

Art Department Assessment Plan

Mission and Structure

The primary objective of the art program is to shape artistic vision and prepare the student for a life-long art experience accomplished by systematic development of one's visual sensitivity and technical skills through studio practice. The vision is expanded through a study of art history and the basic art concepts acquired through the art department's balanced art program featuring art history courses, foundation studio courses, and upper level studio courses with Junior and Senior Concentrations, Independent Study, and Senior Art Seminar components. The program is taught by an experienced professional art staff that is active as artists and each holds the terminal (MFA) degree in their respective fields. The focus of the art faculty is centered on teaching art to students at the undergraduate level in a liberal arts setting. The major program in art requires at least 39 semester hours in art. Students concentrate in at least one particular area of studio work. Experience in both two and three dimensional media is provided.

The curriculum in art contains the following components:

1. Foundation Studio Courses:
(Art 101 Methods and Materials, Art 121 Drawing 1, Art 142 Painting, Art 124 Ceramics, Art 123 Sculpture, Art 211 Design)
2. In-depth Experience in a particular medium
(Art 236 Photography, Art 240 Drawing II, Art 241 Painting II, Art 242 Sculpture II, Art 244 Ceramics II, Art 345 Graphic Design I)
3. Introduction to the History of Art
(Art 200 – Prehistory –Medieval, Art 201 Renaissance to Modern)
4. Concentration on Advanced Concepts in Studio and Art History
(Art 302 Contemporary Art, Art 306 Women, Art and Feminism, Art 320 Junior Concentration, Art 420 Senior Concentration, Art 440 Independent Study and Art 445 Graphic Design II)
5. Integrating Capstone Experience and culmination of major
(Art 450 Senior Art Seminar and Senior Exhibition)
6. Process Portfolio (evaluated every year for four years) and incorporated into the senior capstone course.

The Art Department also operates the Len G. Everett Art Gallery; and manages the College Art Collections (Shields and previously collected artworks). In the main Everett Gallery the department organizes contemporary exhibitions scheduled throughout the school year allowing students to have access to original works featuring individual, group and traveling shows. The Shields Collection of Antiquities is generally exhibited in the smaller Everett gallery and has rotating exhibitions of the Shields Antiquities and other works from the collections. Generally these works correspond to the department's Art History schedule and some of these students study and write about original works of art. An "Annual Student Competition and Exhibition" is held each fall enabling the student to have his/her work on display. An outside juror is brought to the campus for the

student competition and this provides an opportunity for outside evaluation on a regular basis.

At this time all senior art majors prepare an exhibition of their work as part of the requirements for graduation, they submit a statement and slide portfolio of the exhibition, and they keep a process portfolio for four years. Each spring art department faculty evaluates the process portfolio and provides evaluation and feedback to the student. The senior exhibition has been a requirement for a number of years; the senior portfolio was inaugurated in the spring semester 2001 and the process portfolio began in the spring semester 2002.

The department also supports a strong education program of elementary K-12 and Secondary Education Certification.

The Art Major supports the mission and purposes of the college in a variety of ways. Most obviously, the major helps students “Understand the methods of inquiry and expression in...the arts” (Purpose 9). The major also directly allows students to “Develop creativity and skills in...artistic expression” (Purpose 8). Less direct but equally important are the roles played by the art department in supporting Purpose 4 which is “Create and maintain a learning environment which is ...aesthetically inspiring, and culturally diverse” and Purpose 4B which is “Fostering the discovery of connections among disciplines and of larger patterns of meaning. We are committed to the belief that a major in art provides a basis “for rich personal and professional lives” (Purpose 1) and “for positions of leadership, service, and citizenship in a global context” (Purpose 2).

The major goals identified in the Art Department Assessment document that was revised fall 2002 (appendix a) are:

1. To gain an appreciation of the art elements and principles in works of art.
2. To be able to understand the techniques, art materials, tools and processes used in various media.
3. To critique works of art.
4. To understand art in an historical context.
5. To be able to understand discuss art theory as it applies to art history.

