

Major Field Assessment Plan

B. A. Art

Effective: February 2011

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to lead the educational, economic, and cultural development of the southeast region of the state known as the Northshore. Together, Southeastern and the community provide a broad array of cultural activities that complete the total educational experience.

B. A. Arts Mission Statement

The mission of the Southeastern Louisiana University Department of Visual Arts is to educate students in the visual arts and art education with a critical foundation that incorporates a strong background in art history and solid technical and conceptual skills, with an emphasis on the development of visual languages, tools for critical thinking, and the expression of creative visions.

Goal 1.

To develop students' individual art practice within an educational environment that teaches visual, technical and analytical skills through personal exploration and discovery.

Expected Outcome:

Students will develop a solid framework in visual art through a comprehensive foundation program that includes 2D design, 3D design, drawing, and art history.

Assessment:

Students will receive a minimum score of 20 (fair) out of 40 points in their Art 299 Sophomore Review. Students receiving a lower score will not be able to take Art courses at the 300 level or higher until they complete a remedial course of study and pass the Sophomore Review.

Goal 2.

To graduate students with a balanced historical perspective that reflects diverse cultural perspectives and contemporary ideas.

Expected Outcome:

Students will study the history of art (12-15 credit hours minimum) and learn about artists, art forms and traditions through their studio coursework and gain an understanding of culture and world history through their Liberal Arts Studies.

Students will create works of art that integrate historical traditions, technical and conceptual skills with an individual vision based on personal exploration and discovery.

Assessment:

Students completing the BA in Art will demonstrate adequate knowledge of art history in an exit examination. The average score of the graduates of the BA in Art program on an exit exam in art history (which they will take shortly before graduation) will be at least 70%.

Goal 3.

To develop students' skills to solve aesthetic problems and to engage in critical dialogues that extend beyond the classroom. To prepare students by example and instruction to be educated viewers, to function as artists and scholars in contemporary society, to pursue advanced study in the visual arts.

Expected Outcome

Students will develop technical expertise in various studio disciplines through hands on interaction with contemporary tools of art making. Students will present their artworks through juried shows and regularly scheduled exhibitions. Students will learn about contemporary works of art and the larger art world through interactions with faculty and working artists. Students will learn to present, analyze and evaluate art works through classroom critiques and as part of a Senior Project.

Assessment

Each student will develop a portfolio in the chosen area of concentration in order to present an ambitious body of work successfully juried into the Senior Exhibition by the Faculty. The work will be evaluated in writing by a minimum of three visual art faculty, using the "Senior Exit Evaluation in Visual Art" form. The work will be rated on a scale of 1-5 (5 being superior) in areas that include the overall visual impact of the body of work, conceptual strength, technical proficiency, presentation, and the ability to articulate ideas. The average score must be 3.0 or higher.

Goal 4:

Prepare students for graduate school in a visual arts field.

Expected Outcome

Students completing the BA in Art will be well prepared to continue their studies at the graduate level if they so chose.

Assessment

- a. 85% of graduates will respond "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" to the statement "I feel my undergraduate studies have prepared me well for possible study at the graduate level, if so choose."

- b. 85% of those students who apply to a Master's degree program in art will be accepted to Graduate School.

Goal 5:

Prepare students for a 21st century workforce.

Expected Outcome

Students pursuing the BA in Art will gain experience in contemporary art creation by blending current technologies with traditional artistic practice.

Assessment:

Students will score a Fair or better in foundation competencies measured in the sophomore review Basic 2-D Design skills (Question 8), Intermediate 2-D Design skills (Question 15), and 3-D Design skills (Question 19).

Goal #6

To provide the skills and knowledge needed to teach the visual arts. (Only for Art Education concentration.)

Expected Outcome

Students completing the Bachelor in Arts with a concentration in Art Education will have developed sufficient teaching techniques and skills that will make them well prepared for their first teaching position.

Assessment

The exit survey for the Bachelor in Arts with a concentration in Art Education contains the following questions:

- a. 85% of graduates will respond "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" to the statement "I believe my undergraduate training at SLU has prepared me well for my first teaching position."
- b. 85% of graduates will respond "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" to the statement. "I intend to go straight into the classroom as soon as I graduate."