



Dominican International School

台北市私立道明外僑學校

No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.

10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	Art
Grade Level	8
Teacher	Christopher Pekarik
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Grade 8 Art engages the students into an immersive exploration of various forms of visual arts, emphasizing foundational skills in drawing, painting, relief sculpture, and in-the-round sculpture. Throughout the academic year, students are immersed in both historical and contemporary approaches to these art forms, fostering creativity, technical proficiency, and critical thinking.

The course covers the fundamentals of drawing and painting in terms of techniques, materials, color theory, and painting techniques in quarter 1 and quarter 2. Form, texture, materials, process, depth, spatial relationships, and storytelling are explored through relief sculpture, and the full three-dimensionality of sculpture in Quarter 4.

Grade 8 Art provides students with comprehensive preparation for drawing, painting, relief sculpture, and in-the-round sculpture, encouraging them to explore their artistic interests and develop skills that will serve as a foundation for future artistic endeavors.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Drawing: Develop significant standards of progressing drawing skills through exercises in line, form, shading, and composition. Explore still life, figure drawing, and perspective techniques.
- Painting: Introduce students to the advanced principles of color theory, brush techniques, and various painting styles as well as the psychological uses of color and expression. Explore advanced use of acrylics, watercolors, and mixed media to challenge their creative interpretations
- Relief Sculpture: Study the basics of relief sculpture, focusing on creating three-dimensional forms on a two-dimensional surface. Learn carving techniques using materials such as clay, wood, or plaster.
- Sculpture: Delve into the world of sculpture by exploring different sculpting techniques and materials: from modeling with clay to carving stone or assembling found objects, students will create both abstract and figurative sculptures. Experience the materiality of 3D works.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES: Google slides, appropriate subject related materials from the library.



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GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Classwork / Homework Participation	Tests, Quizzes and Projects	Quarter Exam / Project	D'TORCH
30%	30%	30%	10%

Differentiated instruction will be used in the classroom in order to cater to the different needs and interests of individual students. Instruction is meant to let students lead, discover, and demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways. Students will be involved in a variety of classroom activities such as discussions, group work, and group/individual presentations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.



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SUBJECT: Gr.8 Art

1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (August 12 to 15) <i>4 days of class</i> 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady	Introduction to the rules of the art room. Expectations of conduct and quality of assignments. Expectations for the first quarter. Contour drawing from still-life set-ups.
Week 2 (August 18 to 22) 18-St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration) Integrated during the Monday Assembly 20- House Shirt & Blue Jeans Day Starts 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up	Art movements and drawing introduction. Contour drawing from still-life set-ups.
Week 3 (August 25 to 29) 27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting	Blind contour drawing
Week 4 (September 1 to 5) 1- Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly) 1-AP Registration 3- AEO Fall University Fair 5- House Ceremony	Gestural drawings executed from still life set-ups and/ or figure (head, neck and shoulders)
Week 5 (September 8 to 12) 8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start	Perspective drawing
Week 6 (September 15 to 19) 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium) 19- Athletics / Sports Orientation 19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline	Work on final drawing.
Week 7 (September 22 to 26) 22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace- Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration & 26-Teachers' Appreciation 26- Grade 12 Career Educational Trip 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days	Final/ Class critique
Week 8 (September 29 to October 3) 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)	Final/ Class critique
	Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)



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2nd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

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Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
	6-Moon Festival (no classes)
	7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)
Week 1 (11) (October 13 to 17) 13- Second Quarter Begins 13- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 2nd Semester 14- Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer) 15- AP Exam Only Registration Deadline 15- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 17- PSAT/NMSQT Digital Exam	Introduction to watercolor painting and techniques: Wet on wet, wet on dry, salt, masking tape, cling film
Week 2 (12) (October 20 to 24) 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)	Plein air watercolor painting (weather permitting) or from the vestibule.
Week 3 (13) (October 27 to 31) 29- Grade 11 Career Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp	Continue to work on nature watercolor painting
Week 4 (14) (November 3 to 7) 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep	Watercolor self-portrait (beginning with sketch)
Week 5 (15) (November 10 to 14) 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community	Self-portrait and adding background
Week 6 (16) (November 17 to 21) 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest	Finish self portrait
Week 7 (17) (November 24 to 28) 24- Peace Pole Day (Monday Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school (Campus Min/ ECA/ D' Torch Orchestra/ Religious Studies) (Afternoon) 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers and staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day 28- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam	Class Critique
	Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)
Week 8 (18) (December 1 to 5) 1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of First Advent Candle (During the Monday Assembly) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 5- Nativity Play (Collaboration with Campus Ministry) 5- Christmas Fair Whole Day	Religious Christmas water color painting.
Week 9 (19) (December 8 to 12) 8- Foundation Day Mass, cake ceremony, and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of Advent 10- Gr. 12 Advent Immersion 11 and 12- Second Quarter Exam (half day)	Finish religious Christmas painting
	December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday) December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break



