Drawing/Painting Classroom Expectations (all classes)

**Instructor:**                                                                **Contact Information:**

Ms. Niederman (N135)     [nicole.niederman@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:nicole.niederman@jeffco.k12.co.us)

Phone number: coming soon

**Office Hours:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Semester 1: | Semester 2: |
| Morning (7:15-7:55)  Period 3  Period 6 (study hall at second 6 week rotation)  After school by appointment Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday | Morning (7:15-7:55)  Period 3  Period. 4  After school by appointment Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday |

**Teacher Website URL:** <https://niedermanartclass.weebly.com>

**Attendance Policy:**

* Tardies:
  + Being tardy will result in a loss of Quality Worker points that week.
* Excused Absences:
  + **As per Arvada West school policy, students have 2 additional days to make up any quizzes, sketches/plans, etc. Because all projects are considered long term assignments, students can obtain more time outside of regular scheduled class time via CONNECTIONS, Study Hall or off hours.**
* Unexcused Absences:
  + Because this class is predominantly project based it is incredibly difficult to pass the course if you are not in attendance. 3+ missed classes: Parent contact & *your current project grade will drop 1 letter PER Unex. Absence. No participation/Quality Worker points are received.*
  + **An Unex. Absence on Critique Day, Midterm, or when a project is due will result in 0 points and no make-ups! Students may be permitted to take the midterm but it will not count towards his/her grade.**

**Expectations:**

* ***NO CELL PHONES ARE PERMITTED in accordance with AWest school policy. Phones will go on the phone rack starting day 1.***You can use your chromebooks to do artistic research.
* ***HEADPHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED, as this could be a safety hazard!***
* ***There is NO food or drink allowed in the art room, including during off periods.*** Getting food on your own work or someone else’s work will negatively impact your final project grade. Also, we’ve had mice in the past, who will eat and poop on your projects.
* ***BRING YOUR CHROMEBOOK IN EVERYDAY.*** You’ll need it for artistic research. You’ll also need it to access my teacher website, which has important documents, student/teacher examples, and YouTube tutorials that will impact your success in my class.
* Bathroom Breaks:
  + Students are allowed to leave for the bathroom one at a time. You must sign out on the white board, and you have five minutes to take care of your business before you will be counted tardy. When you return, erase your name so the next student can go. ***Bathroom breaks are not allowed during lockdowns, evacuations, holds, or other safety procedures, even if they are just drills.***
* Classroom Cleanliness
  + I am massively strict about classroom cleanliness. This is mainly out of respect for the custodial staff that spent two days carving paint out of the sink over the summer. ***My expectation is that the sinks and floors are so clean that the custodial team does not have a reason to clean my classroom. This will be extremely important for painters.***
* Emotional Safety and Inclusion
  + My classroom is a safe place for diverse identities and expression (ethnicity, socio-economic identity, gender identity, learning styles, etc.). I work extremely hard to be open-minded and open-hearted to diverse identities, and I am always open to learning. If I accidentally make a comment that crosses a personal boundary or stigma related to culture, gender identity, or neurodiverse thinking, please let me know. I will always be open to that kind of feedback, and I will do my best to take responsibility for my actions. Likewise, if you hear another person in class that crosses similar boundaries, please do not hesitate to let me know. I do not tolerate microaggressions, passive-aggressive comments, or direct bullying or prejudice in my class, which will result in disciplinary action.
* Discipline:

