

I took my first art class, *Intro to Studio Art*, during my winter term of Sophomore year. There, I was introduced to mediums like charcoal, collaging, watercolor, and more. I was also taught perspective, shading, and composition. My progression to Junior year enabled me to learn about new mediums and to really develop techniques.

My favorite aspect about art is how relaxing it can be. I enjoy working on my artworks because I don't have to stress about numbers, formulas, syntax, rhyme scheme, character development, plot and structure, verb tenses, vocabulary, ethical dilemmas, cellular communication, past presidents, or current events like in other classes.

My Sustained Investigation began with the intention of studying the effect of light within churches, which had me focus on portraying the stained glass windows that adorn the Newark Cathedral. I wanted to focus on the behavior of light as it passes through the stained glass and illuminates the interior of the Cathedral. Is the light reflected? Scattered? Distorted? How does this light contrast with artificial light (candles and lanterns) from other sources in the Cathedral?

In my Sustained Investigation, I further experimented with color and I utilized texture to represent diffused light. My experimentation further developed into applying gold foil to amplify the grandeur of the architectural features inside the Cathedral. These techniques, among others, allow me to home in on specific elements of my subject matter and examine how changing these elements will impact the entire composition and the image I wish to portray.

I hope that my artworks reveal something special and something you haven't seen before.