

Middletown Township Public Schools
High School North and High School South
AP Art History
Summer Assignment 2016

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ART HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS 2016

The Advanced Placement Art History course invites students to discover the diversity and connections among forms of artistic expression throughout history and from around the globe. Students learn about how people have responded to and communicated their experiences through art making, by exploring art in its historic and cultural contexts. The AP Art History course welcomes students into the global art world as active participants. They will engage with its forms and content as they research, discuss, read, and write about art, artists, art making, and responses to the interpretation of art.

AP Art History is a one-year course which requires a more intensive workload than with traditional offerings. To be enrolled in the class, students should have a strong desire to view, critique, and analyze works of art. Memorization is the key to identifying and recognizing the Great Masters works. Students will need to work independently outside the classroom, as well as in it. Homework is a necessary component of this course.

AP Art History is divided into three different content areas. The three main components of this course are Ancient through Medieval, Renaissance to Present, and Beyond European Artistic Traditions.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

To complete the summer work you will examine different regions that will be studied throughout the course of the year. A general overview of the following areas such as Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance or European will be explored. The link below is the course guide that we will be working from. Read through to enable a better understanding of the course.

<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/ap/ap-art-history-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

AP ART HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Museums are most interesting when viewed in person. It is not always financially or physically within our means to travel to the museum. Therefore, for the purpose of this assignment we will take a virtual museum tour to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

<http://www.marchphoto.com/MetTour/index2.html> Directions on how to navigate this tour are listed on the opening page.

PART 1: Review of an Art Exhibit

1. Begin your tour by starting at The Great Hall. Answer the following questions that pertain to this area.
 - a. Write a paragraph about what you see as you take a 360 view of the room.
 - b. What do the ceilings look like?
 - c. What style of architecture has the room been influenced by?
2. Walk towards the Main Staircase.
 - a. What do the plaques on the wall say?
 - b. Why is this important to have in a museum?
3. Walk into the section titled, Medieval Art.
 - a. Who is the main statue in the center of the room?
 - b. Why is this sculpture set alone in this giant room?
 - c. Describe what the sculpture is doing.
4. Walk into the section titled, Paintings Hall.
 - a. Write a paragraph about the type of artwork you see.
 - b. What type period would these paintings have been popular?
5. Walk into section titled, Skylight Pavilion.
 - a. Describe the sculpture you see.
 - b. What material are they made from?

PART 2: Create a Power Point Presentation

Create a PowerPoint presentation by answering the following questions and include images of artwork that pertain to the questions.

1. What is the Renaissance and why is it such a significant period for art and architecture?
2. Who were the important artists of the time?
3. What artistic innovations were made during this time period?
4. Choose what you think is the most significant work of art from this time period and give facts that support your opinion.
5. Critique the work of art that you choose. (do you like or dislike it, why or why not)

PART 3: Compare and Contrast Essay

1. Choose two works from the following list.
 - a. **Great Hall of the Bulls.** Lascaux, France. Paleolithic Europe. 15,000-13,000 B.C.E. Rock painting.
 - b. **Running Horned Woman.** Tassili n' Ajjer, Algeria. 6,000-4,000 B.C.E. Pigment on rock.
 - c. **The Ambum Stone.** Ambum Valley, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea. C. 1,500 B.C.E. Greywacke.
 - d. **Tlatilco Female Figurine.** Central Mexico, site of Tlatilco. 1,200-900 B.C.E. Ceramic.
 - e. **Stonehenge.** Wiltshire, UK. Neolithic Europe. C. 2,500-1,600 B.C.E. Sandstone.
 - f. **White Temple and its Ziggurat.** Uruk (modern Warka, Iraq). Sumerian. C. 3,500-3,000 B.C.E. Mud brick.
2. Write one paragraph about the historical significance for each of the two works that you have chosen. (two paragraphs total)
3. Write one paragraph comparing the similarities between the two works (visual similarities and historical similarities).
4. Write one paragraph comparing the differences between the two works (visual differences and historical differences).
5. Write one final paragraph giving your critique of the two works; do you like or dislike them, why or why not.