

# Syllabus

## Explorations in Art

**Heritage Academy**  
**A University-Model School®**

*The mission of Heritage Academy, a Certified University-Model School®, is to partner with Christian parents to prepare college-worthy, character witnesses for Jesus Christ.*

### **I. Course Purpose and Content**

This high school level, studio art course will uniquely combine some basic art history with applied art. Students will receive brief introductions to a variety of well-known artists selected to represent specific genres of art. Students will learn how to recognize each artist's basic, distinctive techniques and gain understanding of how these techniques were achieved, also receiving instruction related to the basic elements and principles for two-dimensional composition. Students will then initiate their own artistic projects, applying these methods and techniques to their own endeavors, having received instructions in technique from the course instructor. By course end, students will be able to match several famous works/styles of art to their artist and have created a number of their own pieces to mimic the masters.

**Pre-requisites:** Student must be reading and writing at or above the eighth grade level.

### **II. Worldview Integration**

Heritage Academy is committed to teaching all subjects in such a way that students develop a Biblical worldview out of which to think and act. The following are foundational, Biblical truths that undergird the exploration and production of Art: God is the first and finest Artist (Genesis 1:1). For his own pleasure He created all things (Genesis 1:31; Revelation 4:11). He fashioned people in His own image to reflect his nature, and therefore people have incredible capacities for innovation and creativity (Genesis 1:21 & 1:28). When this creativity is expressed in noble and life-giving ways, God's glory in His creatures is magnified and his creatures (both artist and audience) experience refreshment. The cultivation of artistic skills and gifts may be developed to enhance personal and community joy, insight, and worship. While the artist may develop an keener eye for discerning the fingerprints of God in all created things, he or she may also develop a heightened awareness of the effects of the fall that interfere with God's good and wise order. The finest artist will be an agent of renewal who moves onlookers or listeners to consider the truth, beauty, and goodness, of God who promises in His perfect time to make all things new (Revelation 21:5).

*"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well" (Psalm 139:13-14).*

*"For we are God's workmanship, created in in Christ Jesus do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10).*

### **III. Required texts and materials**

No text required. Please see Heritage Academy's Course Supplies List (viewable on the school's website) for the current year to know the specific supplies your student will be responsible to have for this course. **Please, no Roseart brand art supplies!**

### **III. Course Guidelines / Student Responsibilities**

#### **A. Attendance**

Attendance is imperative as concepts cannot be learned if a student is absent. Students are expected to attend class and contribute positively to the classroom environment.

Tardiness is disruptive to other class members. Please arrive on time and prepared. All absences and tardies are considered unexcused unless accompanied by a note from a parent or guardian. Please remember that three tardies generate one absence.

As communicated in Heritage Academy's Family Manual, a passing grade awarded at the end of the semester generally requires a secondary student to have attended at least forty-two class periods during the semester. Failure to meet this minimum attendance requirement may result in an F being awarded and recorded on the student's transcript.

#### **B. Absences and Late Work**

In the case of planned absence(s), homework that is due during the student's absence must be completed and submitted to the instructor in advance.

When a student is unexpectedly and unavoidably absent due to ill health, past-due assignments must be submitted within two course periods after the student's return to school. **When an unexpected absence must occur, please be sure to notify the school office and the instructor of the students' absence as quickly as possible, preferably before the involved class occurs. This contact may occur by phone or by email.**

Late work that is submitted simply "late" will be graded and penalized with a **ten percent grade reduction for each course period that it is late**; homework will not be accepted more than three course periods (1 week) past its due date, unless previous arrangements between the teacher and the student's parent have been agreed to in light of peculiar circumstances that are occurring beyond the family's control.

#### **C. Student Conduct and Preparation for Learning**

For the sake of promoting a safe and focused learning environment, the student is expected to do the following throughout the course of the semester:

- 1) Arrive on time to each class period with the appropriate class materials available for access.
- 2) Arrive prepared to submit completed at-home assignments at start of each class period.
- 3) Arrive ready to listen, learn, take notes, and participate in teacher-directed classroom discussions and activities.
- 4) Ask for clarification or further explanation when a concept or direction remains unclear.
- 5) Demonstrate a spirit of cooperation, kindness, and respect toward the teacher and fellow classmates, in keeping with Heritage Academy's Code of Conduct.
- 6) Help keep the classroom area clean and orderly.
- 7) Cooperate with the parent-educator and the Heritage Academy teacher to complete homework in a timely fashion
- 8) Communicate concerns regarding schoolwork to both the Heritage Academy teacher and the parent-educator, so that these concerns can be addressed quickly.
- 9) On the whole, conduct himself or herself in a manner that is worthy of Christ and reflects the life of the Holy Spirit in him/her: ". . . that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light" (Colossians 1:12).

