Academic Assessment Plan

(BA ARHS)

(April 27, 2015)

Program Goals (3-4)
(Program goals are broad general statements of what the program intends to accomplish and describes what a student will be able to do after completing the program. The program goals are linked to the mission of the university and college.)

1. **Understanding of a broad range of art works from prehistory to the present.**
2. **Ability to analyze the style and iconography of an art work and integrate it into its historical context.**
3. **Ability to write analytical and research papers in art history.**

Student Learning Outcomes (6-8)
(Student Learning Outcomes are defined in terms of the knowledge, skills, and abilities that students will know and be able to do as a result of completing a program. These student learning outcomes are directly linked to the accomplishment of the program goals.)

1. **Ability to identify major works of art and know their periods.**
2. **Ability to do formal (stylistic) analysis of a work of art.**
3. **Ability to do iconographic analysis of a work of art.**
4. **Ability to conduct research and write analytically about works of art.**
5. **Ability to speak analytically and present research results about works of art.**

Process for Assessing each Student Learning Outcome
(A process must be defined and documented to regularly assess student learning and achievement of student learning outcomes. The results of the assessment must be utilized as input for the improvement of the program.)

1. Timeline for assessment and analysis
    Assessment and analysis at end of each semester.

2. Means of assessment and desired level of student achievement
    Goal 1: Direct: test from two survey classes, indirect: grades in survey classes.

    Goals 2, 3, 4: Direct: research papers/projects in upper division classes, indirect: grades in upper division classes.

Goals 2, 3, 4, 5: Direct: two capstone seminars, which include oral and written presentations; indirect: class grades, admission into graduate programs, honors awards won by students.

(Must include at least one direct and one indirect method of assessment for each learning outcome.)

3. Reporting of results

Annual report to Dean.

(Must at least report annually to the Dean of college/school.)

Annual Academic Assessment Report

(DEGREE/PROGRAM NAME)

(DATE)

Report annually to the Dean of the college/school the following:

- **Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcome**
- **Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis**
- **Any changes to the assessment process made or planned.**

Assessment of ARHS BA 2021-2022

1. Ability to identify major works of art and know their periods

Learning outcome #1 was assessed in ARHS 2913, Survey 1, taught fall 2021. Students were given three tests on which they had to identify works of art and their periods as well as write a brief essay on each artwork (1-2 paragraphs). The average grade on test 1 was 88.28. The average grade on test 2 (midterm exam) was 88.01. The average grade on test 3 (final exam) was 89.37. These grades demonstrate solid performance overall and represent improvement in this skill over the semester. This assessment was slightly stronger than results in the 2019-2020 assessment, indicating continued improvement in this skill among ARHS BA students.

2. Ability to do formal (stylistic) analysis of a work of art.
3. Ability to do iconographic analysis of a work of art.

Learning outcomes #2 and #3 were assessed in ARHS 4983, Special Topics in Art History (Golden Ages), taught spring 2022, through the third and final essay assignment. Using the ranking 4= excellent; 3= good; 2= fair; and 1= poor, the results for objective #2 (formal analysis) were six 4s, eight 3s, three 2s, and one 1. The average score was 3.05. The results for objective #3 (iconographic analysis) were five 4s, nine 3s, four 2s, and zero 1s. The average score was 3.05. The instructor was satisfied with these results, as few students were performing at the fair or poor level and most students achieved excellent or good marks on both goals. This reflects satisfactory ability in these two learning objectives and is consistent with results in the 2019-2020 assessment.

4. Ability to conduct research and write analytically about works of art.

Learning objective #4 was assessed in ARHS 4813, History of Photography, taught spring 2022, through a final research paper. Students wrote essays in which they examined original photographs held in Special Collections at UA or in area museums. The average grade on the paper was 87.04. The instructor was satisfied with student outcomes, and especially with students' ability to conduct research and write analytically about original primary objects; the results on this assignment indicate a high level of research skill overall.

5. Ability to speak analytically and present research results about works of art.

Learning objective #5 was assessed in ARHS 4933, Special Topics in Modern Art (The Art of Advertising), taught in spring 2022. Students had to give two oral presentations. The first was a concise "elevator-pitch" and the second was a final presentation measuring skill in persuasive communication. The average grade for the first presentation was A-/B+. The grade for the second presentation was an A. The results demonstrate strong performance overall and improvement in this skill over the semester. The instructor had students participate in a workshop through the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the Brewer Family Entrepreneurship Hub, which strengthened student outcomes.