

Art Minor Assessment

MISSION:

The Department of Art and Art History (Art) defines its mission as educating students in both traditional and contemporary modes of artistic expression. This includes providing an environment that promotes technical, creative, conceptual, and professional development. Students are introduced to artistic issues in the historic and contemporary world, helping them become fluent in the languages of art, both visual and verbal.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Art Minors will understand and use the specific visual and verbal language of art and art history.
2. Art Minors will be able to critique and explain art works in their appropriate context.
3. Art Minors will be familiar with area-specific methods in art and art history.
4. Art Minors will be able to use, identify, and describe the materials and technical processes involved in creating their work.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

1. Pre-enrollment Assessment: Portfolio Review

A small group of students participate in a portfolio review in the spring semester prior to their enrollment at the College. These students usually receive Art and Art History Scholarships. As a group, they can be tracked throughout the time they hold the scholarships, usually four years.

The pre-enrollment portfolio review assesses the following:

- Student will demonstrate a beginning level of proficiency in at least one medium.
- Student will use and understand specific visual and verbal languages of art and art history when speaking about their artwork.
- Student will keep a sketchbook.
- Student will be able to critique and explain art works in their appropriate context.

2. Base Assessment: ART121 - Drawing

All art minors must take ART121: Drawing. Specific exercises within the class will allow us to evaluate the students' mastery of a basic level of knowledge about specific materials and techniques and their abilities in expressing themselves through visual means.

During the first semester of drawing each student will undergo two portfolio reviews one at midterm and one at the end of the semester. The three minor components of the course will serve as the criteria for evaluation: mastery of drawing media, understanding of drawing concepts, and familiarity with a variety of subjects (For example: still life, portraits).

Critiques in the class will allow assessment of each student's ability to discuss their own artwork and others.

In ART121 the following learning objectives will be measured:

- Student will understand and use the specific visual and verbal language of art appropriate for drawing.
(For example: value, perspective, and contour line drawing)
 - Student will be familiar with drawing materials and techniques.
 - Student will be familiar with drawing methods.
 - Student will become familiar with how to critique artwork.
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- Art Minors will be familiar with area-specific materials and techniques, in at least one area of the studio arts.
 - Art Minors will be able to generate ideas and work independently, creating work that is unique to them as individuals.
 - Art Minors will be poised to enter the workforce or graduate school.

SELECT METHODS/DATA SOURCES AND INSTRUMENTS:

1. Pre-enrollment Assessment

Discussion - High school students are asked to bring 10 to 20 works of art and a sketchbook for a portfolio review. Students are expected to present their work including discussing methods, materials, and artistic influences.

Rubric - The rubric reflects faculty assessment of the level at which they have communicated their methods, materials, and artistic influences.

2. Base Assessment: ART121 – Drawing

Assessment test – An assessment test is given on the first day and last day of the semester. The test measures students' incoming knowledge of basic drawing concepts and measures them again at the end of the semester. The test includes the basic material covered in Drawing 1.

Assessment Drawing – A still life drawing is worked on the first day and last day of the semester. The first drawing done on the first day of class is

done without instruction. After the students finish their drawing on the last day of class, the drawings from the first day are pulled out and a visual comparison can be made of each individual students progress.

ANALYZE AND INTERPRET THE DATA:

The Art and Art History Department has been collecting data, but we have not yet interpreted or analyzed the data to make adjustments to our curriculum as a department. We plan on revising our existing rubric this semester to make it more applicable to all studio media, and we plan to look at the current data collected to make appropriate revisions to our curriculum as needed.

HOW WILL THE DATA COLLECTED BE USED FOR DECISION-MAKING, STRATEGIC PLANNING, ETC:

Though we have not done a systematic analysis, all members of the department have seen consistent problems at the junior review level and will engage in serious curricular revision this semester.

This current semester we will be revising our assessment rubrics, as well as, evaluating our accumulated assessment findings. Based on those findings we will investigate and revise our existing curriculum. We plan to add more points of assessment to better evaluate the minor.