

# 2D MIXED MEDIA

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## Essential Questions

***How are cultural, social, and political influences reflected in art?***

***How is form observed, interpreted and expressed?***

***How do form, theme and context work together to create meaning in an artwork?***

***How does the creative process help cultivate the growth of an idea?***

## Course Description

Mixed Media is a visual art form that allows the artist to use a variety of media to create an artwork. This 5-week studio art course will enable student artists to explore contemporary mixed media techniques through studio practice, visual aesthetics and historical concepts as students develop technical skills and a conceptual understanding of the possibilities of particular media combinations. Practices and techniques to be explored include collage (traditional and non-traditional), photomontage, image transfer, painting, drawing, stenciling techniques, paper-cutting and working with found objects. Students will develop conceptual skills as they carefully plan, collaborate and reiterate ideas for their project.

This will be a studio environment where student artists are expected to apply a strong work ethic to project work and supporting assignments. Students will be supported to forge a self-directed path to discover their own individual style and artistic voice through the projects. Students will learn to give and elicit constructive feedback with their peers during small group and whole class critiques. The conceptual phase of the projects will give students a chance to develop critical thinking skills to guide the outcome and direction of their studio work.

## Learning Outcomes

In this visual arts class, learning outcomes are focused on both the process and the product. Evidence for the process includes sketchbook development, critical investigation, and mid-project and summative critiques. Evidence for the product includes studio work, summative reflections and artist statements.

**Engage and Persist:** I showed persistence in achieving quality results and refined work based off my own observations and feedback from others.

**Stretch and Explore:** I planned and experimented with multiple solutions/media/techniques exploring creative possibilities throughout the project.

**Envision:** I developed finished artworks that exhibit unique and personal visual solutions.

**Reflect:** I communicated a clear understanding of how the elements in my artwork integrate form, theme and context to meet the objectives of the project. I am reflective when it comes to my own work and the work of others.

**Developing Craft:** My artworks demonstrate a developed skill with the media and tools used and displays attention to detail, care and skill in construction.

**Understand the Art World:** I can synthesize formal, thematic and contextual aspects of an artwork to show how these elements are integrated to help form meaning.

**Express:** I considered and integrated all aspects of my composition so my artwork communicates my big ideas effectively.

**Ownership:** I demonstrated initiative and a commitment to learning; I have the ability to self-reflect and learn from “mistakes” and experimentation.

## Projects

**What's your story?** Much art comes from personal experience, but why should anyone else care about your story? In this project students explore artwork that comes from intense personal interaction with the world then investigate how to make their story relevant to a wider audience.

## Supplies

For this class, every student needs to have a **blank sketchbook** to use for their process documentation. A hardbound sketchbook would be ideal, but a softcover would work too. Please don't spend a lot of money on this sketchbook. Buy the cheapest one you can find. If you have an old sketchbook with 30 blank pages, that will work too. And if for any reason you cannot get a sketchbook, talk to me and I can help. Please have your sketchbook with you in class by **Friday, January 10**.

It is encouraged that students help provide some of the mixed media supplies that we will be using for our projects such as color magazines, newspaper, old fabrics or clothes, string/yarn etc. We will be experimenting a lot in this class so the more stuff we have access to, the better.

## Ethics and Art Practice

- All students as artists will care for and maintain materials, tools, and equipment inside and outside the classroom. We will discuss the importance of safety, appropriate handling, and how to follow correct procedures in handling materials, tools, and equipment.
- Environmental responsibility and safety: we will discuss different ways how materials may impact human health and the environment.
- Plagiarism, authorship, and ownership: we will discuss different issues relative to authorship and ownership as they apply to creating works of art and learn about specific practices such as appropriation, fair use, copyright, open source, and creative commons.

## Course Policies

- **Integrity:** You are expected to arrive in class on time and turn in homework and assignments by their deadlines. You are expected to engage with your classmates respectfully, recognizing that all of us share in the responsibility of building the kind of learning community we want to be a part of--one that is challenging, rigorous, and vibrant, one in which we can learn and grow together.
- **Bathroom Breaks:** You are expected to leave class as infrequently as possible. Students needing to leave class are expected to do so after letting me know, then re-enter, as quickly as possible, with minimum disruption to the rest of the class.

*The freedom to create comes with responsibilities to your own health and safety and that of those around you, as well as the world around you.*