Pre-AP Arts and Colorado Academic Standards for Visual and Performing Arts: Alignment Summary

Pre-AP courses focus deeply on a limited number of concepts and skills with the broadest relevance for high school coursework and college and career success. The Pre-AP framework serves as the foundation of the course and defines these prioritized concepts and skills.

When teaching a Pre-AP course, teachers have purposeful time and space to bring their own voice and lessons into each unit to best meet the needs of their students and address the full range of state standards. This alignment summary demonstrates the deep connections between the Pre-AP Arts Framework and the Colorado Academic Standards for Visual and Performing Arts to support teachers and schools in their planning. Along with the corresponding standards crosswalk, teachers and schools can use this alignment summary when planning and preparing to implement Pre-AP Dance, Music, Theatre, or Visual Arts courses.



Alignment at a Glance

Discipline Highlights

Overall, the alignment between the Pre-AP Arts Framework and the Colorado Academic Standards for Visual and Performing Arts is very strong.

Across the four disciplines of Dance, Drama and Theatre Arts, Music, and Visual Arts, all strands are addressed by the Pre-AP Arts Framework.

All standards in the Dance, Drama and Theatre Arts, Music, and Visual Arts disciplines are deeply aligned.

Alignment at a Glance: Very Strong



Partial alignment

when one framework includes greater specificity or extends beyond the scope of the other framework. Given the focused nature of the Pre-AP framework, some partial alignments are to be expected.

Summary

The Pre-AP Arts framework is organized according to five Big Ideas: Observe and Interpret, Practice and Experiment, Research and Make, Reflect and Evaluate, and Revise and Share. This process-oriented focus relates naturally and deeply to the Colorado Arts Standards' process-focused strands. These documents reinforce one another, as they have shared goals for students to engage in a full range of artistic processes and practices.

Beyond alignments to the framework, it is also important for educators to turn to the Pre-AP Shared Principles and Pre-AP Arts Areas of Focus, which represent the Pre-AP approach to teaching and learning and address skill development and disciplinary practices that cannot be easily captured within a standards crosswalk. In summary, there are ample opportunities for teachers to address the Colorado Arts Standards with confidence throughout these courses.



Learn more about Pre-AP Arts at preap.org