analysis of **art history/cultures** and professional artists in relation to the units of study
- the identification and understanding of art vocabulary and mastery of technique in relation to the units of study
- the process for making **informed judgment/reasoned evaluations** about personal artwork and the artwork of others

### **II. Units of Study**

This is a survey course, wherein we try to give the student a wide array of media, stylistic, and conceptual experiences. Units will cover Drawing, Design, Painting, Printmaking, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Ceramics, and anything else that we can fit in.

### **III. Student Requirements & Assessment:**

#### **Weekly Class Production/Daily Grades: (20% of 9 weeks average)**

- hands-on work in class
- individual and class critiques
- PowerPoint/iPad discussion or research

#### **Skills Development Grades: (30% of 9 weeks average)**

- Preparatory Exercises
- Sketchbook checks
- Quizzes

#### **Major Grades: (50% of 9 weeks average)**

- Major Projects (mid-progress and completed product)
- Written Assignments (Reflections/Self-Evaluations)
- Exams (Mid-Term and Final – District required, separate grading category)

### **IV. Grading**

Students will be given grading guidelines/rubric for each major project at the start of the unit so they know what the requirements are for making an "A" or below. In general, meeting all requirements for an assignment and displaying an above average amount of effort will earn an "A". Meeting at least 85% of the requirements for the assignment and displaying an average amount of effort will earn a "B". A grade of a "C" or below is earned by meeting at least 75% of the requirements for the assignment and displaying a below average amount of effort. An "F" may be assigned to work not completed within time frames set by the instructor.

### **V. Absences & Late Work & Tutorials**

The instructor will set deadlines for completed work. Late work will receive a placeholder grade of a 50 and be marked as missing or incomplete until the work is complete. Once the piece has been turned in, it will be graded for full (100%) credit, up until the end of the 9 weeks grading period. If late work is never submitted by the end of the grading period, the placeholder grade of a 50 will become a 0. **The only exception to this policy is for**

submission of photos or other items that need to be submitted before a project can begin. These items will have a hard deadline and students will lose 20 points per day for every day that they are late.

**If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out, from your teacher, what you have missed and how you will address making up the work in a timely manner.** All major projects are long-term (1 to 6 weeks in length). For example, if a student misses 2 or 3 days of a 6-week long major project, it is expected that the work missed be addressed immediately after the absences occur. Days and production time missed will not be tacked on at the end of the project.

If a student needs help, I am available afterschool 3 days a week (to be announced, but usually Mon, Wed, Fri) until 5pm or during both 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> periods, provided I don't have a meeting. However, I will be in room 160 during this time. If the student needs to retrieve materials from Room 141, I will help them with this, but all outside class work will be done in room 160. TUTORIALS/EXTRA HELP TAKE PLACE IN ROOM 160.

## **VI. Expectations for Student Behavior in the Classroom**

- Be Prompt:** Excessive tardies will result in referrals; per school policy, a referral should be entered for every tardy after the 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy.
- Be Prepared:** Always have the supplies you need for class and remember to bring back any work you took home to finish. Make up production time missed when absent by taking work home or by coming in to the studio outside of class hours. Your sketchbook, pencil and eraser will be needed everyday.
- Be Tidy:** Put your work and supplies away at the end of each class period and clean up your area.
- Be Respectful:** Listen and follow instructions carefully, raise your hand for help or questions, use appropriate language, don't interrupt, have a positive/open-minded attitude, don't be confrontational, use materials correctly and responsibly, etc.
- Be Productive and Manage Time:** Stay on-task during class, complete the daily tasks given to the best of your ability, keep talking to a minimum, and do not take out homework/assignments from other classes to work on during Art 1.
  - **Cell Phones:** You are not permitted to use cell phones in the art room unless instrc. Please turn off or silence them before class begins and put them away.
  - **iPads:** You are allowed to use your iPad in relation to the art curriculum and with permission from your teacher. However, you are not allowed to use your iPad during direct instruction, lecture, or during time allotted to work on a project.
  - **Food and Drinks:** Food and drinks are not permitted in the art room unless medically necessary. Water is permitted as long as it is in a container with a lid.

## **VII. Art Competitions/Exhibitions**

Student artwork will be on display in the school throughout the year in the gallery on campus. The Art Department also participates in a variety of local, state and national competitions/exhibitions. Participation will be optional, but students are strongly encouraged to compete, as it is very rewarding and educational.

## **VIII. Supplies**

There is a \$30.00 expendable materials cost for Art 1 students. This covers extra supplies not included in the art budget allotment for each student. This way we can ensure that everyone has the right products without the burden of sending you shopping. This is payable through Skyward; the fee is simply labeled as "Art 1: Studio Art."

## **IX. Social and Emotional and Academic Resources**

Should your student find themselves in need of extra support, there are a wealth of resources available to them. Of course, students and parents can feel free to reach out to me for help, whether it's talking about a problem, trying to come up with a plan to get caught up, or trying to figure it out what resources to utilize. I am available every day outside of class, during 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> periods, or afterschool. There are also 2 social/emotional counselors available to support our students, Katie Bryant (kbryant@eanesisd.net), and Kristi Waidhofer (kwaidhofer@eanesisd.net). More information about their services can be found on <http://healthyhubs.weebly.com>. Students are also available to talk with their individual counselors, who are assigned based on the students' last names. A complete list of counselors with their alphabetical allotment and contact info can be found on <http://westlakecounseling.weebly.com>. All counselors' office hours are concurrent with the hours of the school day.

## Westlake High School – ART Level 1: Foundations

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Please complete the following, sign and return this form via your student.

Thank you!

Mrs. Rebecca Thomas

“We have read the Art Level 1: Foundations guidelines and have discussed them with our student. We will support and encourage our student by providing the basic supply cost, monitoring homework, ensuring prompt and regular attendance and endorsing the Expectations for Student Behavior in the Classroom.”

Please Print Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Name of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (if you prefer this form of communication) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

I \_\_\_\_\_do or \_\_\_\_\_do not give permission for my student’s artwork and likeness to be shared online.

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_