

# Art Studio - BA

## Group 1: Cycle 1 - Fall 2017 - Summer 2019

Currently status is: Report Accepted

### ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR Group 1: Cycle 1 - Fall 2017 - Summer 2019

#### Mission Statement

A. The mission of the School of Visual Art & Design, drawing upon the strengths of multiple disciplines, is to provide superior instruction in the visual and media arts and to foster and maintain an intellectual and physical environment that encourages and supports research, scholarship, artistic expression, creative production and service to the University and community.

B. The Bachelor of Arts degree is available in Studio Art as a broad introduction to studio art practice in all of the following disciplines: foundational skills, drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, three-dimensional studies, photography, and graphic design. The BA is a generalist degree, intended for those not interested in the professional degree, the BFA.

#### Goal 1.

To develop technical and conceptual artistic proficiencies across all 7 Studio Art disciplines.

#### Curriculum

The BA in Studio Art curriculum aims primarily toward breadth of experience and understanding rather than discipline-specific specialization. The primary objective of this education is to give students an overall education in a range of visual communication practices through studio art and art history.

The curriculum begins with the Foundations five-class sequence (ARTS 102, 103, 104, 107, 111), and is followed by exposure to all studio art areas through taking the 200-level introductory classes in each discipline (Drawing 230, Painting 210, Printmaking 215, Photography 261, Ceramics 220, Sculpture 225, and Graphic Design 245). Students take 9 hours of Art History. BA students are able to take additional electives in Studio Art at the intermediate or advanced level to pursue an area of particular interest.

#### Learning Outcome 1.

Students must possess the technical skills, perceptual development, and understanding of principles of visual organization sufficient to achieve basic visual communication and expression in multiple media

#### Measures and Criteria

Portfolio Review of 200-level Coursework

Successful completion of seven 200-level ARTS courses (one from each discipline) is required to obtain the BA degree in Studio Art. In all 200-level ARTS courses students produce art, course projects and papers.

Projects in all 200-level ARTS courses incorporate theory, philosophy, critical analysis and research, preparing students for a variety of careers in the arts.

Each year, the Studio Area will appoint a committee of three faculty members to assess a representative sample of ten third- or fourth-year BA student art portfolios that contain artwork from at least three 200-level classes. Work items to be reviewed include a sample of artworks from at least three 200-level classes that reflect a range of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional visual art projects.

#### Methods

The artworks in the portfolio will be assessed using a rubric that evaluates 1) technical skill, 2) perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and 4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.

The portfolio review sample student population will be identified from a pool of juniors or seniors who have met these three criteria: 1) declared themselves Studio Art BA candidates, 2) have finished the Foundations class sequence, and 3) have taken at least three 200 level classes.

## **Results**

As per the methods outlined in the Academic Assessment Plan, ten (10) undergraduate portfolios in Studio Art were reviewed by the Assessment Committee. The portfolios were submitted by a sample of students who have completed the majority of five Foundations courses and undertaken ARTS coursework at the 200-level or higher. Each portfolio contained 7-12 representative artworks selected by the student, and included a diversity of work samples pulling variously from the five Foundations courses and seven 2-D and 3-D disciplines' curriculum (200+ level classes in drawing, painting, printmaking, graphic design, photography, ceramics, and sculpture). The artworks in the portfolios were assessed as 'satisfactory' or 'unsatisfactory' in reference to 1) technical skill, 2) evidence of perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and 4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.

The ten portfolios were found to be satisfactory.

Given the diversity of artwork in the portfolios that were submitted and reviewed, it was possible to affirm that these sampled students are producing competent work across the 2D and 3D disciplines, "sufficient to achieve basic visual communication and expression in multiple media." Portfolios included a combination of 2D and 3D work, demonstrating that this sample of students are developing technical skills across the curriculum (Goal 1), and establishing the basis for professional work in the arts or related fields (Goal 2). Goal 2 is the subject of ongoing curricular development in the School of Visual Art and Design (see Use of Results for Goal 2 below). It was also evident that students are expressing personal content in their artworks, based on aesthetic choices and subject matter (Goal 3). This echoes the 2016 NASAD review determination that: "Student work is strong, well crafted, and demonstrates a clear understanding of basic principles of visual organization, drawing, design, color, and concepts; the ability to work with visual elements in two and three dimensional media and formats; and the ability to apply them to a specific aesthetic intent."

