Christina Ragona MiT Prompt A

The coursework that I took ranged from rudimentary art classes to welding. I focused on 2D courses in the beginning of my college coursework and learned how to work with several different mediums; pastels, charcoal, pencils, ink, oil and acrylic paint. I learned how to create dimension with shadows by using different techniques and what tools to use for desired effects.

Later in college, I learned more about design and 3D art. Chanoyu, was a program which focused on Japanese history, culture and architecture. In this class I was reintroduced to woodworking, developed a substantial understanding of the traditional practices of architectural design. I took more programs in architecture design, writing, furniture design and history. I spent a lot of time working with ceramics.

I finished my degree taking psychology classes that focused on somatic and integrative health practices. I have actively demonstrated awareness of sociocultural and diversity issues and bettered my understanding of psychology. I gained knowledge and skills for witnessing and tending others (as in counseling, psychology, or social work) using guided principles of social and disability justice through a trauma-informed lens.

This coursework has helped me develop my artistic abilities and applied understanding of the biopsychosocial model of health and wellness has helped my passion for art and psychology to be integrated with both physical and emotional aspects because being a teacher is more than just teaching a subject. You need to be able to gauge your classroom in order to provide students with the information they need while having a safe environment.

My background in art is broad. This could be beneficial in an art classroom with providing students with as much information in different mediums. I will need some growth in 2D art since it's been awhile since I have used some of the mediums. My next few steps will be to start working with these mediums again to that I can broaden up my skills.