

# Meet the Teacher

Howdy!

I'm Ms. Haifa, and I am your child's art teacher for this academic year. I am so excited to work with your child and help them achieve their full potential in visual arts.

A little bit about myself: When I was in middle school, I would draw all of the time. Teachers loved my work ethic, but they couldn't stand how I just "couldn't focus". I had my art supplies confiscated, received referrals, and had to endure several lectures. Yet I couldn't stop drawing. I loved it. It helped me ground myself during class, focus better, and observe the world around me. I didn't realize that until I graduated from UTSA with a BA in Art in honors.

When kids have a space where they can listen and be heard, overtime that skill will translate into places beyond the classroom. My goal as a teacher is to work with you and your kid to foster an environment where anyone can find a place in art.

I am looking forward to working together with you to support your child's academic and personal growth. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns or would like to schedule a conference.

Thank you for entrusting your child's education to me.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Haifa

# High School Art I

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## **Course Overview**

Students will be provided with a solid foundation in artistic techniques, concepts, and creative expression. This course aligns with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for High School Art 1, offering middle school students to earn high school credit.

Throughout this course, students will explore a wide range of art forms, materials, and artistic processes. Students will dive into the world of visual communication, gaining a deeper understanding of the elements and principles of art and design. Students' creativity will be nurtured as they experiment with various mediums, techniques, and styles.

## **Supplies Needed**

- A favorite pencil
- Faber-Castell DUST-FREE eraser
- 9 x 12" Sketchbook (Strathmore 400 Series, for example)
- All other supplies will be provided to students in class :)

# Classroom Rules

- Respect materials
  - Resources are available for everyone, and maintains an organized workspace.
- Clean up after yourself
  - Fosters a sense of ownership, and prepares space for next session.
- Use kind and positive language
  - Nurtures supportive and encouraging atmosphere, and builds a culture of respect.
- Raise your hand
  - Allows everyone a chance to share thoughts and minimize interruptions.
- Respectful collaboration
  - Cultivates teamwork, diverse perspectives, and sharing of ideas.

Failure to comply to rules will lead to tiered consequences. which are:

- Non-verbal warning, such as a knowing look
- Verbal warning
- Move seats. offer student time to reflect, and discuss expectations after class
- Contact parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Office referral

The goal is to make sure behavior does not escalate to the last two consequences. Let's work together to make this class a safe space for everyone.

Rewards for consistent, positive behavior will be discussed as a class.

# BMSS Fine Arts Management Plan

Violation	Consequences
Classroom Disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verbal warning</li><li>• Written warning</li><li>• Contact parents</li><li>• Office referral</li></ul>
Cell Phone Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verbal warning</li><li>• Parent contact; confiscate phone</li><li>• Office referral</li></ul>
Profanity	See BMSS min. consequences
Fighting	Immediate referral
Damage of School Property	Immediate referral and call home
Food/Gum in Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verbal warning</li><li>• Contact home</li><li>• Office referral</li></ul>

# Classroom Procedures

1. Complete activities on time, even if you think it "doesn't look good."
  - I don't expect you to be a Frida Kahlo or Leonardo Da Vinci. Our goal is to learn art skills and fundamentals. By practicing and trying, we become better artists.
2. Follow directions immediately.
  - Following directions can help with safety and make sure you are doing your work correctly.
3. Submit original work done by you.
  - Art theft is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism sets bad habits that can hurt your academics or career in the future.

# Homework Guidelines

1. Follow the instructions provided by your teacher.
2. Double-check your work for accuracy and completeness.
3. Submit your assignment on time, or as instructed by your teacher.
4. Use the correct format and file type for submitting your work.
5. If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to your teacher for clarification.

As a teacher, I want you to succeed and understand the material provided to you. Do not hesitate to reach out to me regarding redo or retake assessments. Every student deserves a chance.

# Student Portfolio

All artwork will be kept in student's poster board portfolio at school until the end of the year (or until Ms. Haifa instructs them to take it home). This is so there may be student work for various displays. Pictures of student's artwork will be available on their Google Drive.

## Technology Applications

Students will use their BISD Google Apps for Education accounts along with Google Classroom. Class reminders will be sent through Google Classroom. Students that have access to a smartphone, tablet, or iPad, will have opportunities throughout the year to bring their device to class on BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) days.

Apps that should be loaded on student's personal devices are:

- Google Classroom
- Google Drive
- Gmail

Students that don't have access to their own devices will be given access to technology at school via iPad and Chromebook cart.

# Google Classroom Expectations

## **Purpose - A Platform for Learning**

- We will use Google Classroom as a “digital room” that is connected to our actual classroom. Art happens in the real world outside of school so we will use Google Classroom to bring Art from the real world into our classroom.
- We will use Google Classroom to have a digital record of everything we do and to aide us in creating a digital portfolio.
- I understand Google Classroom is not for my personal life, but is a part of my art classroom.

## **Content - Is This Mine?**

- I will only post material that I create myself. I will not post any material that I copy and paste from another source made by other people.
- I will not post material that includes classmates or myself that I do not have permission to share.
- I will only post material that is school appropriate.

## **Tone - SCHOOL RULES!**

- School rules apply when using Google Classroom.
- If you aren't sure if it is okay to post, then it probably isn't.
- No sarcasm. No bullying. No gossiping.

# Google Classroom Expectations

## **Posting - Stay on Topic**

- I will post a question to the group only if it applies to the group. If the question only applies to me, I will only post or message my teacher.
- I will not knowingly answer a post with false information.
- If a question posted to the group is answered correctly, I will not repeat the answer.

## **Language - This isn't texting**

- Spell words out completely.
- Avoid ALL CAPS.
- Be respectful and professional.

## **Safety - Nothing Personal**

- No numbers, addresses, emails, last names, etc
- No logins or passwords.

## **Reporting - Heads Up**

- If you feel something has been posted or exchanged that is inappropriate in any way, you will immediately report it to your teacher.

Adapted from Edmodo Student Code of Conduct

# Grading Policy

## **Students will be graded on:**

- Class participation
- Completion of projects on time
- Effort
- Meeting rubric objectives

## **9 week grades are an average of:**

- Daily work: 50% (prep exercises/meeting project benchmarks)
- Major grades: 50% (tests/final projects)

## **Late Work:**

- Students have one day per day absent to make up any late work for full credit.
- The highest grade on late daily work is 70.
- The highest grade on major grades is 80. It is the student's responsibility to check Google Classroom and with the teacher to see what they have missed. Any work not made up will be counted as a zero.

**Syllabus is subject to change. Students and parents will be notified of any changes.**