Lesson Plan (Series)

Minimum Sculpture / Drawing 8th Grade Art

Lesson Summary:
After a study of minimalist sculptor, Richard Serra, students will draw their minimalist sculpture in pencil for a study of value, gradation, light and shadow.

Arkansas Frameworks:

Pre-test: Drawing insights – Basic Forms, Value and shading handouts/worksheets

Objectives:
1. After the study of Minimalist Sculpture, students will create a minimalist sculpture out of pre-sized and pre-cut oak tag paper.
2. Students will be able to draw their sculpture in a simple line contour drawing.
3. Students will be able to graduate the values (exemplifying black, white and 3-4 grays) from their direct observation of their sculpture using a light source (spotlight).

Essential Question:
What is Minimalism?
How does light effect objects?
How do rounded forms show value?

Timeline: 2 weeks

Materials:
“18 x 24” oak tag paper, rulers, scissors, glue, tape, spotlight, extension cords, digital camera, computer, printer, tracing paper, black markers, 9” x 12” white drawing paper, pencil, erasers, blending stumps.

Teacher Preparation:

Procedure:
1. Engage:
   a. Ask students, “What is Minimalism?”
   b. Using projector, show Art21: Season 1 video on Richard Serra (minimalist sculptor)
2. Explore:
   a. Show PowerPoints that are displayed on the internet website:
      http://panthers.k12.ar.us/High_School/Departments/Art/art_web_pages/Lessons/Syllabus/Syllabus.htm
      i. Minimalism and
      ii. 21st C. Sculptors
3. **Explain:**
   a. How shadow and light creates values on objects to suggest the volume and form.
   b. Artists observe these values to draw 3 – D objects on a 2 – D surface.

4. **Elaborate:**
   a. Students create a minimal sculpture out of oak tag paper. See attached handout for steps.
   b. Students take photo of their object and printout a full 8 1/2” x 11” copy.
   c. Student trace over contour lines with black flair pens to help identify contour lines.
   d. Using tracing paper, students trace over these contour lines to isolate them for study.
   e. After studying these copies of contour line tracing, students put these away. Set sculptures up as still-life and shine spotlights on them to cast shadows. Students draw using direct observation. (If students have difficulty seeing contours, they may refer to their contour tracing as reference – use only sparingly.)

5. **Evaluate:**
   a. After presentations, ask students “what they had learned today.”
   b. After drawing projects: Using laptops, students go online and download self-assessment handouts for their projects. They are to type these, save, print and turn in. (See attachment)
   c. Project rubrics (See attachment)

**Cross Curricular Connections:**

*Math:* Students must divide and measure oak tag paper to cut and create minimal sculpture.

*Language Arts / English:* Students reflect, evaluate and write on their self assessments.

*Social Studies:* Study of 21st C. Artists

*Parental Involvement:* Projects, assignments and student work are posted online on school’s / art dept website.

*Technology Connections:* Video and PowerPoint presentations. Students work with laptops to do self assessments

a. **Resources:** See all resources and handouts on the following website -
   [http://panthers.k12.ar.us/High_School/Departments/Art/art_web_pages/Lessons/Syllabus/Syllabus.htm](http://panthers.k12.ar.us/High_School/Departments/Art/art_web_pages/Lessons/Syllabus/Syllabus.htm)
8th grade  **Minimalism Sculpture**

- 18” x 24” Manila Oaktag paper
- divide ½ for 2 12 x 18
- divide 1, 12 x 18 in half
  - 9” x 18

![](image)

- Using 2, 9” x 18” strips; create a Minimalist Sculpture by bending, twisting, folding & cutting the paper & gluing to the 12 x 18 base
- Use Must use All of the paper provided.