

AP Drawing SUMMER Assignments
2025-2026

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Get a NEW SKETCHBOOK to work in for your summer work! (Must be at least 9"x12")

Your sketchbook explorations will be a large percent of your 1st quarter grade.
NEVER EVER EVER GET IMAGES ONLINE AND COPY THEM!

You are REQUIRED to work in your sketchbook ALL summer. PLEASE do not wait until one week or one day before school begins to do so. An hour sketch/exploration of an idea looks much different than a 10-minute last ditch/no effort to just get something done sketch.

- Look at what ARTISTS do in their sketchbooks to approach your sketchbook more as an idea generator, experimentation space, risk taking space.
- Try a variety of media for all of these assignments: Graphite, pen and ink, watercolor, charcoal, conte crayon, etc.
- Try a variety of approaches for assignments: collage and drawing, sewing, using thread to draw, using different mark making, tearing, punching holes, painting, stenciling, writing notes along with images, etc.,etc.

Resources for Sketch Examples:

<http://www.studentartguide.com/articles/art-sketchbook-ideas>

<http://www.booooooom.com/blog/art/> <https://www.sketchbookproject.com/library>

The Journey is the Destination by Dan Eldon

Spilling Open: The Art of Becoming Yourself by Sabrina Ward Harrison

- 1.** Draw 10 objects DRAWN FROM LIFE – DIRECT OBSERVATION (please –do not use photos!) that interest you – doesn't matter why they interest you - this **equals 10 pages (at least)**
Use a variety of media – not just graphite!
2. Explore FIVE different concentration ideas to research. Remember this is going to be a sustained investigation over an **ENTIRE YEAR** – so make sure this is something you are REALLY interested in. After doing these five explorations you should have a good idea about the direction you will be moving in.

Look over the concentration idea list to get your thinking cap on for your concentration. What is the BIG IDEA??? Explore approaches you might take, media, points of view, color palette(s) etc.

Each idea/concept should take up AT the VERY LEAST 4 pages – **(equaling at least 20 pages)** these pages should include – writing about the idea – media exploration of the idea – approaches to the idea

– composition exploration- point of view, rule of thirds, movement, value, repetition, positive and negative space, etc. etc.

3. Provide AT LEAST 5 photographs printed out and pasted into your sketch book that you will consider for the large portrait you will be doing in the fall – put these in your sketchbook and next to them do small color studies (equaling 5 pages – one for each portrait – one for the study – ideally done on two-page spread) Really THINK about lighting, point of view, what you are doing to make it interesting for viewer. Choose one of these photos to use for your FINAL portrait project that we will begin at the start of school.

Look at portraits! Go to a museum, go to a gallery, look at museum collections online – the Smithsonian has an entire National Portrait Gallery! Look how artists use color in their portraits and experiment with color use.



Gustave Courbet – *The Desperate Man*, self- portrait

Make it interesting!!!

ALL SUMMER WORK IS DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS IN THE FALL!!