

THE INVESTIGATIVE WORKBOOK

Observation: (see page 2 for strategies)

Skill / process / technique:

- Study the behavior of light on various forms. Study drapery, details of small objects, objects in their environment.
- Draw portraits from images and from life.
- Study master works
- Describe forms, light & surfaces through hatching, smudging, stippling, proportion. Also try wet media
- Study anatomy of humans, animals, and plants

Ideas:

Try various compositions and context of figure vs ground.

Artist Research: Lucien Freud, Michelangelo, Carravagio, Ingres, Rubens, Davinci journals.



Expressive: (see page 2 for strategies)

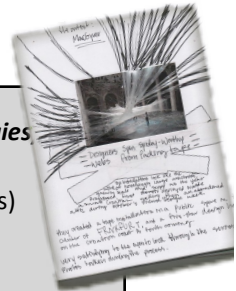
Skill / process / technique:

- Elements of art (what do they express)
- scraping
- layering
- mixed media
- Experiment with media and lines / gestures

Ideas:

Document experiences of events, people, places, emotions

Artist Research: Dubuffet, Auerbach, Abs. Expressionists, Cubists, VanGogh, Munch, Rauschenburg, Group of Seven.



Symbolic: (see page 2 for strategies)

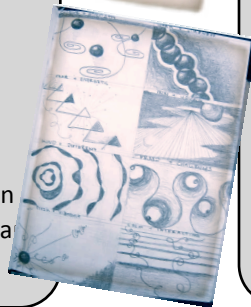
Skill / process / techniques:

- storyboards for movies or comics
- designing new logos,
- designing installations or fashion

Ideas:

Explore the artifacts and symbols from rituals, spiritual practices, communities and various cultures (sub to macro)

Artist Research: Haida masks and totems; Indian metalwork; religious offerings; Diego Rivera; Ma Chagall; Salvador Dali; study of semiotics.



Expectations:

- Use your IWB to support all projects as a tool to record research, poetry, curiosities, experiments, and a variety of compositional thumbnail sketches.
- **All pages to be dated and titled.**
- **All sources are properly acknowledged.**
- Explore some topics in greater depth. Explore a topics potential to be the basis for a large artwork or a body (series) of work.
- **Students aiming for grades in the 80-100 range should be filling sketchbook pages, demonstrating focus and rigor. Combine images with written responses / reflections.**

Pages filled:	15	20	25	30	40-50	60-70	80-100
Art 10	55	70	85	100			
Art / Des 11	40	55	70	85	100		
Adv 11/ Art 12 / IB SLA	n/a	40 or IB SL 2	55 or 3	70 or 4	85 or 5	100 or 6	+100 or 7
Adv 12 / IB SLB/HLA	n/a	n/a	40 or IB HL 2	55 or 3	70 or 4	85 or 5	100 or 6

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Observational Investigations:

- Fill a page with gesture drawings (10) ¹of your friends, family, or pets etc. Do a drawing of an object from your room. Consider the background too.
- Look out your bedroom window. Draw exactly what you see. When done, write a caption on the bottom of the page that gives a relevant new meaning to the picture.
- Throw a pair of pants over a chair in your room. Draw an interesting section of the pants and the chair. Consider the background.
- Take a section of a photo of a face and paste it in your sketchbook, upside down. On the opposing page, draw this image as you see it, in colour. An upside down portrait will lead you to draw what you see instead of what you think you see.
- From live observation, do a portrait of another person.
- Do a self portrait in grey scale from a photograph
- Do a self-portrait from a mirror focusing on light and shapes that help you see the facial structure.
- Do a study of an internal space from observation emphasizing perspective (use perspective techniques to help find the angles)
- Do a drawing of a built environment's external façade.
- Cut up a piece of fruit. Zoom in on a section of this cutting and draw it so that the form fills your page. Use colour.
- Find a face in a magazine, cut it down the middle, draw the missing half.
- Select a few simple objects in your room and sit them on a pair of pants. Do a drawing of an interesting area of this arrangement
- Draw a picture of a family member as they watch TV. Focus only on a small area of their form.
- Fill a page with observational studies of trees or plants.
- Fill a page with detailed plant studies.

Expressive Investigations:

- Frottage: fill a page of your sketchbook with rubbings of found objects (use crayons or coloured pencils).
- Draw a cup of coffee or tea using coffee or tea and a spoon to make the drawing. (Don't add milk)
- Focus in on an interesting section of three objects sitting close together and their environment using a colour pallet of your choice (i.e. complimentary colours, primaries, etc.)
- Create a still life in collage using magazine paper or fabrics.
- Create a collage using a glue stick and magazine images.
- Create an artwork inspired by the mood of a song.
- Create a work of word art, using lines of text to form your image.
- Document yourself as a variety of personalities / characters.
- manipulate found images. add to them with wet or dry media

Symbolic Investigations:

- Map a TV Show. In your own codex on a timeline, map the plot, jolts per minute, laugh track, commercial breaks and whatever else you feel grabs your attention. Also note if you see any patterns of colour or mood established.
- Imagine you were a corporation. Design a logo to represent your company's identity.
- Find an obsolete object in your house. Draw it from direct observation and modify it to serve a new purpose.

Composition Skills:

- Over two pages of your sketchbook, draw 16 squares, each with a unique arrangement of 4 circles inside. For each one, use a distinct colour pallet.
- Do a full page drawing of a fruit or vegetable in a full colour range in emphasis, contrast, rhythm, asymmetry
- Arrange three objects that represent you and draw them focusing on their negative space.
- draw a long squiggle on one side of your page. Add more lines.. continue to add, strengthen and take away lines until the page can be described as simple, dynamic and balanced.
- Create zentangles (www.zentangles.com)
- For every studio project, draw your subject in at least 5 different possible compositions (principles of design). DO this in thumbnail form.

Historical and Theoretical Investigations:

- Do a drawing or painting inspired by a style you discovered at <http://www.artchive.com> or www.ccca.ca
- commit one page or spread of your sketchbook to research an artist's work. What inspired or influenced them? What did they contribute to the world of art? Include thumbnails of their work. Do this for 10 artists. Don't just rely on the internet. Consult a university library; interview a living artist, or visit a gallery.
- Research the works of such thinkers as: [Clement Greenberg](#); [Giorgio Vasari](#); [JP Sartre](#)...
- Write an art review of the work from an artist in our community
- Investigate featured artists in *Canadian Art*, *Art Forum* or *Border Crossings* magazines. Record your investigations.
- Interview a living artist or curator (great primary research)
- Compare works of different cultures. What influenced them in their content, materials and their aesthetics?
- Trace how a culture's innovations impact visual arts. E.g. The printing press on Renaissance art. Ships and trade (Asia and European Expressionism)