### **Use of Results**

Examination of sample portfolios found them satisfactory; work samples demonstrated that students are acquiring technical competencies across a range of studio disciplines and are able to apply those skills to a variety of original project ideas. While the portfolio review was helpful for gaining some insight into a range of student work, it is somewhat limited as an assessment tool. Students were more likely to submit images of works in areas in which they are technically stronger (i.e., 2D vs 3D), and the portfolios reflected their competencies in these areas. In future assessments, we will request a broader sample of student work within a portfolio, with a discipline checklist to assure a wider range of images reflecting both 2D and 3D practices. It would also be beneficial to collect student images from instructors of 200-level courses across the disciplines, in addition to the student-supplied portfolios, to gain a broad sense of student accomplishment; this may be done in conjunction with discipline-specific exhibitions held throughout the academic year in the student gallery, in which a large number of student works are displayed (during this assessment period, there were public exhibitions of drawing, sculpture, photography, printmaking, graphic design, and ceramics student work – while not officially part of the assessment plan, all exhibitions appeared to be consistently of high quality and reflect the goals of the degree).

The assessment process will be refined as we go forward with the newly-revised BA curriculum, which was developed in 2018-2019 by the SVAD Art Studio faculty in consultation with NASAD and the College of Arts and Sciences, and will go into effect in Fall 2020. In the new curriculum, the credit hours earned for the majority of 200-400 level ARTS courses will increase from 3 to 4 credits; the number of ARTS credit hours required for the BA degree will remain 39, while the required number of courses shifts from 13 to 11. Students will continue to take five Foundations courses across 2-D and 3-D disciplines, and six courses at the 200+ level (versus the current eight), plus 9 hours of Art History. Students will continue to be expected to demonstrate proficiency of technical and conceptual skills across a range of visual art mediums and practices.

### **Goal 2.**

To prepare students for careers as professional artists and in related fields.

### **Curriculum**

The BA in Studio Art is a generalist degree, introducing students to a broad range of disciplines. Successful

completion of seven 200-level ARTS courses (one from each discipline) is required to obtain the BA degree in Studio Art. In all 200-level ARTS courses students produce art, course projects and papers. Projects in all 200-level ARTS courses incorporate theory, philosophy, critical analysis and research, preparing students for a variety of careers in the arts.

### **Learning Outcome 1.**

Demonstrate technical proficiency in each discipline.

#### **Measures and Criteria**

Portfolio Review of 200-level Coursework

Successful completion of seven 200-level ARTS courses (one from each discipline) is required to obtain the BA degree in Studio Art. In all 200-level ARTS courses students produce art, course projects and papers.

Projects in all 200-level ARTS courses incorporate theory, philosophy, critical analysis and research, preparing students for a variety of careers in the arts.

Each year, the Studio Area will appoint a committee of three faculty members to assess a representative sample of ten third- or fourth-year BA student art portfolios that contain artwork from at least three 200-level classes. Work items to be reviewed include a sample of artworks from at least three 200-level classes that reflect a range of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional visual art projects.

#### **Methods**

The artworks in the portfolio will be assessed using a rubric that evaluates **1) technical skill**, 2) perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and 4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.

The portfolio review sample student population will be identified from a pool of juniors or seniors who have met these three criteria: 1) declared themselves Studio Art BA candidates, 2) have finished the Foundations class sequence, and 3) have taken at least three 200 level classes.

#### **Results**

Examination of sample portfolios found them satisfactory; work samples demonstrated that students are acquiring technical competencies across a range of studio disciplines.

Please see results under Goal 1, LO 1 for full discussion of the portfolio review.

#### **Use of Results**

Please see discussion of Use of Results under Goal 1, Learning Outcome 1, as the findings are the same, as relate to technical proficiency in each discipline.

It is important to add here that in terms of the language of Goal 2, SVAD has undertaken extensive extracurricular, and curricular, improvement in the area of Student Professional Development in AY 2018-2019 and 19-20. We have instituted a professional development seminar series for all undergraduates, which meets monthly throughout the year, and includes professional presentations by faculty and alumni on topics that include resume development, job search strategies, exhibition preparation, website development and branding, artist statements, and other professional practices. The SVAD website has been updated to include SVAD Projects, which allows undergraduate students to profile their work online. In Spring 2020, Art Business ARTS 501 will be offered as an elective course. All disciplines continue to promote internship opportunities for students as a way to gain professional experience. Graphic Design leads in this area, and other areas are increasing efforts by working with Handshake and other networking platforms.

### **Learning Outcome 2.**

Conceptualize ideas through visual media.

#### **Measures and Criteria**

Portfolio Review of 200-level Coursework

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Projects in all 200-level ARTS courses incorporate theory, philosophy, critical analysis and research, preparing students for a variety of careers in the arts.

Each year, the Studio Area will appoint a committee of three faculty members to assess a representative sample of ten third- or fourth-year BA student art portfolios that contain artwork from at least three 200-level classes. Work items to be reviewed include a sample of artworks from at least three 200-level classes that reflect a range of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional visual art projects.