Assessment of Major Goals - Art

<u>Goals of the Art Major</u>	<u>Most Relevant Courses</u>	<u>Means of Assessment</u>
1. To gain an appreciation of the art elements and principles in works of art.	Art 101 Methods and Materials Art 121 Drawing I Art 123 Sculpture I Art 124 Ceramics I Art 142 Painting I Art 211 Design Art 236 Photography Art 345 Graphic Design I	Fulfillment of Course Objectives Examinations Research Papers Written and Oral Critiques Portfolio Review Senior Art Exhibition
2. To be able to understand the techniques, art materials, tools and processes used in various media.	Art 101 Methods and Materials Art 121 Drawing I Art 123 Sculpture I Art 124 Ceramics I Art 142 Painting I Art 211 Design Art 236 Photography Art 345 Graphic Design I	Fulfillment of Course Objectives Examinations Research Papers Written and Oral Critiques Portfolio Review Senior Art Exhibition
3. To critique works of art.	(See studio courses above) and upper level studio courses, Art 240, 241, 242, 244, 320, 420, 440, 445	Written and Oral Performance Portfolio Review and Senior Art Exhibition
4. To understand art in historical context.	Art 200 Introduction to the History of Art – Prehistory to 1400 Art 201 Introduction to the History of Art Renaissance to Modern Art 236 Photography Art 302 Contemporary Art Art 306 Women Art and Feminism Art 450 Senior Seminar	Fulfillment of Course Objectives Examinations Research Papers Written and Oral Critiques In-class writing Portfolio Review and Senior Art Exhibition
5. To be able to understand and discuss art theory as it applies to art history.	Art 200 Introduction to the History of Art – Prehistory to 1400 Art 201 Introduction to the History of Art Renaissance to Modern Art 302 Contemporary Art Art 306 Women Art and Feminism Art 450 Senior Seminar	Fulfillment of Course Objectives Examinations Research Papers Written and Oral Critiques In-class writing Portfolio Review and Senior Art Exhibition

Assessment of Student Learning in the Major

The art department meets frequently to discuss the implications of the kinds of assessment data and the methods used. Assessment is reviewed when preparing the annual report in regards to possible needs for change. The art department uses the following methods of assessment of student learning in the major:

- Embedded Assessment in Art Department Courses:
 - Instructors use embedded assessment in courses that are tied to the goals of the department
 - Instructors also use questions 27-31 on the course evaluations to survey students on the goals of the department.
- Process Portfolio Review and analysis
 - Art majors keep a process portfolio for the four years or from when they declare the major until their senior year. The art department evaluates the students' progress every year in the spring during the review and notifies the student of the results of that evaluation.
 - Evaluation of the process portfolio includes:
 - Artwork from courses
 - Documentation of work (current and previous reviews)
 - Relevant writing from art courses (papers)
 - Rationale (written and oral)
 - Student strengths and weaknesses
- Senior Exhibition Portfolio analysis
 - The department collects documentation from the senior exhibition and before the 5-year review conducts an analysis of the senior portfolio. The department generally has all members of the department evaluate the portfolios whether they are an adjunct or full-time teaching faculty.
- State of Illinois Certification Testing
 - The department regularly reviews the scores of students who sit for the certification tests. Changes to the program are made in response to the evaluations of these scores.
- Analysis of Exhibition Schedule and Collections impact on students in the major
 - The art department mounts a competitive exhibition in the fall each year and someone from outside the institution judges the show. The results are evaluated to see if the art majors are being selected.
 - The department receives a report from the curator on a regular basis documenting the work done for the department and the college in regards to the collections.
- ACT survey of Monmouth College Students
 - Students in this survey give answers to some questions that allow us to connect the effectiveness of the Beauty and Meaning in Works of Art component with the arts at Monmouth College and therefore, with the Art department.

Revised: 10/05

