Montclair High School
Course Syllabus

Department: SVPA
Course: Sculpture
Level: Academic (Honors by contract)
Credits: 2.5 Visual/Performing Arts

Course Description:
Sculpture provides an introduction to the history, theory, and practice of sculpture. The history of sculpture from prehistoric to contemporary times and through world cultures is studied. A series of progressive practical hands-on exercises exploring the fundamentals of making and perceiving sculpture will introduce the student to issues of space, volume, mass, form, surface treatment, and proportion. In all projects, an emphasis will be placed on an exploration of materials, their physical properties, and their expressive potential.

Standards:
Standard 1.1: The Creative Process – All students will demonstrate an understanding of the elements and principles that govern the creation of works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
Standard 1.2: History of the Arts and Culture – All students will understand the role, development, and influence of the arts throughout history and across cultures.
Standard 1.3: Performing – All students will synthesize skills, media, methods, and technologies that are appropriate to creating, performing, and/or presenting works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
Standard 1.4: Aesthetic Responses & Critique Methodologies – All students will demonstrate and apply an understanding of arts philosophies, judgment, and analysis to works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

Anchor Text(s):
N/A

Supplementary Materials:
- Artist and Art Movement Videos and DVDs
- Current Art Publications/Artist Biographies
- Internet Resources

Units of Study:
- Art History – Introduction to the History of World Sculptures.
- Form and Mass – Organic or geometric, figurative, abstract, or non-objective; review of considerations in creating sculpture in the round; study of form and mass; introduction to the role of surface quality.
- Space and Volume – Perceptual exercises expand the students’ awareness of placement and use of physical and psychological space. Students explore volume as a component of sculpture.
- Proportion – Exploration of the use of proportion through reproductions of 2-D and 3-D artworks; introduction to the proportion of the human form; discussion of the use or proportion to create meaning and psychological charge in sculpture.
- Mixed media application
Proficiencies:
By the end of this course, students will:
• Have knowledge of and identify the elements of design in 3-D art.
• Have knowledge of and identify volume, mass, and space in sculpture.
• Have knowledge of several sculptural construction methods.
• Have experience using at least three types of sculptural media.
• Have an understanding and awareness of good composition in 3-D art.
• Demonstrate knowledge of surface treatment.
• Show a working knowledge of vocabulary used in sculptural practice.
• Demonstrate knowledge of the process of critique.
• Refine their perceptual intellectual, physical, and technical skills through creating art.

Evaluation & Assessment:

Tests/Quizzes  (20%) - an assessment of cumulative knowledge and understanding of a unit of study/evaluation of short-term knowledge and understanding of homework assignments and class lessons.

Homework  (10%) - enables students to exercise and reinforce their knowledge and understanding of skills taught in class, as well as preparation and/or research for projects to be executed in class.

Class Work  (30%) - an integral aspect of the learning process, allowing students to demonstrate their ongoing understanding of content and concepts taught. Class work includes demonstration of a cooperative attitude and contribution to the learning process of the class, proper utilization of class time, attendance and punctuality, proper use of materials/supplies, studio set-up and clean-up, and participation in discussions/critiques.

Projects  (40%) - projects are assigned as both instructional tools and instruments for assessment. Projects are assessed on an individual basis and evaluated based on the following criteria: following instructions, skill and development, creativity and originality, craftsmanship, and completion of the project.