

## UArts Lesson Plan Format

<b>Name:</b> Rissa Radcliff
<b>Theme:</b> Craft Arts, Fiber, Macrame
<b>Title:</b> Lots of Knots
<b>Grade level:</b> Grades 9-12
<b>Goal/Activity:</b> Students will create macrame wall hangings using cord and a series of knots
<b>Developmental Rationale/Prior Learning:</b> This is an introductory lesson into fiber arts and decorative knots. Students are not expected to have previous experience with this art. This lesson will introduce students to a new media that many find rhythmic and relaxing. Developmentally, this is a good lesson to ease up the stress that students may feel when it comes to creating more technical or conceptual art.
<b>History/background:</b> Knotting is an ancient skill that can be traced back to humans in the age of hunting and gathering. Knots were used to complete tools, such as affixing stones onto sticks to create spears. The oldest fossilized rope fragments are about 17,000 years old, but societies were creating ropes closer to 40,000 years ago. Knotting as a decorative art was popular in Qing Dynasty China. These Chinese knots were made from a single cord looping and knotting around itself. While the knots likely originated as a means to keep records, as decorative knots they vary in complexity and carry a variety of meanings. Macrame is currently used as a boho art decor inspired by the macrame movement in the 70's but it contains ties to earlier traditions. Arabic textiles, such as rugs, were often tied off with knots on the end that later inspired macrame. Macrame also draws inspiration from sailor knots, a nautical pastime.
<b>Standards:</b> VA:Cr.1.2 Choose from a range of materials and methods of traditional and contemporary artistic practices to plan works of art and design. VA:Cr.2.1 Through experimentation, practice, and persistence, demonstrate acquisition of skills and knowledge in a chosen art form. VA:Re.9.1 Determine the relevance of criteria used by others to evaluate a work of art or collection of works. VA:Cn11.1 Compare uses of art in a variety of societal, cultural, and historical contexts and make connections to uses of art in contemporary and local contexts.
<b>Objectives:</b>
1. <b>Knowledge:</b> <i>Students will be able to identify the different types of knots in order to express their understanding of macrame vocabulary.</i>
2. <b>Skill:</b> <i>Students will be able to recreate at least two types of macrame knots in order to demonstrate their understanding of the skill.</i>
3. <b>Attitude:</b> <i>Students will be able to reflect on their macrame making process in order to</i>
<b>Teacher preparation:</b> Photocopy printed directions, prepare slideshow, precut all cord into student sized bundles
<b>Supplies:</b> (12) 2.5 yard lengths of cord OR (12) 7ft lengths of cord PER STUDENT Additional Cord Sticks or Dowels Masking tape Scissors Yard Stick
<b>Visual Aids and reference to art history:</b>



1) Rissa Radcliff, *Macrame Wall Photograph* 2021

**Resources:**

Slideshow, Computer, Projector, Written Directions

**Prior Knowledge:** This is an introductory lesson that is not built on prior student knowledge. This lesson is best implemented to either: 1) give students a rest between conceptual lessons, or 2) fill in a gap between longer lessons.

**Vocabulary:**

Single Knot: A simple overhand knot

Double Knot: A single knot, followed by a second single knot in the opposite direction

Picot Knot: A series of double knots with looped cord between them

Lark's Head Knot: A knot used to affix cord to a branch or ring

Double Half Hitch Knot: A knot used to create lines in horizontal or diagonal directions

Cord: The rope used when making macrame

**Assessment:**

Formative: Teacher provides feedback on an individual basis while students' work is in progress

Summative: Students reflect on the macrame process and assess their work

**Accommodations/Modifications/Adaptations:**

Slideshow access, image heavy directions

**Extensions:** Early finishers can add additional knots, create a second work, or work in their sketchbooks

**Correlated Activity:** Students will be creating some craft bookmarks to sell

**Time Budget:** Class is 45 minutes

Class 1: Introduction PPT (3 Minutes)

Demonstration (10 Minutes)

Studio Time (40 Minutes)

Students clean up (2 Minutes)

Class 2 - 4: Studio Time (43 Minutes)

Students clean up (2 Minutes)

Class 5: Studio Time (25 Minutes)

Students Reflection Form (10 Minutes)

Photographing Work (5 Minutes)

Students clean up (5 minutes)