#### **Methods**

The artworks in the portfolio will be assessed using a rubric that evaluates 1) technical skill, **2) perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and 4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.**

The portfolio review sample student population will be identified from a pool of juniors or seniors who have met these three criteria: 1) declared themselves Studio Art BA candidates, 2) have finished the Foundations class sequence, and 3) have taken at least three 200 level classes.

#### **Results**

The ten portfolios were found to be satisfactory, as relate to students conceptualizing ideas through visual media. Please see discussion of Use of Results under Goal 1, Learning Outcome 1, for a more detailed discussion of the overall portfolio review.

#### **Use of Results**

Please see Use of Results for Goal 1, LO 1, as the use of results is consistent for this area.

### **Learning Outcome 3.**

Articulate the relevance of critical theory and art historical precedents.

#### **Measures and Criteria**

Portfolio Review of 200-level Coursework

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Each year, the Studio Area will appoint a committee of three faculty members to assess a representative sample of ten third- or fourth-year BA student art portfolios that contain artwork from at least three 200-level classes. Work items to be reviewed include a sample of artworks from at least three 200-level classes that reflect a range of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional visual art projects.

#### **Methods**

The artworks in the portfolio will be assessed using a rubric that evaluates 1) technical skill, 2) perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and **4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.**

The portfolio review sample student population will be identified from a pool of juniors or seniors who have met these three criteria: 1) declared themselves Studio Art BA candidates, 2) have finished the Foundations class sequence, and 3) have taken at least three 200 level classes.

#### **Results**

Portfolio review determined that students are applying technical skills to conceptual material, and accessing art historical precedents in their studio work. Please see Goal 1, LO 1 for a full discussion of the results of the portfolio review.

#### **Use of Results**

This is the most challenging area of the portfolio review, in terms of the connection between portfolio images and the language of the Learning Outcome. To adequately assess competencies this area going forward, it would be helpful for students to submit a written component along with images. However, there were multiple examples in the images reviewed where students were very clearly making art historical and cultural connections. This will be discussed in Spring for future improvement.

### **Goal 3.**

All BA Studio Art undergraduate students will develop their own aesthetic literacy.

#### **Curriculum**

The curriculum begins with the Foundations five-class sequence (ARTS 102, 103, 104, 107, 111), and is followed by exposure to all studio art areas through taking the 200-level introductory classes in each discipline (Drawing 230, Painting 210, Printmaking 215, Photography 261, Ceramics 220, Sculpture 225, and Graphic Design 245). Students take 9 hours of Art History. BA students are able to take additional electives in Studio Art at the intermediate or advanced level to pursue an area of particular interest.

### **Learning Outcome 1.**

#### Portfolio Review of 200-level Coursework

Successful completion of seven 200-level ARTS courses (one from each discipline) is required to obtain the BA degree in Studio Art. In all 200-level ARTS courses students produce art, course projects and papers. Projects in all 200-level ARTS courses incorporate theory, philosophy, critical analysis and research, preparing students for a variety of careers in the arts.

Each year, the Studio Area will appoint a committee of three faculty members to assess a representative sample of ten third- or fourth-year BA student art portfolios that contain artwork from at least three 200-level classes. Work items to be reviewed include a sample of artworks from at least three 200-level classes that reflect a range of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional visual art projects.

#### **Measures and Criteria**

The artworks in the portfolio will be assessed using a rubric that evaluates 1) technical skill, 2) perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and 4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.

The portfolio review sample student population will be identified from a pool of juniors or seniors who have met these three criteria: 1) declared themselves Studio Art BA candidates, 2) have finished the Foundations class sequence, and 3) have taken at least three 200 level classes.

#### **Methods**

The artworks in the portfolio will be assessed using a rubric that evaluates 1) technical skill, 2) perceptual development, 3) visual organization, and 4) evidence of the student making connections between concept and media in that particular discipline.

The portfolio review sample student population will be identified from a pool of juniors or seniors who have met these three criteria: 1) declared themselves Studio Art BA candidates, 2) have finished the Foundations class sequence, and 3) have taken at least three 200 level classes.

#### **Results**

Review of student portfolios demonstrated that students are developing their own aesthetic literacy. This was more evident in portfolios in which a student a) supplied a greater number of images and b) emphasized an area of their personal expertise. Students supplied images in which they demonstrated their interest in a particular subject matter (ie., social justice, character development, personal iconography); artwork from 200- and 300- level classes reflected these choices were made successfully by students.

#### **Use of Results**

Please see Use of Results discussion under Goal 1, LO 1, as the use of results is the same for these two areas; ARTS coursework at the 200-400 level will continue to develop students' aesthetic literacy.