



# COURSE DESCRIPTOR

## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

### VISUAL ARTS

#### **SUBJECT OVERVIEW**

This course involves students in the study and creation of art and design work. The course includes three elements:

- Process portfolio
- Comparative study
- Final exhibition.

Students will create a process portfolio (sketchbook) that demonstrates their growing confidence and experimentation with media, idea development and critical analysis skills. Alongside this, students will create pieces for a final exhibition, which are developed as a direct result of their investigations in the process portfolio. They will create a separate written study, the comparative study, which will explore three artworks of their choice. This will help to develop critical thinking skills, analysis and subject specific language. Finally, they will curate a final exhibition of their selected artworks, and produce a curatorial rationale, a written statement explaining their creative process and justification for the inclusion of their chosen artworks.

This course is aimed at students who wish to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in visual arts, and aims to:

- Provide students with opportunities to make personal, sociocultural, and aesthetic experiences meaningful through the production and understanding of art.
- Promote visual and contextual knowledge of art from various cultures.
- Enable students to learn about themselves and others through collaborative, engagement with the visual arts

The nature of the course requires at least 4 hours homework time each week beyond class time, to extend and consolidate the work done in class (some students enjoy spending many more hours than this on their work). The subject is entirely coursework based, so all the work created in class and in the student's own time, is submitted for assessment at the end of IB2.

## PRIOR LEARNING REQUIRED

GCSE or equivalent

An interest in, and a desire to study, the visual arts are essential. Students must be willing to spend time studying independently. We aim to instil a deep interest in the subject, which can be maintained in courses of further education and beyond.

## EXAM BOARD

IB

## COURSE CONTENT

Year 1	Year 2
<p><b>MODULE 1</b> – Development of practical skills in art</p> <p><b>MODULE 2</b> – Introduction to The Comparative Study</p> <p><b>MODULE 3</b> – Development of the Visual Journal and Exhibition final outcomes</p>	<p><b>MODULE 4</b> – Continuation of the Visual Journal and Exhibition final outcomes</p> <p><b>MODULE 5</b> – Introduction to the Process portfolio</p> <p><b>MODULE 6</b> - Curation of final exhibition, Curatorial Rationale and exhibition texts</p>



## ASSESSMENT

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Weighting
Process Portfolio	<p>Students submit work that demonstrates carefully selected materials that evidence their experimentation, exploration, manipulation and refinement of a variety of visual arts activities during the two- year course. The sketchbook provides evidence of their sustained experimentation, exploration, manipulation, and refinement of a variety of art-making activities.</p> <p>HL: 13–25 screens required SL: 9-18 screens required</p>	40%

Comparative Study	<p>Students analyse and compare different artworks by different artists. This independent critical and contextual investigation explores artworks, objects and artifacts from differing cultural contexts. Students write a 15-screen essay on the artworks they have chosen.</p> <p>HL / SL: 10-15 screens required</p>	20%
Final Exhibition	<p>Students submit for assessment a selection of resolved artworks from their exhibition. The selected pieces should show evidence of their technical accomplishment during the visual arts course and an understanding of the use of materials, ideas and practices appropriate to visual communication.</p> <p>HL: 8-11 art works required SL: 4-7 art works required</p>	40%

**TEXTBOOKS/REVISION GUIDES**





Materials will be provided. However, students are encouraged to buy a selection of their own art materials to assist them in continuing their studies outside of class time. Relevant items can be discussed with the teacher at the start of the course. A coursebook is not required for this subject. However, there is plenty of material available for students to read prior to joining the course. Below is a list of websites that students can research which will help them decide if this course is suitable:

<https://ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/curriculum/the-arts/visual-arts/>

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-analyze-an-artwork>

### **HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS**

Visual art will enhance skills in critical thinking, creative problem solving, critical analysis, reflective practice, and a wide variety of creative practices and materials -based exploration, which are highly valued by universities and employers. Art is popular with students who wish to study a wide variety of subjects at university or enter careers in creative areas such as: architecture, graphic design, media, advertising, fine art, animation, fashion, 3D design, theatre set design, illustration, model making, costume design, photography, printmaking, textile design, ceramics, silversmithing, digital media, the list is endless. Even if students do not choose a creative pathway at university or in life, success in creative arts is extremely valued and will highly commend you to university admissions and future employers.

### **COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS OF STUDY**

Art history, visual and media studies, marketing, advertising, philosophy, journalism, languages and literature.

### **CURRICULUM DIRECTOR**

Ms. Jemma Jones