

Art Department Assessment Plan Academic Year 2002-2003

Mission Statement:

The Primary mission of the art department is to integrate a university liberal education with professional training in art. We contribute to the liberal education of all students by providing classes in art history, art appreciation, and visual design, which foster appreciation and critical awareness for the visual arts. To prepare art majors for professional careers in art, we offer programs in teacher education and professional studio art (including graphic design, illustration, drawing, painting, printmaking, and ceramics), through which we emphasize studio skill, critical thinking, and exposure to multiple aesthetic approaches. We provide cultural enrichment and serve as advocates for the visual arts by presenting faculty and student art exhibitions and lectures for the University and surrounding communities. We contribute to the scholarship of the discipline through publications, presentations, commissions, and exhibitions of original creative research.

Goal Statement:

The Art Department at Southern Utah University:

- 1) Enriches cultural awareness to the campus as a whole through the education, exploration and the creation of visual arts.
- 2) Provides our majors with a strong foundation of skills, techniques, multiple aesthetic approaches, and the ability to think critically thus ensuring that our seniors are prepared to enter the highly competitive areas of professional studio art, educators of art and/or into graduate programs.
- 3) Cultivates aesthetic diversity for the campus, the community and the region at large by providing lectures, exhibitions and workshops that relate to teaching, creation, history and the marketing of visual art.
- 4) If little or no resources are required, the Art Dept. will seek a B.F.A. degree.

Intended Outcomes/Objectives:

- 1) Compliment and enhance the undergraduate experience for all students on campus by providing tools, facilities and training in the areas of two and three dimensional visual art.
- 2) Aim students toward successful careers in art education, professional studio art and/or graduate programs throughout the United States.
- 3) Contribute and maintain the University's and community's exposure and involvement in the many faceted areas of the visual arts.

Assessment Criteria and Activities:

- 1) Before achieving advanced standing, art students must successfully complete (with a grade of a “C” or higher) a rigorous foundation program designed to prepare them for advanced and independent study.
- 2) Art students must pass all lower and upper division art classes with at least a “C”.
- 3) Depending on emphasis, art students are required to take Art 2710,2720,2730, 2740-Art History series, which successfully informs and prepares them to critically articulate personal exploration in the historical context. This is also a requirement for graduate study.
- 4) Art majors with a studio emphasis must pass a sophomore portfolio revue conducted by the faculty before entering into upper division, advanced study or independent study classes.
- 5) Depending on emphasis, all art students are required to take Art 4790-Senior Portfolio, which requires them to prepare for an exhibition and to document their undergraduate work in the form of a professional portfolio.
- 6) All art majors must take Art 1300-Art Major Seminar every semester. This class presents a visiting lecturer every week. Art related topics discussed. The University and the community are invited to attend.
- 7) Although not mandatory, art students are highly encouraged to enter juried student and professional exhibitions at the regional and national level

Implementation:

- 1) Students who do not complete the core foundation classes will not be allowed to advance.
- 2) Students who do not receive a “C” or higher will have to repeat the class before advancing.
- 3) Art majors with a studio emphasis must pass the sophomore portfolio revue. This year we implemented a worksheet for all sophomores to fill out before attending their sophomore critique. On this worksheet is listed all the Art Department core classes. If a student is missing any of these classes, we stress the importance of taking them as soon as possible. This came about because we were finding seniors who had not taken all their core classes. The sophomore level is the ideal time for catching this. Also listed on the sheet are spaces for students to chart their progress towards graduation in their particular emphasis.
- 4) Art majors must successfully complete the Art History series specified by emphasis.

- 5) Art majors with studio emphasis in Illustration, Drawing and Painting, Graphic Design and Ceramics must successfully fulfill the requirements involved in Art 4790-Senior Portfolio in their senior year.
- 6) Art majors who do not fulfill the Art 1300- Art Major Seminar requirements must make up the missing class. Special exceptions are made from transfer students.
- 7) Each year art students may enter a competitive juried art exhibition (juried by an outside professional artist) and if selected may have the opportunity to win monetary awards and exhibit their work in a public forum.
- 8) Each year art students actively participate in regional and national juried exhibitions at the student and professional level. SUU art students are often selected to have their work exhibited in professional competitions throughout the country.