

# 7th Grade American Online School

## ART CURRICULUM

### Perception, Expression, and Identity through Visual Arts

Version May/2025

## 1. Introduction

### The Role of Art Education in 7th Grade

In 7th grade, visual art becomes a vital medium for personal reflection, creative exploration, and cultural dialogue. Students are introduced to foundational and advanced techniques in drawing, painting, and mixed media. They examine art across history and cultures, while developing skills in observation, composition, and critique. Central to this course is the belief that every student can discover their voice through artistic practice—building both visual literacy and confidence.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Demonstrate knowledge of visual elements such as line, shape, color, texture, and composition.
- ✓ Create meaningful artworks through sketching, painting, and mixed media.
- ✓ Reflect on the role of art in culture, identity, and communication.
- ✓ Analyze and interpret artworks using visual language.
- ✓ Develop a portfolio showcasing growth, creativity, and technical skill.

## 2. Core Competence Areas

### ART.1 Drawing and Visual Foundations

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Sketch realistic and imaginative subjects using various techniques.
- ✓ Apply elements and principles of art in structured compositions.
- ✓ Develop observational and proportional drawing skills.

#### Competencies

##### ART.1.A.1 – Mastering drawing fundamentals.

- Draw from observation, reference, and imagination.
- Use contour, gesture, shading, and hatching to add depth and detail.

##### ART.1.A.2 – Exploring perspective and proportion.

- Apply one- and two-point perspective to architectural or spatial scenes.
- Create proportionally accurate portraits and figure studies.

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### ART.2 Portraiture and Identity

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Create expressive and anatomically informed portraits.
- ✓ Reflect on how identity and personality are conveyed through visual choices.
- ✓ Explore self-representation through symbolic and abstract portraits.

#### Competencies

##### ART.2.A.1 – Drawing and painting expressive faces.

- Understand facial structure, symmetry, and emotion through sketching.
- Use mirrors, photographs, and peers for self-portrait reference.

### **ART.2.A.2 – Connecting art and personal identity.**

- Design symbolic portraits that represent values, interests, or emotions.
  - Explore cultural and historical examples of portraiture.
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## **ART.3 Artistic Expression through Media and Color**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use color theory and mixed media to express mood and ideas.
- ✓ Experiment with traditional and digital art tools.
- ✓ Make intentional choices in media, texture, and form.

### **Competencies**

#### **ART.3.A.1 – Working with materials and media.**

- Use watercolor, pastel, acrylic, pencil, collage, and digital tools.
- Explore layering, blending, and texture creation techniques.

#### **ART.3.A.2 – Applying color, line, and form for expressive effect.**

- Use warm vs. cool, complementary, and monochromatic schemes.
  - Analyze how color and line affect emotional tone and movement.
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## **ART.4 Art History, Critique, and Appreciation**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify key artists and styles across history and cultures.
- ✓ Analyze and compare artworks using art vocabulary.
- ✓ Engage in peer critique and reflective discussion.

## Competencies

### **ART.4.A.1 – Understanding artistic movements and influences.**

- Study selected works from Renaissance to modern street art.
- Create works inspired by movements like Impressionism, Cubism, or Indigenous art.

### **ART.4.A.2 – Building visual literacy and critique skills.**

- Use the elements and principles of design to discuss artworks.
  - Write and present reflections on art pieces in personal or global context.
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## 3. Assessment and Evaluation

### **Formative Assessments – Practice and Process**

- ✓ Sketchbook entries and planning drafts.
- ✓ Class critiques and artist statements.
- ✓ Technique exercises and guided reflection.

### **Summative Assessments – Project-Based Mastery**

- ✓ Final pieces for each unit with self-assessment.
- ✓ Art history research and presentation.
- ✓ Visual portfolio with progress reflection.

### **Authentic Assessment – Real-World Art Engagement**

- ✓ Classroom or digital art exhibition.
  - ✓ Community mural or collaborative visual piece.
  - ✓ Art journal or “My Life in Art” digital showcase.
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## 4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

### **Studio-Based and Process-Oriented Learning**

- ✓ Emphasize iteration, experimentation, and reflection.
- ✓ Balance skill instruction with student-driven exploration.

## **Culturally Responsive and Inclusive Art**

- ✓ Highlight diverse artists and traditions.
- ✓ Encourage personal interpretation and meaning-making.

## **Technology-Integrated Learning**

- ✓ Use digital platforms for design, reflection, and sharing.
- ✓ Tools: Canva, Procreate, Artsonia, Adobe Express.

## **Learning Culture**

- ✓ Support creative risk-taking and artistic voice.
- ✓ Foster a respectful, collaborative studio environment.
- ✓ Encourage mindfulness and emotional expression through art.

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