

COURSE EXPECTATIONS
Introduction to Photography
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I. Course Overview:

Introduction to photography is a foundation course that focuses on the skills and tools you will need to explore the world of photography. This course teaches the basics of digital photography, camera operations, compositional layouts, lighting, and history of photography. The Elements and Principles of Design are emphasized in learning to take artistic photos.

II. Overall Course Objectives (National Core Arts Standards)

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work

Anchor Standard 3: Refine and complete artistic work

Anchor Standard 4: Select, analyze and interpret artistic work for presentation

Anchor Standard 5: Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation

Anchor Standard 6: Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work

III. Material Required:

All materials are provided; students may bring in supplies specific to their artworks as desired.

IV. Class/Behavior Expectations:

Students will be Respectful, Responsible, Safe and Honest. They will:

- Arrive on time
- Bring all necessary supplies for class
- Focus on their work and stay on task
- Be supportive and respectful of the art of their classmates
- Respect the tools and technology in the classroom
- Strive to learn as much as possible
- Talk quietly while working
- Use of headphones, iPods, or phones for music, camera or class research at the teacher's discretion.
- Be kind
- It is important that all supplies and materials are used responsibly.

*** Safe handling of the camera, lenses, photo printer, and all materials is an important student expectation. If a camera is used inappropriately, the student may lose camera privileges. If a student uses a potentially dangerous supply in an unsafe manner (i.e. X-Acto blade, hot glue gun, hair dyer, etc.), s/he will receive a zero for the day. If for any reason the supply is used unsafely thereafter, the student will receive a zero for the week. As safety and responsibility are two of the Social and Civic Expectations students are expected to meet here at Wheeler, the handling of supplies in a responsible and safe manner is factored into each student's weekly "Social and Civic Expectations" grade.

V. Attendance Policy (BOE Policy #5113) – as stated in handbook:

The North Stonington Public Schools believes that regular school attendance is essential for an effective and productive learning experience. The sequential presentation of school learning requires a continuity of instruction.

The maximum benefits for each individual child can be achieved only from participation and interaction in daily activity. In addition to instruction, other learning processes take place each day that are vital to a student's overall emotional and social growth. Time lost in school is irretrievable in terms of instructional opportunity and social interaction.

The primary responsibility for adherence to regular attendance rests with the student's parents/guardians and the individual student. The Connecticut General Statutes requires students over five and under eighteen years of age to attend school on a regular basis. Appropriate legal action will be taken against parents/guardians whose children fail to abide by the Connecticut Compulsory Attendance Law.

A student is considered to be "in attendance" if present at their school, or an activity sponsored by the school (i.e., field trip), for at least half of the scheduled school day. Any student in school for less than half of the scheduled school day will be considered absent. A student who is serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion will be considered absent.

Excused Absence

The Board believes a student should not be absent from school without the parents' knowledge and consent, therefore verification of an absence should be in writing by a parent or guardian. The first nine (9) absences will be considered excused if a parent approves the absence and if it is properly documented with a signed note from a parent or a notation is made in the student's attendance record by a school official who received either a verbal or electronic communication from the parent.

Family vacations are discouraged during the school year.

For the tenth (10) absence and all absences thereafter, absences will be considered excused for the following reasons:

- Student Illness (verified by a medical professional);
- Student observance of a religious holiday;
- Death in a student's family or emergency beyond the control of the student's family;
- Mandated court appearance
- Extraordinary educational opportunities (i.e., college visits) pre-approved by district administrators and in accordance with SDE guidelines.

There shall be no penalty for an excused absence. Students must bring a note from their parent or guardian to the main office on the day of return to school. For an illness, the student should provide documentation from a doctor. This note must specify the reason(s) for the absence and must conform to the Board of Education Policy # 5113. Excused absences will be listed on the morning bulletin of the day the note is received and marked in PowerSchool, and students will be allowed to make up all work missed. When a student is absent for extended periods of time--more than three days-- parents may obtain assignments from the teachers through the counseling office. Failure to make up assignments may result in a grade of zero for each missing assignment. A student may expect to have one day for each day of absence in order to make up missed work. If a student is absent from school, he/she may not be on school grounds. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the administration.

Unexcused Absence

An unexcused absence occurs when a student is out of school beyond the first nine (9) absences, parent documentation is not provided for the first nine (9) absences and the absences does not meet one of the excused absence reasons listed above. For every unexcused absence, the student will not be allowed to make up or receive credit for work missed.

Tardy to Class

If a student is more than fifteen (15) minutes late for class, other than because of a school-sanctioned event, he or she will be considered absent from class.

Limit on Total Number of Absences: No student will receive course credit for a full year course after having been absent from that course for more than twenty (20) class periods (excused or unexcused) during the school year for reasons other than school sponsored activities (i.e. field trips). The total number of absences will be pro-rated for less than full year courses and for courses which meet other than five times per week.

VI. Grading Policy (points):

-Weekly Social and Civic Expectations grade (20 points per week if the class meets every day).

This grade reflects the student's ability to be responsible, respectful toward others and him/herself, safe, and honest.

-Projects (100 points each).

-Completion of the rubric and self-reflection is worth 5% of the student's overall project grade.

-Returning course expectations (this sheet) (5 points).

This ½ credit course meets every day for one semester. At the end of the semester there will be a final assessment project and it will count as 20% of that semester grade.

VII. Academic Integrity Statement

The faculty and administration of Wheeler Middle/High School demand high standards of academic performance and academic honesty. Anything less would jeopardize quality education and allow our students to deny themselves needed skills and knowledge. For this reason students who cheat on their assigned work, reports, research papers, quizzes, tests or examination risk prompt and punitive action by both their teacher and the school. Examples of violations may include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving aid on tests and graded assignments
- Unauthorized talking during tests
- Copying regular homework/exercises

- Unapproved discussion of examinations/assignments contents
- Cheating on peer reviews of student work
- Misuse of technology

Documentation of all sources is important to avoid plagiarism, which is the stealing of another's ideas, words, writing, or academic work, and implying that it is original. Both quoting and paraphrasing information from an outside source, including any technology without crediting that source is a form of plagiarism. Students who are found cheating or plagiarizing will be subject to the following guidelines:

First offense:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.
- Administration notified (by teachers completing a discipline form).

Subsequent offenses:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.

Disciplinary action by administration which may include office detention or suspension

VIII. Teacher Availability for Extra Help

Students may arrange to meet with the teacher during break, the student's study hall if the teacher is available, or make arrangements with the teacher to come before/after school for extra help.

IX. Wheeler High School Academic Expectations met by this course:

- Reading
- Writing
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Technology

X. Wheeler High School Social/Civic Expectations met by this course:

- Demonstrate Honesty
- Demonstrate Responsibility
- Demonstrate Respect
- Demonstrate Safety

Please sign and return this to the teacher. Thank-you!

I have read and understand the Expectations for this course.

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Student Signature_____