



Art is Essential

Course Syllabus

EDUO 9813 Three Semester Units

Instructor Terry Joyce

Course Description

Art is communication. It came before written language as a form of communicating and preserving cultural and historical knowledge. Through art students acquire deeper learning techniques and understanding of the world they live in both past and present. Higher-order thinking skills are taught as pieces of art are investigated and inferences are made from the concrete to the abstract. Students engage in the practice of imagining and investigating expanding their circle of knowledge. Construction allows students to engage in skills practice as well as personal creative realization. And besides that, art is fun and children need it.

The class will target K-6 teachers. Students will read, write, investigate, and create as they learn about and practice the elements of art. There are three mandatory texts and four recommended texts. The mandatory texts are:

1. Art Is Fundamental by Eileen S. Prince
2. Look! Look! Look! by Nancy E. Wallace
3. One of the children's literature books from the bibliography.

The recommended books are:

1. How to Teach Art to Children by Joy Evans and Tanya Skelton,
2. The Usborne Book of Art Ideas by Fiona Watt
3. The Usborne Book of Art Projects by Fiona Watt
4. The Usborne Book of Art Skills by Fiona Watt

Students will need the following basic materials: Pencil, scissors, glue or glue stick, ruler, crayons, watercolor paint box, drawing chalks, and oil pastels, paper (construction and/or heavy drawing).

Additional materials may be needed depending on activities selected.

Course Objectives

Participants will:

1. Investigate a variety of media to develop an awareness of different effects and personal preferences.
2. Become familiar with the Elements of Art through hands-on art projects.
3. Develop an understanding of their importance in a piece of art through aesthetic scanning of the works of great artists.
4. Investigate and enjoy the breadth of children's literature dealing with the Visual Arts.
5. Discuss a variety of topics via the online Forum.

Grading Rubric

Exemplary	Acceptable	Unacceptable
Met and Exceeds Expectations A+ to A-	Meets Expectations B+ to B-	Needs Improvement. Must be resubmitted
Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly presented	Assignments present some relevant ideas and connections to the assignment	Few relevant ideas connected to the assignment, some ideas unclear
Very Well Organized	Is generally well organized	Shows little organization
Obvious attention to effort, detail and neatness	Some effort, attention to detail and neatness	Lack of effort, attention to detail and neatness
Elements of Art are reflected in participants work	Some Elements of Art are reflected in work	Lacking evidence of Elements of Art in work
Written assignments are free of spelling and grammatical errors	Written assignments contain a few spelling or grammatical errors	Written assignments contain numerous spelling or grammatical errors

Section 1 – The Foundations

- Observation
- Recognizing patterns, colors, lines, and shapes.
- Aesthetic Scanning

Section 2 – The Elements

- Line, Shape, Value, Color, Texture, Form, Space

Section 3 - Pulling It All Together

- Aesthetic Scanning
- Putting It All Together

This course includes the following:

Reading and reflecting on required readings and research

Online Forum Posts and Discussions

Create original work based on course assignments