New York State Teacher
Certification Examinations™

FIELD 79: VISUAL ARTS
TEST FRAMEWORK
June 2003

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The New York State visual arts teacher has the knowledge and skills to teach effectively in New York State public schools. The visual arts teacher is familiar with the use and effects of various tools, materials, techniques, methods, and principles used in the creation of works in the visual arts. The visual arts teacher also understands the structural and sensory elements and principles of art and their uses in the visual arts. The visual arts teacher is aware of the connections among the visual arts, history, and culture and is able to use that knowledge in analysis of individual expressions of the human experience. The visual arts teacher understands how to integrate learning in the visual arts with learning in other arts, academic disciplines, and cultural institutions to enhance student learning overall.

SUBAREA I—VISUAL ARTS MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

0001 Understand tools, materials, techniques, methods, and principles used in drawing and painting.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various tools and materials (e.g., computer and electronic media, works of art and artifacts, print materials) used in drawing and painting
- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various techniques, methods, and processes used in drawing and painting
- analyzing how the selection of particular drawing and painting media, including computer and electronic media, can influence creative decisions
- demonstrating an understanding of maintenance and safety procedures associated with drawing and painting materials and activities
0002 Understand tools, materials, techniques, methods, and principles used in printmaking and photography.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various tools and materials (e.g., computer and electronic media, works of art and artifacts, print materials) used in printmaking and photography
- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various techniques, methods, and processes used in printmaking and photography
- analyzing how the selection of particular printmaking and photography media, including computer and electronic media, can influence creative decisions
- demonstrating understanding of maintenance and safety procedures associated with printmaking and photography materials and activities

0003 Understand tools, materials, techniques, methods, and principles used in sculpture and architecture.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various tools and materials (e.g., computer and electronic media, works of art and artifacts, print materials) used in sculpture and architecture
- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various techniques, methods, and processes used in sculpture and architecture
- analyzing how the selection of particular sculptural and architectural media, including computer and electronic media, can influence creative decisions
- demonstrating understanding of maintenance and safety procedures associated with sculpture and architecture materials and activities

0004 Understand tools, materials, techniques, methods, and principles used in ceramics and crafts.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various tools and materials, including computer and electronic media, used in ceramics and crafts
- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various techniques, methods, and processes used in ceramics and crafts
- analyzing how the selection of particular media in ceramics and crafts can influence creative decisions
- demonstrating an understanding of maintenance and safety procedures associated with ceramics and craft materials and activities
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0005 Understand tools, materials, techniques, methods, and principles used in visual communication and design arts.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various tools and materials, including computer and electronic media, used in visual communication and design arts
- demonstrating knowledge of the characteristics and uses of various techniques, methods, and processes used in visual communication and design arts
- analyzing how the selection of particular media in visual communication and design arts can influence creative decisions
- demonstrating an understanding of maintenance and safety procedures associated with visual communication and design arts

SUBAREA II—PRINCIPLES AND ELEMENTS OF ART AND DESIGN

0006 Understand the elements of art.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the elements of art (e.g., line, texture, shape, color, value, space, form)
- analyzing how the elements of art are used to create an effect or communicate an idea in a given artwork
- comparing how the elements of art are used in two different works
- analyzing issues associated with the elements of art (e.g., perspective, color intensity, shape, abstraction, value)

0007 Understand the principles of design.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of the principles of design (e.g., repetition, balance, contrast, emphasis, unity, variety, harmony, movement, proportion, rhythm)
- analyzing how the principles of design are used to create an effect or communicate an idea in a given artwork
- comparing and contrasting how the principles of design are used in two different works
- analyzing design challenges (e.g., achieving compositional balance, creating movement and rhythm)
- analyzing underlying design structures used to formulate a composition on a two-dimensional plane (e.g., perspective)
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0008 Understand the visual arts as a form of communication.
For example:
- recognizing expressive features (e.g., subjects, themes, symbols, metaphors) used to communicate meaning
- comparing and contrasting the effectiveness of selected media, techniques, and organizational principles for conveying intended meanings
- analyzing ways in which expressive features and organizational principles result in particular responses to artwork
- identifying a variety of sources for developing ideas, images, themes, and symbols to use in creating visual artwork

SUBAREA III—VISUAL ARTS AND CULTURE

0009 Understand the connections among the visual arts, history, and culture.
For example:
- examining the role of the visual arts in reflecting, recording, and shaping history and culture
- comparing and contrasting works of visual art from various cultures and eras
- analyzing how factors of time and place (e.g., climate, resources, ideas, technology, government) motivate and influence the creation of visual arts
- analyzing contemporary and historical meanings (e.g., political, social, religious) in specific works of art
- demonstrating knowledge of universal themes expressed in artwork
- recognizing the functions and roles of the visual arts in everyday life, from ancient times through the present
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0010 Understand works of art from Africa and the Middle East, from ancient times through the present.
For example:
- identifying distinguishing characteristics of artwork from diverse African and Middle Eastern cultures
- describing the cultural and historical contexts of artwork from Africa and the Middle East
- analyzing how cultural values are expressed in artwork from Africa and the Middle East
- demonstrating an understanding of how artwork from Africa and the Middle East has influenced, and been influenced by, other cultures

