

# AP Studio Art

As an AP® Studio Art student, you are asked to emphasize research, experimentation, discovery, inventive thinking and artmaking, critical analysis, and problem-solving in your work.

The AP Studio Art Program consists of three different courses: **2-D Design, Drawing,** and **3-D Design.** You'll work toward submission of a portfolio exam for ONE of the three courses. Whichever one you choose, your goal will be to create a portfolio of college-level work and, at the end of the school year, submit it for evaluation. A qualifying portfolio score can earn you college credit and/or advanced placement.

In the spring, you'll upload digital images of your work and commentary online. If you submit a Drawing or 2-D Design portfolio, you'll also send in actual artworks.

Each portfolio has the same three sections: Quality (Selected Works), Concentration (Sustained Investigation), and Breadth (Range of Approaches), described in detail below.

📁 2-D Design Portfolio		
<p><b>Section I: QUALITY (Selected Works)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>5 actual works</i></p> <p><i>Works demonstrating understanding of two-dimensional design in concept, composition, and execution</i></p>	<p><b>Section II: CONCENTRATION (Sustained Investigation)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>12 digital images; some may be details</i></p> <p><i>Works describing an in-depth exploration of a particular 2-D design concern</i></p>	<p><b>Section III: BREADTH (Range of Approaches)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>12 digital images; 1 image each of 12 different works</i></p> <p><i>A variety of works demonstrating understanding of 2-D design issues</i></p>
✂️ Drawing Portfolio		
<p><b>Section I: QUALITY (Selected Works)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>5 actual works</i></p> <p><i>Works demonstrating understanding of drawing in concept, composition, and execution</i></p>	<p><b>Section II: CONCENTRATION (Sustained Investigation)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>12 digital images; some may be details</i></p> <p><i>Works describing an in-depth exploration of a particular drawing concern</i></p>	<p><b>Section III: BREADTH (Range of Approaches)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>12 digital images; 1 image each of 12 different works</i></p> <p><i>A variety of works demonstrating understanding of drawing issues</i></p>
📦 3-D Design Portfolio		
<p><b>Section I: QUALITY (Selected Works)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>10 digital images, consisting of 2 views each of 5 works</i></p> <p><i>Works demonstrating understanding of three-dimensional design in concept, composition, and execution</i></p>	<p><b>Section II: CONCENTRATION (Sustained Investigation)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>12 digital images; some may be details or second views</i></p> <p><i>Works describing an in-depth exploration of a particular 3-D design concern</i></p>	<p><b>Section III: BREADTH (Range of Approaches)</b> One-third of total score</p> <p><i>16 digital images; 2 views each of 8 different works</i></p> <p><i>A variety of works demonstrating understanding of 3-D design issues</i></p>

# PORTFOLIO INTRODUCTIONS

## 2-D Design Portfolio

**When working on your 2-D Design Portfolio, be sure to:**

- recognize that there is no preferred or unacceptable content or style;
- use the elements and principles of art in an integrative way;
- demonstrate your understanding of design principles as applied to a two-dimensional surface, whether physical or virtual;
- articulate the principles of design (unity/variety, balance, emphasis, contrast, rhythm, repetition, proportion/scale, and figure/ground relationship) through the visual elements (line, shape, color, value, texture, and space);
- submit work in any two-dimensional process or medium, including, but not limited to: graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, weaving, fashion design, illustration, painting, printmaking, etc. Video clips, DVDs, CDs, and three-dimensional works may not be submitted. However, still images from videos or films are accepted.

Find links to samples of student work in the 2-D Design portfolio on AP Central® at [apcentral.collegeboard.org/studio2D](http://apcentral.collegeboard.org/studio2D).



2-D Design samples

## Drawing Portfolio

**When working on your Drawing Portfolio, be sure to:**

- recognize that there is no preferred or unacceptable content or style;
- address a wide range of approaches and media;
- consider line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, the illusion of depth, and mark-making;
- understand that abstract, observational, and inventive works may be submitted;
- think about the range of marks used to make drawings, the arrangement of the marks, and the materials used to make the marks;
- recognize that drawing can be addressed through a wide range of media that include, but are not limited to, traditional drawing media, painting, printmaking, digital drawing, and combinations of media;
- understand that works incorporating digital or photographic processes must address drawing issues such as those listed above.

Find links to samples of student work in the Drawing portfolio on AP Central® at [apcentral.collegeboard.org/studiodrawing](http://apcentral.collegeboard.org/studiodrawing).



Drawing samples

## 3-D Design Portfolio

**When working on your 3-D Design Portfolio, be sure to:**

- recognize that there is no preferred or unacceptable content or style;
- address engagement with space and materials, either physical or virtual;
- use the elements and principles of art in an integrative way;
- demonstrate your understanding of design principles as they relate to depth and space, whether physical or virtual;
- articulate the principles of design (unity/variety, balance, emphasis, contrast, rhythm, repetition, proportion/scale, and occupied/unoccupied space) through the visual elements (mass, volume, color/light, form, plane, line, and texture);
- explore 3-D Design issues through additive, subtractive, fabrication, and/or digital or virtual processes;
- understand that approaches include, but are not limited to: figurative or nonfigurative sculpture, architectural models, metal work, ceramics, three-dimensional fiber arts/fashion, jewelry and body adornment, and time-based media;
- understand that works incorporating digital processes must address 3-D Design issues such as those listed above, especially engagement with space, whether physical or virtual.

Find links to samples of student work in the 3-D Design portfolio on AP Central® at [apcentral.collegeboard.org/studio3D](http://apcentral.collegeboard.org/studio3D).



3-D Design samples

# SECTION I

## Quality (Selected Works)

**Works that best represent your accomplishments**

**(5 actual works, no larger than 18" x 24" for Drawing and 2-D Design;**

**10 digital images consisting of 2 views each of 5 works for 3-D Design)**

- Carefully select five works that show in-depth understanding of and engagement with 2-D Design, Drawing, or 3-D Design issues in their concept, composition, and execution.
- Works may come from your Concentration and/or your Breadth section, but they don't have to.
- Quality works may be related, unrelated, or a combination of related and unrelated works.

### Guidelines for Submitting Actual Art for 2-D Design and Drawing Portfolios

DO	DO NOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>→ mat or mount any works on paper, preferably on neutral colored matboard;</li><li>→ mount works smaller than 8" x 10" on backing at least 8" x 10" to ensure they are not overlooked in the portfolio;</li><li>→ use fixative on works that may smudge;</li><li>→ cover any work that has a delicate surface with an overleaf fastened to one edge so it can be lifted easily;</li><li>→ unstretch canvases and back them with matboard;</li><li>→ remember the home address you provide in the Studio Art Digital Submission Web application is the address to which your portfolio materials will be returned in late June or July. We cannot ship your work to a P.O. Box; and</li><li>→ note that, although ETS makes every effort to avoid loss or damage to your materials when they are being evaluated or in transit, accidents do happen. ETS does not assume responsibility or liability in such cases.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>→ send work under glass, fragile work, or stretched canvases (they will be evaluated, but they are very likely to be damaged in shipment);</li><li>→ send three-dimensional works (they will not be evaluated);</li><li>→ send works rolled or folded, and do not roll or fold works to make them fit in the portfolio (they will not be evaluated);</li><li>→ send books or journals (they will be opened to one page at random for evaluation);</li><li>→ send more than five works (extra works will not be evaluated);</li><li>→ send works that will not fit easily into the 18" x 24" portfolio envelope (they will not be evaluated, and your score for that section will be based on the work remaining in that section);</li><li>→ place any information identifying you or your school on any of the materials in your portfolio, except where requested. Your AP Coordinator or teacher will give you instructions on how to label your works. If you have already signed your work, however, do not risk damaging it to remove a signature.</li></ul>

### Guidelines for Submitting Digital Images for the 3-D Design Portfolio

Submit 2 digital images of 5 works, for a total of 10 images. The second image of each work should be taken from a different vantage point than the first view, or it can be a detail, if the detail informs the evaluator about a particular aspect of the work.



## SECTIONS II & III

### Concentration (Sustained Investigation)

**A body of related works that demonstrate sustained and thoughtful investigation of a specific visual idea (12 images, some of which may show details, second views, or process documentation)**

**When working on your Concentration section, be sure to:**

- define your concentration early in the year so the work you submit has the focus and direction required for a sustained investigation.

Use the prompts below to write a concise description of your concentration idea. As you work on your concentration, explain how your work is evolving. When you submit your portfolio, include the final version of your concentration commentary. Your commentary is not scored, but it provides important information about your work to portfolio evaluators. Your responses do not have to use all the available space if you can provide the information more concisely.

1. Clearly and simply state the central idea of your concentration. (500 character maximum)
2. Explain how the work in your concentration demonstrates your intent and the sustained investigation of your idea. You may refer to specific images as examples. (1,350 character maximum)

**Also be sure to:**

- document your process by presenting conceptually related works that show your growth and discovery;
- understand that you are encouraged to include images that document processes of thinking and creating, such as detail views, sequential storyboards, or film or performance stills;
- present images of your work in a sequence that best shows the development of your sustained investigation;
- submit the correct number of images (12, some of which may show second views or process);
- submit images of DIFFERENT works of art than those you submitted for your Breadth section. Submitting images of the same work for your Concentration and Breadth sections may negatively affect your score.

Review image submission guidelines for Section II: Concentration (Sustained Investigation) of the 2-D Design, Drawing, and/or 3-D Design Portfolio at [apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/about-digital-submission](http://apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/about-digital-submission).

### Breadth (Range of Approaches)

**A variety of works demonstrating a range of conceptual and/or technical approaches (12 images for 2-D Design and Drawing; 16 images consisting of 2 views each of 8 works for 3-D Design)**

**When working on your Breadth section, be sure to:**

- clearly show experimentation and a range of conceptual approaches to the work;
- demonstrate exploration, inventiveness, and the expressive manipulation of form, as well as knowledge of compositional organization;
- understand that you may demonstrate a range of approaches in a single medium or in a variety of media. If you choose a single medium, the images must show a range of approaches, techniques, compositions, and subjects;
- submit the correct number of images (12 images of 12 separate works for 2-D Design or Drawing, 16 images of 8 separate works for 3-D Design);

- submit images of DIFFERENT works of art than those you submitted for your Concentration section. Submitting images of the same work for your Concentration and Breadth sections may negatively affect your score.

Review image submission guidelines for Section III: Breadth (Range of Approaches) of the 2-D Design, Drawing, and/or 3-D Design Portfolios at [apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/about-digital-submission](http://apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/about-digital-submission).

# PLAN YOUR PORTFOLIO

**Use this area to help organize your work.**

Scan the QR code or visit [collegeboard.org/studioartworksheets](http://collegeboard.org/studioartworksheets) to download and print worksheets to continue to plan, organize, and record your progress.



**Create/draw/collage/write/imagine/ideate HERE!**

## **Concentration: Sustained Investigation**

What is the central idea of your concentration?

## **Breadth: Range of Approaches**

How does your work show a range of concepts and techniques?

*Take risks! Be inventive!*

## **Quality: Selected Works**

How does your work show an understanding of concept, composition, and execution?

*Express your artistic vision!  
Show off your technical skills!*

## **Cite Your Sources**

Record resources, references, and sources of inspiration.

*Show clear evidence  
of your artistic vision!*

*Document your processes!  
Work out problems!*

**Send to AP by May 6 and CELEBRATE!**

# General Guidelines

- Follow the detailed specifications for your portfolio type. While AP Studio Art portfolio specifications are broad and flexible, you must meet the requirements to achieve a successful score.
- Your portfolio may include work that you have done over a single year or longer, in class or out of class.
- All work in your portfolio must be work that you have created; collaborative works or group projects may not be submitted.
- Submit digital images for the sections that require them. Actual work sent for these sections will not be evaluated.
- If you submit more than one portfolio in the same year or in successive years, each portfolio must be unique; do not submit the same work (or details of the work) in more than one portfolio.
- Label all images, including dimensions and media of original works. (If you want to include a title, add it after the medium.)

## AP Studio Art Digital Submission

You, your Studio Art teacher, and your AP Coordinator will all be involved in the process of uploading and submitting your digital portfolio components to AP in the spring. To see a step-by-step overview of accessing and using the site, visit the demo at [apstudiodemo.collegeboard.org](http://apstudiodemo.collegeboard.org).

Additional information is available online at [collegeboard.org/student/studioartdigital](http://collegeboard.org/student/studioartdigital).

**Remember that it is unethical, constitutes plagiarism, and often violates copyright law to simply copy a work of art (even in another medium) that was made by someone else and represent it as your own.** If you submit work that uses other artists' work or imagery you'll need to show substantial and significant development beyond duplication — through manipulation of the formal qualities, design, and/or concept of the source. Your individual "vision" should be clearly present.

**IMPORTANT: The College Board reserves the right to decline to score an AP Portfolio Exam or cancel an AP Portfolio Exam score when the following misconduct occurs: copying from another student's or any other artist's work.**

**May 6, 2016**, is the last day for your AP Coordinator to submit your digital portfolio sections to AP, but you should submit your portfolio to your teacher well in advance of this date. If you submit a 2-D Design or Drawing portfolio, you'll also meet with your AP teacher or AP Coordinator on or before May 6 to assemble the Quality (Selected Works) section.

## Learn More

For more information about AP Studio Art, talk to your teacher or AP Coordinator, or visit [collegeboard.org/apstudents](http://collegeboard.org/apstudents).