

8th Grade Art 2025-2026

Instructor: James Hogan

The best way to contact the art department is through

Email: jhogan@helenaschools.org



Dear students and parents,

In this course we will be exploring art through:

Drawing: students will create symbolic, representational, and abstract drawings. The medium will vary by project including pen, marker, pencil, color pencil, charcoal, and pastels. Students will develop skills in visualization, communication creativity, collaboration, and imagination.

Painting: using watercolor, acrylic and sometimes tempera paints, students will explore color theory the relationships between colors and the blending of colors.

Sculpture: students will be using clay and paper mâché mediums to develop their imagination and concepts of engineering and aesthetic solutions to visual problems.

Art history: will be incorporated into many of the projects through examples to challenge and expand students' perspectives as well as making cross-curricular ties.

Art criticism: discussions and critiques about artists in and out of our classroom will supplement coursework.

Classroom expectations: as we will be working with many different materials, mediums, and tools I will have high expectations that students will use properly and clean these materials in a respectable manner. If students choose not to follow these guidelines it may result in a loss of privileges, detention, or the student being removed from class and possibly transferring the student to another class. Any other disciplinary actions will follow the guidelines as stated in the school handbook.

Be prepared by: Arriving to class on time with a sketchbook and pencil and being ready to work.

Be positive by: Giving others encouraging remarks. Keeping a positive attitude about assignments and your own work.

Be respectful: Of others and yourself by accepting others' work and giving positive comments. Being aware of others' workspace. Doing the best that you can and working through frustrations. Do not put yourself or others in harm's way.

Responsible by: Before asking for help when you need it, observe classmates, ask questions to your table group. Using class time to its fullest. Getting materials out and started. Cleaning up and put away materials properly, leaving the space clean for the next student.

Be on Time and Prepared: Tardiness is disruptive for everyone in the room. Be positive and ready to work.

Observe your surroundings: Pay attention to your surroundings to answer your questions and help others.

C.R.A. Honor Code

Be Cooperative- Listen to others and instruction, Help others in need.

Be Respectful – No back talk to others. Being kind and courteous to others.

Be an Achiever – Take ownership of your education, be willing to learn every day.

Evaluation:

Doing grades will be based on projects coursework, critiques, tests, and daily sketchbook journaling.

Projects: Grades will be based on both students' self-evaluation and teacher evaluation. It will reflect an emphasis on the art process as well as the art product. Project grades will be posted as they are completed.

Course work: May include notes, sketches/project plans, final projects, presentations, quizzes, and sketchbook journaling.

Critiques and tests: critiques and tests engage critical thinking skills, vocabulary, analysis skills and assessing understanding.

Daily Sketchbook: daily drawing warm up exercises are a required practice in the art room. Just like the athlete and the musician, daily practice and sketching on the eyes build skills and improve proficiency on bigger projects.

Parent communication: periodically I send out classroom emails to highlight activities or request

Missing/Late Work:

Students are to meet due dates for classwork and projects; however, due dates are susceptible to change if students take advantage of class time.

It is the student's responsibility to discuss and make arrangements with their teacher to turn in their projects for planned absences.

PowerSchool Grades:

Grades will be kept current by the teacher on a weekly basis. You may access your grade online at:

<https://hsd.powerschool.com/public/home.html>

Key to Success:

To be successful, be here on time and present in class, turn in projects on time, participate in class and take advantage of your education.

CELL PHONES ARE NOT TO BE USED DURING INSTRUCTION OR DURING DEMONSTRATION.

CELL PHONES SHOULD BE PUT AWAY BEFOR THE START OF CLASS.

Cell phones are to be put away and out of sight unless authorized by the teacher.

materials to personalize certain projects (optional).

Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions or concerns at

jhogan@helenaschools.org

Assessment Criteria:

Students' semester/yearlong grades are based on the total points they earn throughout the entire semester/year.

A=100%-90% B=89%-80%

C=79%-70% D=69%-60%

F=59%-0

Student Materials List:

Students will need:

1. Pencils #2 or 2H, 2B, 4B, HB set
2. Charcoal Pencils set
3. Eraser
4. Ruler
5. Sharpener
6. Color pencils (12 pack or more)

These materials can be purchased at:

1. Target
2. Staples
3. Walmart
4. Queen City Framing and Art Supplies
5. Hobby Lobby