

Academic Assessment Plan

(B.F.A./Art, Concentration in Studio Art)

(June 2023)

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. The program will cultivate creative thinkers and inventive problem solvers that are aware of contemporary technological, social, physical and cultural contexts.**
- 2. The program will prepare students to be contributors to an interdisciplinary art and design world.**
- 3. The program will ask students to experiment with form, technique and concept, while understanding the historical precedents of their discipline.**

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. Students will actively research, analyze and interpret the contemporary art and design world as it relates to their own practice.**
- 2. Students will demonstrate the ability to solve problems through art and design.**
- 3. Students will develop the ability to be successful collaborators through the use of strong communication skills.**
- 4. Students will practice experimenting with form, technique and concept, pushing their work beyond expected outcomes.**
- 5. Students will demonstrate the ability to be lateral thinkers through experimentation and exploration during concept development.**
- 6. Students will identify and describe historical precedents in the justification of formal, technical and conceptual choices.**

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

Direct Methods are assessed by BFA coordinators of the School of Art at the end of every semester. In-Direct methods are monitored by Chair, Dean, Provost through the Annual Report and the fields of study through external achievements of students continuing in the studio art and design fields.
(Must include specific timeline for collection and analysis of assessment data.)

The Annual report is submitted annually in July.

2. Means of assessment and desired level of student achievement

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

Direct method:

BFA students participate in formal critiques each year in which they are assessed by a group of faculty, MFA candidates and peers. Each reviewer fills out an assessment form, ranking the students on a scale of 1 – 5 in multiple categories. These reports are communicated with the students expressing improvement areas and strengths.

In-Direct Method:

BFA students are required to maintain a 3.00 or higher grade point average in art courses and at least a 2.00 GPA overall.

3. Reporting of results

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

Annual Academic Assessment Report

- **Every semester, the BFA program assesses student studio work through critiques that are separate from coursework. A blended group of faculty members, graduate students, and peers review BFA student in all areas. Assessment rubrics include technical development, strength in visual expression, media approach to enhance idea, communication skills, experimentation/growth, and presentation skills ranging from 1-5. All BFAs passed their critique evaluations this year.**

- **Overall grades are above average. Students in this program are required to maintain a 3.0 average GPA in all School of Art coursework. Students are not permitted to enter**

the program with a GPA below 3.0, and they cannot graduate with the Studio Art BFA degree with a GPA below 3.0.

- Effective Fall 2021, BFA & BA committees merged to form the Undergraduate Programs in Studio Art Committee, with four members, each serving three-year terms. Committee chair serves a two-year term and must have at least one year of experience as a committee member. Chairs may serve up to two consecutive terms.
- The program is reviewing recommendations offered in Spring 2023 that the committee be reduced in faculty members based on the hire of a dedicated academic advisor for the School of Art established in the Spring of '23, Jessica Park.
- New required course, ARTS 4993: Studio Art BFA Capstone, ran for the second time in Spring 2023, team-taught by three faculty members: including Undergraduate Programs in Studio Art Committee Chair Neil Callander, Undergraduate Programs in Studio Art Committee member Jean Schmitt, and Assistant Gallery Director / Instructor, Maryam Amirvaghefi. All enrolled students participated in the BFA Capstone Exhibition, which meets the degree requirement of a public exhibition of artwork. The Capstone exhibition was displayed throughout the Studio & Design Center as a culminating exhibition in the Spring of '23 – offering increased space to each artist to share work in comparison with previous years. This was a large cohort of BFA capstone participants, with 18 students participating in the culminating exhibition for the degree.
- In Fall 2022, there were 35 declared Studio Art BFA majors in the School of Art. Between Fall 2022 and Spring 2023, 28 new applicants were accepted into the program. We anticipate a BFA population of 51 students for Fall of 2023. This will represent a 31% growth in our BFA enrollment.
- Studio Art's move to new facilities at the Studio & Design Center in January of 2023 has offered the resources that all of our BFA students in studio art have dedicated studio space to support their research and academic goals.