

Two-Dimensional Design Lesson Plan

Unit: Islamic Art: Geometric Design

Grade: Middle/High School

Objectives:

- The students will be able to give a written explanation of what Islamic Art means to them.
- The students will be able to use a compass to successfully create a unique work of art.
- The students will use at least four different colors when coloring their unique design.

Artists:

- Jafar Mogadam – immigrated to the United States from Iran via Germany in 1962. He studied art at The Art Institute of Chicago, The University of Northern Iowa and the University of Iowa. He paints geometric shapes and lines on tiles. He is the only American artist working in tiles who draws upon the Islamic and Persian heritage of his homeland, Iran.
http://www.uiowa.edu/~c019225/galleries/grosvenor_gallery.html (link to photo essay)
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~c019225/mogadam1.html> (link to interview)
- Mashood Ahmed – from website <http://www.islam-art.co.uk/artists.php>
“Mashood Ahmed was born in Dina, northern Pakistan, and now lives in Birmingham. Since 1996 Mashood has travelled extensively. His year abroad following university took him to South East Asia, Australasia and North America. A most influential journey was to Azad Kashmir. Here he worked with refugees and a NGO project linked with a Birmingham Youth Project. Other expeditions include visits to Eastern Europe, Corsica, Turkey where he developed a love of the great outdoors. This passion has since led him to voluntary work with community based Mosaic Partnership. Overall his travels have allowed him to experience natural beauty in its many forms and to build up a collection of miscellaneous art forms that aid his artistic inspiration today. Mashood has been painting as a form of relaxation for five years. He enjoys working in different mediums including watercolors, oils and Chinese pen and ink. His current favored medium is oil, for its texture, movement and ability to express his feelings. A key personal motivation to start Sacred Canvas was a desire to bring Islamic Art into the British mainstream, showing the beauty of Islam. With the support of Sacred Canvas, Mashood is promoting his modern and phenomenal Islamic Art. His work is already available in retail outlets and he is in the process of organizing exhibitions across the country.”

Elements of Art: line, shape, color, space

Principles of Design: unity, variety, movement, balance

Vocabulary:

- **Islamic** - the religious faith of Muslims, based on the words and religious system founded by the prophet Muhammad and taught by the Koran, the basic principle of which is absolute submission to a unique and personal god, Allah; the whole body of Muslim believers, their civilization, and the countries in which theirs is the dominant religion.
- **compass** - an instrument for drawing or describing circles, measuring distances, etc., consisting generally of two movable, rigid legs hinged to each other at one end. One side has a pencil and the other a metal tip.

Materials:

- Equipment: document camera, computer, access to internet
- Supplies: smooth paper, colored pencils or markers, compass, pencil, scratch paper
- Visuals: examples of my art work, pictures from *Islamic Art and Geometric Design: Activities for Learning*

Introduction: Show the students the artist's examples and discuss Islamic culture as a class

Assignment Criteria: students will use a compass and ruler to create a unique and interesting design on a sheet of white copy paper. The design should take up most of the space on the paper. Then they will color the design with colored pencils.

Wrap Up: We will review what we have learned about Islamic art and have the students show the class their designs.

Assessment: Have students complete the Art Self-Assessment Form

Evaluation: What improvements can be made?