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3rd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
	January 5- Record Day (No Classes for students)
Week 1 (20) (January 5 to 9) 5- PSAT 8/9 Registration Starts 6- Third Quarter Begins 7- Monthly Career Talk-College Prep 9- New Year Mass at 8:00	CNY: Horses brush and ink on red paper
Week 2 (21) (January 12 to 16) 16- Club Orientation & Sign Up	CNY: Horses brush and ink on red paper
Week 3 (22) (January 19 to 23) 19-23- Individual Yearbook Photoshoot for Students 19-23- Career Awareness Week 22- Grade 9 Career Educational trip 23- First Club Meeting for 2nd Semester	Introduction to relief sculpture: High relief, mid-relief, bass relief, and sunken relief. Begin sketching ideas for relief sculpture.
Week 4 (23) (January 26 to 30) 26- Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas/Launching of the Catholic Week 26-28- Aquinas Conference: Science and Faith 26-30- Catholic Week Activities 30- DYM Charity Concert	Review relief sketches and build materials list
Week 5 (24) (February 2 to 6) 1-4- WASC Mid-Cycle Visit 4- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6-7- SUAQ Recollection for MS	Begin construction of relief sculpture
Week 6 (25) (February 9 to 13) 9- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 1st Semester for SY2025-26 13- PSAT 8/9 Registration Deadline 13- House Valentine's Mini Fair 13- Chinese New Year Celebration	Construction of relief sculpture
	February 16-20 Chinese New Year Holiday
Week 7 (26) (February 23 to 26) 23-26- IOWA Assessments 23- Student Council Application 24-26- Pre-Exam Days	Final relief construction
	February 27 Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)
Week 8 (27) (March 2 to 6) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6- PSAT 8/9 System Installation and Practice Test	Class Critique
Week 9 (28) (March 9 to 13) 13 and 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day)	Discuss sculpture project for next quarter



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4th QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (29) (March 16 to 20) 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day) 16-20- Faculty & Staff Yearbook Photo 17- Fourth Quarter Begins 18-21- EARCOS Teachers' Conference 19- Lectio Divina and Feast of St. Joseph 20- Parents Learning Community Meeting 20- Kindilympics 20-House Movie Night and Club Fair	Introduction to sculpture, techniques and materials for sculpture.
	March 21 (Saturday) Spring Fair
Week 2 (30) (March 23 to 27) 23-27 Student Leaders Applicant Interviews 26- Annual Visit to World Religion Museum Gr. 11 27- Lower School Readers Theatre	Sketches and notes for sculptures. Materials list
	March 30 to April 6 Easter/Spring Break
Week 3 (31) (April 7 to 10) 7- Spring University Fair 9- Easter Mass 9- Easter Egg Hunt for Lower School Students	Religious Easter painting
Week 4 (32) (April 13 to 17) 13 Laudato Si Month Launching (During the Monday Assembly) 13-30 Laudato Si Month Activities 13-17- Class Photo Taking 17- AP Chinese/Japanese Practice Test	Sculpture: Begin construction
Week 5 (33) (April 20 to 24) 20-24 Cultural Awareness Week / Art Exhibit / Earth Week 24- Music Recital 20-24 Student Council Campaign 20-24 AP Mock Exams	Sculpture construction
Week 6 (34) (April 27 to 30) 27- Student Council Elections 27-30 Senior Project Presentations 28-30 Pre-Exam Days	Final sculpture and class critique
	May 1: Labor Day Public Holiday
Week 7 (35) (May 4 to 8) 4- May Crowning & Mother's Day Celebration (During the Monday Assembly) 4-14 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 4-15 AP Exams	TBA
Week 8 (36) (May 11 to 15) 13 and 14- Fourth Quarter Exam—Undergraduate (half day) 14-16 Student Leaders Retreat Days	TBA Graduation
	May 15 Record Day (No Classes for students) Final Deliberation for Graduating/Promoting Classes
Week 9 (37) (May 18 to 22) 18- Gr. 5 Recollection & Mass	TBA



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19- Gr. 8 Recollection & Mass 20- Gr. 12 Recollection 20- Baccalaureate Mass (Whole School) 18-21 WIDA Testing 19- Lower School Sports Day / Gr. 6 & 7 School Field Trip 19- Gr. 9 - 11 - "Senior Success Forum: Inspiring the Next Generation" 19-22 Student Clearance Days 21- Middle & High School Sports Day 21- High School Field Trip 22- House Culminating Activity 20-22 Final Deliberation for Non-Graduating Classes 22- Student Leaders One Day Recollection / Turn Over Ceremony	
Week 10 (38) (May 25 to 29) 25- Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion 26- LS Field Trip 26- Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation 27- Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Last Day of School, Report Card 28- Distribution, & Class Party (half day) 29- Last day for Teachers/Staff Meeting	TBA

"Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán"