Long Road Sixth Form College
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PART OF THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGES TRUST

Portfolio Task for Creative Exploration

Art Portfolio for A Level Art, Craft, and Design

We are excited to have you join us in September. Your acceptance is conditional on achieving the required grades in August. Since you are not studying Art GCSE, which is a requirement for our Art, Craft, and Design A Level, you have been requested to submit a portfolio to demonstrate your creative potential and support your application for the course.

We have set you a mini portfolio assignment task. Please complete tasks 1, 2,3 and 4 outlined below.

Understanding the Portfolio

The portfolio will allow us to see your skills and potential. It is a collection of work that showcases your creativity over time.

What to Include in Your Portfolio

Your portfolio should demonstrate your ability to work with different materials, techniques, and processes. It should also reflect your capacity for self-motivation and proactive engagement in artistic endeavours. Additionally, your portfolio should illustrate how you research, develop, and plan your creative ideas.

Presentation

Organise your portfolio in a visually appealing and professional manner. Consider using a mix of physical and digital formats if applicable.

Task 1: Photography

Start by selecting two kitchen utensils. These can be any small hand-held tools used for food preparation, such as pots, pans, spatulas, or whisks. Once you have your utensils, take three photos of them, paying close attention to lighting and composition. Fill the frame with your selected utensils and consider different angles to capture them effectively.

Task 2: Drawing

After taking your photos, it's time to draw from your kitchen utensils. Place them in front of you and carefully observe the parts and sections of the utensils to help you develop your composition. Remember to add detail to your drawings. You will need to produce three observational drawings:

- A drawing in line work media using a black biro or fine liner
- A drawing in tone work using a graphite pencil
- A timed drawing of 5 minutes

Remember not to draw from your imagination and focus on capturing the details of the utensils in front of you.

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Task 3: Exploring Art: Analysing Artwork Details

Getting to Know the Artist and the Artwork

Please select one from the below list of artists to follow:

- **Cristina Troufa** - Painting Techniques, colour and use of negative space
- **Jim Dine** - (Tools) Mark Making techniques, use of order and negative space
- **Daniel Egneus** - Bottles or kitchen tools; application of colour and fluidity of line work
- **Ann Goddard** - Textiles, methods and materials
- **Michelle House** - Colour and composition

Here are the details you need to gather:

- **Artist Information**: name of the artist, their date of birth, date of death (if applicable), and their nationality.
- **Artwork Title**: If the artwork has a title, make sure to include it in your analysis.

Analysing the Artwork & What You See

In your own words, describe what you see in the artwork. This includes the subject matter, methods and materials used, composition, scale, tone, colour, shape, and pattern.

1. Subject Matter

Examine the artwork and identify the subject matter. What elements are present in the artwork? What can you see?

2. Methods and Materials

Describe the media and materials used in the artwork. This could include paint, pastel, collage, charcoal, fabrics, or any other materials. Explain how these materials have been applied or manipulated. Consider the thickness or thinness of the application.

3. Composition and Scale

Discuss the composition and scale of the artwork. Use appropriate terms such as focal point, directional lines and devices used to guide the viewer's eye around the image. How do different parts of the work relate to each other?

4. Line

lines and mark-making. Look for evidence of the artist's hand, consider how these marks affect the overall work. Use appropriate technical language to describe the marks, such as thick, thin, hatching, and stippling. Additionally, consider the type of marks used, whether they are expressive, energetic, or calm.

5. Colour

Describe the colours used in the artwork and any colour relationships present. Consider primary, secondary, complementary, and harmonious colour schemes.

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Task 4: Specialist Pathways Media Sample

If you have a specific interest in Fine Art, Graphic Illustration, or Fashion Textiles, you can select **one pathway to follow,** for the following tasks.

Fine Art

Produce one painting based on interesting viewpoints of your utensils. You can work from the photographs taken in Task 1. Your painting should be A5 in size and can use watercolour or acrylic paint or oil paint, your colour pallet should reflect the colours and painting technique used by your artist.

Graphic Illustration

Use four clashing colours for this design pair your utensil with the task it was not designed to do. For example, a potato peeler and a Brussel sprout, develop one composition
In a square format. Combine both traditional techniques such as, painting with digital.
Think carefully about composition and placement select a section of your utensils that hold visual dynamics. Your work should be enriched by elements of your artist composition.

Fashion Textiles

Make four media explorations with fabrics that reflect the shapes and textures of your observational drawings on kitchen utensils. Keep your samples to the same colour or just use white and ensure they are no bigger than 6 cm in any direction. The following words may help your exploration; Layering, Folding, Embellishment, Rhythm, Pleating, Looping & Ruching
Your sample work should reflect an element of enrichment from your artist

How to Submit Your Portfolio

To submit your portfolio, follow these steps:

1. **Prepare Your Artwork**: Organise your artwork into a 15-page PDF document, ensuring it covers all the requirements outlined above.
2. **Title Your PDF**: The title of your PDF should be your full name.
3. **Email Submission**: Once your PDF is ready, email it to Course Team Leader Claire-Louise Webb at cwebb@longroad.ac.uk.
4. **Confirmation**: Our team will contact you two weeks after the deadline to confirm your conditional place on the Art, Craft, and Design A Level.
5. **Portfolio Review Outcome**: If your portfolio review is unsuccessful, we may invite you for a further meeting to discuss alternative options at Long Road.

We are excited to review your work and look forward to seeing your creativity!