o   1st offense: Warning

o   2nd offense: Email/Call to parents- clean up Detention during Office Hours

o   3rd offense: Referral to administration

**Grade Policy**

*What you will be graded on:*

* Sketches and Artistic Research (ideation) (40 pts.):
  + Most of your projects (particularly at the advanced level) will require some sort of planning sketches. Artistic research for your project may be turned in as well. All of this will be handed to me digitally, most likely through Google classroom (give me time to set it up the first week).
  + For budgetary reasons, we will have community sketch paper that you can store in folders based on your table group. You are more than welcome to bring your own sketchbook if you want. My expectation is that you will photograph your sketches and turn them in online. ***If you lose your sketches or do not turn them online, then they will not be counted towards your grade.***
* Technical exercise (drawing or painting):
  + Most projects will require an activity that gets you familiar with the material we’re working with. This will be part of your “ideation grade,”
* Final Project (100 pts each):
  + All classes will have at least four projects—two drawing and two painting. I will only teach pen and ink, graphite (pencil drawing), and acrylic paint.
  + ***Advanced students:*** If this is your 2+ time enrolling in advanced drawing/painting and painting studio, then you have permission to request working with unusual materials. Though I will have projects planned, you are more than welcome to work on your own projects ***as long as you do a project proposal with me.*** This is only a requirement because it is a leadership skill in the design world.
  + ***AP Students***: You will have complete freedom to work on whatever projects you want. While you won’t have to do a project proposal for your breadth work, you will be required to create a proposal for your concentration during the first two weeks of school. ***AP has its own syllabus in addition to this document.***

* Critique (40 pts):
  + A critique is a critical discussion of everyone’s projects at the end of the assignment. The main goal of a critique is for other artists to comment on strengths and areas of growth (or pros and grows) of someone’s work. This will be a written activity and a group discussion. ***Participation in critique is part of your final project grade. An unexcused absence on critique day will result in a 0 for the project.***
  + There will be times when you have to write an artist’s statement about your work, which I will give you prompts for. **If you are in advanced drawing/painting studio, you will be required to write an artist’s statement if you created a project proposal. AP will do the same thing for their body of work.**
  + On critique days, you will also have the opportunity to give me feedback on the lesson, as well as the pros and grows of my instruction. I greatly value your feedback so that I can improve my lessons and work on becoming a better teacher. My expectation is that you are honest and constructive, not condescending. Whatever advice you suggest will not negatively impact our teacher/student relationship.
  + If you need writing or speaking accommodations (ESL, IEP students, etc.), please meet with me about it ***before*** the critique.
* Studio Habits (40 pts):
  + Time management: using the full class time and off periods to work on your projects rather than talking to friends or screwing around on chromebook.
  + Leadership and Community Engagement: offering constructive feedback to other students on their work during studio time and critique time.
  + Studio Cleanliness: cleaning up all art supplies without leaving a mess for other classes or custodial team.
  + You will be graded on studio cleanliness halfway through the lesson and after the lesson is turned in. Each evaluation will be 20 pts., totaling to 40 pts.

**Grading Standards**

**A 100-90%  Excellent work** that exceeds all major criteria for the assignment.  Student is a quality worker- never off task on their cell phone or doing work for other courses.

**B 89-80%  Above average work** that meets all major criteria for the assignment. Student is good worker- seldom on their cell phone or doing work for other course.

**C 79-70%  Average work** that meets most major criteria for the assignment.  Student is not always a quality worker on their phone too often or doing work for another course.

**D 69-60%  Below average work** that fails to meet most major criteria for the assignment. Student could be a harder worker- constantly on their phone or doing work for another course. *Students who receive a D will not meet the requirements to move on to the next course.*

**F 59-0%  Unacceptable work** that is incomplete or fails to meet all major criteria. Student is not fulfilling the quality worker demands of the course- is constantly on their phone or off task.

**What I Value with Grading**

* **Technical Skills:** strengths and areas of growth.
* **Concept:** how successfully you delivered your creative idea in your work, as well as your artistic research.
* **Creative Process:** how you problem-solved challenges in your art, took creative risks, and made something original. You will not lose points on your project for taking creative risks, even if they weren’t successful.
* **Critiques, Time Management, and Studio Habits:** being respectful to your peers, me, and the classroom. Using your time effectively to get the work done.
* **You are required to turn your project in on the day of the deadline (physical copy and digital copy). After that you have one more week to make optional changes to your work in order to improve your grade.**

**Talking to Me About Grades**

If you have questions or concerns about your grade, I am happy to meet with you during my office hours or after school to answer your questions. You can also email me too. All I ask is that you handle your questions in a **calm, adult manner.** *I will not talk about grades with you if you* ***are yelling, confrontational, expressing to me how unfair my grading is, or talk to me during class*** *(especially during lectures).* Doing so will cause you to **lose a full letter grade** on your time management/studio habits grade for that project.