

**Department:** Visual Art  
**Course Name:** American Art

**Course Description:**

This course is taught as a part of the fifth grade rotation. Students will take inspiration from the social studies curriculum to develop several art projects that will reinforce what is learned in the classroom. They will work with a variety of mediums to explore the reasons that art works have been created throughout American history, and create several art pieces of their own, using that knowledge. In completing projects, students will learn to implement the elements and principles of design, which are the building blocks of every art project.

**Content:**

Elements and principles of design  
Narrative illustration  
Observational drawing  
Graphic design  
Positive/negative space  
Critique  
Vocabulary and critical thinking skills  
Variety of projects, media, and techniques  
Artistic movements and figures

**Skills:**

Apply elements and principles of design to art projects  
Develop skills helpful in art criticism  
Think creatively  
Use correct terminology when discussing art movements, media, techniques and symbolism specific to art within our cultures  
Use fine motor skills used in art production with greater proficiency  
Use guidelines from particular art movements while creating individual compositions  
Problem solve while working on a project

**Text and Materials:**

Equipment, tools and materials appropriate to course  
Students do not use a text. Information is gathered online as well as from magazines, videos, and reference books, including, but not limited to those listed below.  
Scholastic Inc., Scholastic Art Magazine

**Supply Fee: \$25**

**Methods of Instruction:**

Guided dialogue accompanied by visuals  
Demonstration of projects broken down into sequential steps  
Guided practice and individual instruction  
Peer coaching  
Class critique

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Overall attitude and behavior in class  
Effort

Effective use of class time  
Participation in class discussions  
Appropriate use of class time  
Correct care and use of tools, media and work space throughout the assignment  
Neatness, craftsmanship  
Creative, appropriate and effective resolution to problem solving  
Clean up and preparation  
Completion of homework assignment

