

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

**Department/Program Name:** ART – Art History

**Date Submitted:** September 2016

**Academic Year this plan will take effect:** Fall 2016 for AY 2016-2017

**Department/Program Mission Statement:**

**ART DEPARTMENT MISSION**

The mission of the Art Department at SUNY Potsdam is to provide students with a rigorous education in the visual arts while remaining a vibrant part of the college's high quality liberal arts education. The department recognizes a responsibility to studio and art history majors, who are preparing for careers in the visual arts, as well as to non-majors who want to gain an appreciation and personal understanding of the artistic culture in society. Aware of its role as a transmitter of knowledge, a proponent of artistic culture and a creator of art, the Art Department seeks to impart technical, analytical, and critical tools that will serve as resources and will provide lifelong value to the individual.

The goals of the Art Department are:

1. To assist in the development of **critical self-assessment**, using studio critiques and research projects in which students learn to critically assess what they see, defend their views, and recognize fallacies in arguments and reasoning.
2. To provide students with ways and means to **critically interpret and analyze** by researching, discussing, and reflecting on works of art, their history, and their context.
3. To encourage **intellectual and emotional self-expression** concurrent with the growth of knowledge, in order that students recognize and apply the theories they have learned in the context of modern society.
4. To help students develop **technical skills** in a broad array of art historical and studio methodologies so as to enable students to achieve high quality results in research, writing, and the creation of self-expressive works of art.
5. To provide students with the knowledge and skills to understand and realize visual form through instruction, critique, research and sound studio practice.
6. To provide **historical perspective** to all students concerning the development of art and architecture from antiquity to the present day, as a core resource to all art majors and liberal arts students providing a sense of historical continuity and developing cross cultural awareness.

The Art Department offers five majors, in Art History, Art Studio, Visual Arts (B.F.A.), Graphic Design and Media Arts (B.A. and B.F.A.), and three minors, in Art History, Art Studio, and Museum Studies. Art Studio majors may complete concentrations in General Studio, Ceramics, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, and Sculpture. To ensure adequate diversity and scope, a balance of courses in all areas is required. Art Studio and Graphic Design majors may also obtain art teacher certification by completing an Art Education Program in collaboration with St. Lawrence University.

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

Numerous related minors are also available, in such fields as Archaeology, Arts Management, Classical Studies, Journalism, and Pre-Creative Arts Therapy.

**Art History Mission Statement**

The Art History undergraduate major aims to impart to students an understanding of the history of art with a primary focus on the grand continuum of art and architectural practices from the foundations of human culture to the present. The major further aims to develop research, writing, and analytical skills related to the field of Art History. It serves students who plan to enter academia or pursue a career in art museums, galleries, auction houses, conservation institutes, libraries, or government agencies. It also prepares students interested in pursuing other careers that require strong writing and analytical skills, as well as those who seek a liberal arts education primarily as a source of educational enrichments and personal enjoyment.

**Department Assessment Coordinator or Faculty Member Completing this Form:**  
Caroline Downing

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

***Intended Student Learning Outcome #1***

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of Art History.

***Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate***

The outcomes for the B.A. in Art History are closely linked to the department mission through critical analysis, skill building, and historical perspective. The program builds upon a sequence of curricular offerings. The Art History curriculum is attentive to the liberal arts character of the college.

This outcome relates to Art Department goal #6.

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

*Knowledge*

*Students will demonstrate knowledge of  
the historical method of investigation, including knowledge of the heritage  
of Western Civilization and at least one non-Western culture.  
Both historical and contemporary currents in and approaches to literature,  
arts, and philosophy.*

***Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)***

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can\_\_\_\_\_?)*

Successful completion of the two Art History Survey of Art course with a minimum of 2.0 grade.

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

***Intended Student Learning Outcome #2***

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will demonstrate a basic proficiency in one foundational studio area.

***Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate***

This outcome relates to Art Department goal #5.

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

*Experiences*

*Students will experience opportunities to actively engage with the creative process in the arts.*

***Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)***

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can \_\_\_\_\_?)*

Successful completion of either ARTS 110 Foundations of Drawing I or Arts 120 Color and Design with a minimum of 2.0 grade

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

***Intended Student Learning Outcome #3***

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of six specific genres, periods, or movements in Art History (two from each curricular group).

***Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate***

Relates to Art Department goals 2 and 3

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

*Knowledge*

*Students will demonstrate knowledge of  
the historical method of investigation, including knowledge of the heritage  
of Western Civilization and at least one non-Western culture.  
Both historical and contemporary currents in and approaches to literature,  
arts, and philosophy.*

***Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)***

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can\_\_\_\_\_?)*

Successful completion of two advanced Art History courses from each of three curricular groups earning a minimum 2.0 grade in each.

Grade data from two advanced Art History courses will be analyzed.

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

***Intended Student Learning Outcome #4***

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will develop an advanced knowledge of research techniques.

***Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate***

Connects to Art Department goal # 2

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

*Skills*

*Students will demonstrate the ability to:*

*organize thought and communicate in written and oral form.  
locate, evaluate, and effectively use information.*

***Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)***

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can \_\_\_\_\_?)*

Research papers submitted in Art History courses.

Data source is student-generated writing portfolio assessed using rubric.

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

***Intended Student Learning Outcome #5***

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will demonstrate advanced writing techniques.

***Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate***

Connects to Art Department goal # 2

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

*Skills*

*Students will demonstrate the ability to:*

*organize thought and communicate in written and oral form.*

*locate, evaluate, and effectively use information.*

***Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)***

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can \_\_\_\_\_?)*

Research papers submitted in advanced Art History courses.

Data source is student-generated writing portfolio assessed using rubric.

*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

***Intended Student Learning Outcome #6***

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will demonstrate proficiency in oral presentations.

***Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate***

Connects to Art Department goal # 2

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

*Skills*

*Students will demonstrate the ability to:*

*organize thought and communicate in written and oral form.  
locate, evaluate, and effectively use information.*

***Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)***

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can \_\_\_\_\_?)*

Students will be assessed on numerous presentations delivered in Art History courses.

Data source is rubrics prepared for speeches.



*SUNY Potsdam*  
***Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan***  
*(Revised 03/01/2013)*

**Intended Student Learning Outcome #7**

*(What do you want students to know and be able to do when they complete the course of study in this major/minor?)*

Students will demonstrate ability to conduct critical analysis.

**Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate**

Connects to Art Department goal # 2

This learning outcome relates to the following in The Potsdam Graduate:

***Skills***

*Students will demonstrate the ability to:*

*organize thought and communicate in written and oral form.*

*solve problems by creative synthesis of knowledge*

*locate, evaluate, and effectively use information.*

**Measurable Criteria and Assessment Method(s)**

*(What data will be collected and how? What unique assessment activities will be used to measure student achievement? What are our criteria for success? What does it look like when a student can \_\_\_\_\_?)*

Measurable Criteria: research papers submitted in Art History courses and oral presentation outlines and bibliographies.

Data source is graded student speeches using rubrics, and student-generated writing portfolio assessed using rubric.