0011 Understand works of art from Asia, Oceania, and Australia, from ancient times through the present.
For example:
- identifying distinguishing characteristics of artwork from diverse Asian, Oceanian, and Australian cultures
- describing the cultural and historical contexts of artwork from Asia, Oceania, and Australia
- analyzing how cultural values are expressed in artwork from Asia, Oceania, and Australia
- demonstrating an understanding of how artwork from Asia, Oceania, and Australia has influenced, and been influenced by, other cultures

0012 Understand works of art from Europe, from ancient times through the present.
For example:
- identifying distinguishing characteristics of artwork from diverse European cultures and eras (e.g., ancient times, Middle Ages, Renaissance, present day)
- describing the cultural and historical contexts of artwork from Europe
- analyzing how cultural values are expressed in artwork from Europe
- demonstrating an understanding of how artwork from Europe has influenced, and been influenced by, other cultures
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0013 Understand works of art from North America, from ancient times through the present.

For example:
- identifying distinguishing characteristics of artwork from the diverse cultures of North America
- describing the cultural and historical contexts of artwork from North America
- analyzing how cultural values are expressed in artwork from North America
- demonstrating an understanding of how artwork from North America has influenced, and been influenced by, other cultures

0014 Understand works of art from Central and South America, from ancient times through the present.

For example:
- identifying distinguishing characteristics of artwork from the diverse cultures of Central and South America
- describing the cultural and historical contexts of artwork from Central and South America
- analyzing how cultural values are expressed in artwork from Central and South America
- demonstrating an understanding of how artwork from Central and South America has influenced, and been influenced by, other cultures

0015 Understand global trends in art from the twentieth century through the present.

- identifying movements and styles in visual arts from the twentieth century through the present (e.g., realism, abstraction, postmodernism)
- recognizing connections among movements and styles in visual arts from the twentieth century through the present
- analyzing factors (e.g., political, social, religious, governmental) that have influenced visual arts from the twentieth century through the present
- demonstrating an understanding of art as process (e.g., imagery, space, structure, movement)
- recognizing the relationships between evolving technologies and experimental art forms

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SUBAREA IV—AESTHETIC AND INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS

0016 Understand the basic principles of analysis and interpretation of works in the visual arts.

For example:

- demonstrating an understanding of art criticism, art history, and aesthetic principles and their connections to works of art
- identifying a variety of assessment methods to use in the analysis of works of visual art
- applying the language of art criticism to explain visual and sensory qualities found in works of visual art
- analyzing how factors of time and place (e.g., climate, resources, ideas, technology) influence the interpretation of visual arts
- comparing and contrasting various critical reviews of a given work of art

0017 Understand how the visual arts relate to other art forms and other disciplines.

For example:

- demonstrating an understanding of the ways in which ideas, themes, and concepts in the visual arts are expressed in other art forms or disciplines
- demonstrating knowledge of ways in which art forms may be combined to express ideas or themes
- describing the ways in which developments in the visual arts and other arts and disciplines have influenced each other throughout history
- analyzing the ways in which concepts and themes from the disciplines of the social sciences (e.g., psychology, philosophy, political science) have been explored in visual art forms
- demonstrating knowledge of strategies for using the visual arts to enhance understanding in other art forms or disciplines
0018 Understand career choices available in the visual arts.

For example:

- identifying professions that involve the creation, performance, and analysis of visual arts
- identifying professions that involve the exhibition and promotion of visual arts
- demonstrating an understanding of the preparation required for a variety of visual arts professions
- demonstrating knowledge of the components of art portfolios (e.g., content, presentation, organization)
- demonstrating knowledge of strategies for self-assessment and reflection on the components of art portfolios

0019 Understand opportunities for participation in visual arts activities in the community.

For example:

- demonstrating knowledge of resources and opportunities for participation in visual arts in the community (e.g., exhibitions, libraries, art festivals, museums, galleries, service projects)
- demonstrating knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of individuals involved in exhibiting works of visual art
- demonstrating an understanding of the importance of presentation methods and materials
- recognizing the importance of interacting with authentic works of art through engagement with cultural institutions
- demonstrating knowledge of the roles of viewer, creator, and participant in visual arts

SUBAREA V—VISUAL ARTS AND CULTURE: CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT

The content to be addressed by the constructed-response assignment is described in Subarea III, Objectives 09–15.