

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIO ART & DESIGN**  
**Ms. Ritacco**

**SUMMER WORK**

AP Portfolio is a challenging course requiring the artist to submit 15 original artworks for National adjudication in May. Students must make a commitment beyond the classroom so that they can grow technically and creatively.

You are required to work at home as well as in the art studio!

Summer assignments are the first grades of the fall term. We will have a class critique of the summer work the **first day** of the term. **Bring your work.**

**Summer Assignment:**

**Complete a large, fully developed painting with a minimum size of 18x24”**

**Shape.** Create a balanced **composition**. Arrange shapes with at least one strong focus, such as through illumination. Consider rhythm and movement.

**Content.** Your ‘theme’ may develop into your “AP Investigation”, an extensive series. Consider how the viewer might interpret your ‘story’. Is the implied narrative meant to be ‘read’ literally or seen as a metaphor? Is it representational, surreal or perhaps abstract?

**Form.** Light your subject/model with strong light to accomplish strong contrast. This will enable you to easily draw (describe) form depicting the seven parts of light. Shade the forms to create 3-D volume & illusion. This applies to portraits, figures, still life and landscape. Allow shadows to become interesting shapes.

**Perspective.** The description of depth and space is accomplished with perspective and overlap. Find the horizon line and create a ‘point of view’. Painting a landscape requires the use of “atmospheric perspective” and scale and value change.

**Color.** Carefully consider color! Limit your palette until form is clearly established. Use ‘broken color’ to make subtle, rich formulas. The entire painting must have a color sense that expresses unity – a cohesive quality.

**Brushwork.** Techniques such as applying paint can be inspired by artists that you admire. Be sure to constantly look at artworks and to select your favorites to ‘imitate’. Visit museums and galleries.

As you work, try to identify if you will be more interested in the:

- **Drawing Portfolio** – a mark making, expressive portfolio

OR

- **Design Portfolio** – a ‘graphic design’, flat image, design basics portfolio.

See attachment, “**Themes in Art**” to help you begin to brainstorm ideas about what to paint. Ideally, this painting will be the first of your ‘thematic work’/concentration.