

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

Department/Program Name: Art – Visual Arts BFA

Date Submitted:

Academic Year this plan will take effect: 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

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completing an Art Education Program in collaboration with St. Lawrence University. Numerous related minors are also available, in such fields as Archaeology, Arts Management, Classical Studies, Journalism, and Pre-Creative Arts Therapy.

BFA Visual Arts Mission Statement

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Arts degree aims to help students develop high-level abilities in personal artistic expression, aesthetic and conceptual understanding, critical and analytical skills, and skill in oral communication, research, and writing. It serves students who plan a professional career in art or further study at the graduate level. It also prepares students interested in pursuing other careers that require strong studio, writing, and analytical skills, as well as those who seek a liberal arts education primarily as a source of educational enrichment and personal enjoyment.

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

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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

This learning outcome relates to department goal #6.

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

Skills

Students will demonstrate the ability to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information.

Knowledge

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the historical method of investigation, including the heritage of Western Civilization and at least one non-Western culture.

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 Art History Survey courses with a grade of 2.0 or better

Measurable criteria: periodic tests and research paper

Senior level experience options: 1. Senior Thesis and Exhibition Seminar earning a minimum 2.0 grade; 2. Six-hour internship earning a minimum 2.0 grade; 3. Additional studio course earning a minimum 2.0 grade.

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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 foundational studio areas.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This outcome relates to department goals #1 through 5.

This outcome relates to The Potsdam Graduate as follows:

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 the four foundation courses* listed below with a minimum 2.0 grade.

ARTS 110	Foundations of Drawing I
ARTS 120	Color and Design
ARTS 130	Three-Dimensional Design
ARTS 211	Drawing II

Assessment is undertaken through regular critiques in class, and is reflected in the grades for the courses.

At the end of the year, faculty in the Art Department view images from each class for assessment purposes, to see if there are areas that need improvement.

*Note: Since the last Assessment report, the Art faculty have expanded the studio foundation area by two courses, ARTS 130, to give students experience with three-dimensional art, and ARTS 211, as mandated by the SUNY Seamless Transfer initiative.

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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 a specific genre, period, or movement in Art History.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This goal relates to department goals # 2 and 6.

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

Skills

Students will demonstrate the ability to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information

Knowledge

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the historical method of investigation, including the heritage of Western Civilization and at least one non-Western culture.

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 one advanced Art History course and ARTH 464, Foundations of Modern Art with a minimum 2.0 grade

Grade data from one advanced Art History course and ARTH 464, Foundations of Modern Art course (required for BFA students)

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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 demonstrate a basic proficiency in FOUR studio areas.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This outcome relates to department goals #1 through 5.

This outcome relates directly to The Potsdam Graduate experience described as follows:

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 four level 1 studio courses with a minimum 2.0 grade

Assessment is undertaken through regular critiques in class, and is reflected in the grades for the courses.

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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 a high-level proficiency in ONE area and advanced proficiency in ONE studio area.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This outcome relates to department goals #1-5.

This outcome relates directly to The Potsdam Graduate experience described as follows:

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 a sequence of four studio courses in one area AND one upper level course in additional area, earning a minimum 2.0 grade in each course.

Assessment is undertaken through regular critiques in class, and is reflected in the grades for the courses.

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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 ability to conduct critical analysis and application.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This goal is related to department goals #1 and 2.

This outcome relates to The Potsdam Graduate as follows:

Skills

Students will demonstrate the ability to organize thought and communicate in written and oral form

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 _____?)

Students will be assessed by participation in numerous critiques and by applying knowledge acquired in studio courses.

Student-generated writing portfolio will be assessed using rubric.

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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 understanding of form/content relationship.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This goal relates to the department's goal #1, 2, and 5.

This outcome relates to The Potsdam Graduate as follows:

Skills

Students will demonstrate the ability to solve problems by creative synthesis of knowledge.

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_____?)

Students will be assessed on their development from the acquiring of basic studio skills and practices to advanced studio work where ideation and its relationship to final product are achieved.

A student-generated visual portfolio will be assessed using a rubric.

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Intended Student Learning Outcome #8

(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 articulate physical and conceptual issues.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This outcome relates to department goal #2.

This outcome relates to The Potsdam Graduate as follows:

Skills

Students will demonstrate the ability to organize thought and communicate in written and oral form.

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 _____?)

Achieved by numerous written exercises and oral presentations and critiques in Art Studio and Art History coursework.

A student-generated writing portfolio will be assessed using a rubric.

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Intended Student Learning Outcome #9

(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 basic critical research and writing skills.

Connection to University/Dept Mission/The Potsdam Graduate

This outcome relates to department goal #2.

This outcome relates to The Potsdam Graduate as follows:

Skills

Students will demonstrate the ability to organize thought and communicate in written and oral form.

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_____?)

A student-generated writing portfolio will be assessed using a rubric.