

THE HUMAN FORM

Visual Culture:

You will be looking at the human form and mosaics and how artists have portrayed it over the ages. You will be looking at figures from the following periods: Ancient Egyptian, Greek Archaic, Greek Classical, Byzantine, Roman and Islamic.

Research:

In addition to our studio work we will research the artwork related to figures and mosaic artwork from these eras through the library. We will learn how to search using CPIQ, traditional texts, journals and Internet resources. We will work in partners to do research and fill out the form on The Human.

Mosaic:

Mosaics are made of small bits of material, called *tesserae*. These are glued to a rigid surface. Traditional tesserae are bits of colored glass or glazed tiles. You can use many other materials – pebbles, small pieces of wood, beads, even found objects such as bottle caps or old jewelry. Most of us will be using either, painted pieces of paper, or from magazines, color and texture (no imagery). Avoid mixing materials, such as paint with magazine images as they will clash.

Sometimes the tesserae are fitted tightly together or have small spaces between them.

In Ancient Rome, mosaics were used as decorations in floors and walls. In Byzantium, they were used to create mural-like religious scenes. Islamic buildings often have elaborate mosaic work.

Studio:

On your own, create a mosaic in the form of the body. The mosaic will be developed in one of the following color schemes:

- Monochromatic
- Analogous
- Complementary
- Neutrals
- Natural or local colour
- Primaries
- Secondary
- A color scheme from that historical era (permission from teacher necessary).

You will develop the mosaic figure choosing one of the following stylistic formats:

- Ancient Egyptian
- Greek Archaic
- Greek Classical
- Byzantine
- Roman

Materials:

- manila paper
- paint
- paint brushes
- mayfair paper
- glue
- magazines

Procedure:

- In sketchbook create minimum, 3 thumbnail sketches that include different color themes.
- Evaluate work in consultation with your partner and teacher.
- Produce a working drawing in your sketch book.
- Paint or cut your color swatches for your *tesserae*.
- Draw lightly, sketch out your drawing on mayfair.
- Cut out tesserae.
- Arrange on your drawing.
- Glue down.

Vocabulary:

Tesserae – Small pieces of material fitted together to form a mosaic design.

Grout – A filler rubbed into small spaces between the tesserae.

Support – The background to which you stick the tesserae (wood, cardboard, masonite).

Adhesive – Glue or another substance that will stick the tesserae to the support.

Learning Outcomes:

- ② Work individually & in groups
- ② Use a range of materials & processes
- ② Through your own art, develop imagery based on the study and understanding of historical methods.