

**New Paltz Central School District
ART
Middle School/Seventh Grade**

UNIT/ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	SKILLS/TECHNIQUES	HISTORY/CULTURE/SUGGESTED LESSONS
<p><u>Course Introduction</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will you learn in this course? • What skills do you bring with you? • What skills do you need to develop? • What will be expected of you? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course outline • Introduction and expectations 	
<p><u>Introduction to American Art Themes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes American art uniquely American? • What are some recurrent themes found in American art? • Who were the first American artists? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical skills • Compare and contrast famous works of American art • Discuss the relevance of studying the art made in America 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social art • Political art • Freedom • Democracy • Independence
<p><u>Native American Art</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do the spiritual beliefs of a culture affect the type of artwork the culture produces? • What are some common characteristics of Native American art? • How does symbolism and spirituality influence Native American artists? • What inspired Native American designs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a handmade craft influenced by Native American art studied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native American examples of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tiles ○ Ceramics ○ Totem poles ○ Tools ○ Weaving ○ Clothing ○ Jewelry ○ Dale Chihuly cylinder series

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<p><u>Colonial America</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who were the colonists? • What types of art did they produce? • What are the similarities and differences between fine art and utilitarian craft? • How did the colonial environment impact the work they produced? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a handmade craft influenced by colonial crafts studied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colonist • Craft examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quilts ○ Toys ○ Tools ○ Baskets ○ Furniture ○ Copper/tin lanterns
<p><u>Overview of American Painting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the similarities and differences between the Hudson River School of American painters and realism, impressionism, abstract impressionism, pop art, and/or photorealism? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a painting in one of the styles studied • Focus on color theory and understanding of the concept(s) of the style selected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Cole, Frederic Church • Winslow Homer, Mary Cassatt • Edward Hopper, Norman Rockwell • Georgia O'Keefe, Mark Rothko • William de Koonig, Jasper Johns • Jackson Pollack, Andrew Wyeth • Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, Chuck Close
<p><u>Overview of American Sculpture</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is art influenced by the time period in which it is produced? • What is an art movement? • How might an artist create a sculpture that represents the time period in which it was created? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a sculpture modeled after American sculptors studied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conceptual art • Installation • Marcel Duchamp • Claes Oldenberg • Alexander Calder • Christo • Louise Nevelson