#### **D. At-Home (Satellite Classroom) Investment**

Daily home-assignments will be outlined on the weekly Home-Communication Sheet the student will receive each Monday. The student can expect to invest approximately 2.5 to 3.5 hours each week completing coursework at home in preparation for class periods. Course assignments may include any of the following:

- **Applied art exercises**
- **Viewing and analyzing fonts or different examples of creative work**
- **Special projects or notebooks:** Students will be expected to keep a **folder** with Weekly Communication Sheets, notes and handouts, and completed artwork. Twice during the semester we will do a “Gallery Tour” in which students will select their favorite pieces to display for other members to view and critique. At the end of the semester, students will submit a “portfolio” of their best work.
- **Memorization** (terms, scripture verses, etc.)
- **Dialog:** Student may be instructed to discuss and/or explore certain topics or concepts with a parent. These assignments will be given purposefully and should not be dismissed.
- **Other Assignments:** additional types of assignments may be given throughout the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

#### 4. Assessments

The grades students earn on the assignments they complete will comprise the majority of each student’s grade. Two tests related to terms and methods will be given throughout the course of the semester.

#### 5. Grades

##### *Apportionment*

Class Assignments	85%
Tests	15%

##### *Grading Scale*

100-95....A	82-80....B-	69-60.... D
94-90 .....A-	79-77....C+	59 or below ....F
89-87 .....B+	76-73... C	
86-83 .....B	72-70....C-	

*The course grade the student is awarded at the end of the semester will indicate the grade that will also appear on the student’s transcript. Only grades at or above a C- or 70% will be considered passing, and will also require the student to have fulfilled minimum attendance requirements.*

#### V. Parent Responsibilities

##### A. Embracing the University Model®

University-Model Schooling at Heritage Academy is driven by two guiding principles:

- ◆ to preserve and strengthen God-ordained family relationships
- ◆ to offer students the opportunity to achieve a high degree of academic excellence.

Heritage Academy operates as a University-Model School®, designed for families who want their students to flourish from a life anchored in the home yet still gain from the best aspects of traditional, classroom education. Courses offered at Heritage Academy occur every-other-day so that students may realize the benefits of qualified teachers and a focused learning community, yet continue to experience home as the primary, consistent base where parents remain their foremost guides for spiritual, social, academic, and character formation.

Parents, please consider ways you may maximize the benefits University-Model Schooling offers to your family. How can you as parents utilize the at-home study time this model provides to nurture deeper relationship and model and impart the faith, values, and life-patterns you desire your student to embrace?

**B. Fulfilling the Parent Role**

Within the University-Model School®, **parents commit to fulfill a specified role related to each course** in which their student is enrolled, as prescribed by the course’s description. Each role identifies specific responsibilities that the teacher relies on the parent to perform, thus facilitating effective home/school partnership whereby students are assured of receiving needed support. For this course, Heritage Academy has designated parents the role of **“Guide for Dependant Study.”**

This role recognizes that many courses at this level will begin to cover subject matter that may be unfamiliar to many parents. At the same time, the student is at a dependent age where disciplined study habits must be developed, not by parental force, but through positive encouragement and through the student’s growing awareness of personal consequences. In order for this class to be successful, I as a teacher am depending upon you as parents to ensure that your son or daughter keeps up with the course material and to communicate with me should any difficulties or concerns arise.

**For this course specifically,** home assignments are expected to take 45 minutes to 1 hour. If I anticipate that a project will take longer than that, I will give students two (or more) home days to work on it. Please monitor the amount of time your child is spending on art, especially at the beginning. If the assignments are completed in less than 30 minutes, it is likely that the student is not putting enough care and detail into his/her work. If it is taking more than an hour (on a regular basis) please let me know so that adjustments can be made.

**C. Monitor Engrade and View Seven-Week and Thirteen-Week Engrade Reports**

As your student earns grades for completed tests, quizzes, and various projects and homework assignments, these will be recorded on **Engrade.com** for you to view at your convenience. My general goal will be to post grades online within a week of their being awarded.

In Engrade, missing assignments will also be noted by an “M.” Please take time to follow your student’s progress on Engrade so that you can quickly recognize and explore/address areas of patterns of difficulty or concern that may appear and affirm positive accomplishments.

Directions to register for Engrade are accessible on Heritage Academy’s website under “Resources” and “Engrade”, or may also be received from the office. If you need aide setting up Engrade (it should only take about two minutes), please contact Heritage Academy’s office.

Engrade Reports, which will include parent-directed comments related to your student’s behavior and progress in class, will be ready for parents to view at the seven-week and thirteen-week point in the semester.

**D. Attend Parent/Teacher Fellowship**

I hope you will take time to come to Parent/Teacher Fellowship scheduled during the 7<sup>th</sup> week of each semester. This will give you and I brief opportunity to connect face-to-face and discuss your student’s progress, making the most of the partnership that is so vital to students’ success within the University Model®.

**VI. Contacting the Instructor**

Teacher contact information will be provided on the weekly communication sheets that will be distributed in class or may be found in the school directory.