

Department of Art

Writing Across the Curriculum Plan for:

Bachelor of Art Degrees
Track I Studio Art, Track II Art History, and Track III Graphic Design

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degrees
Studio Art and Graphic Design

- I. **Goals:** Graduates should be able to verbalize the experience, context, and creation of visual art forms. They should be skilled in using written language as a tool for understanding art. Specifically, they should be able to:
- *Synthesize ideas* from literature into their own words, critically evaluating points with which they agree or disagree.
 - *Understand the vocabulary of art*, its creative processes, history, and criticism; and use that vocabulary in appropriate context.
 - *Present critical analysis* of art and design objects, combining objective and subjective evaluations in effective arguments.
 - *Keep effective journals* to gain insights into creative processes and experiences in art making.
 - *Summarize insights* about creative processes that go into art making.
 - *Develop an artist's statement* for an exhibition that provides an effective context for viewers.
- II. **Objectives:** Each student in the Art major should write frequently as part of their course work, with opportunities both for constructive criticism of their writing and for developing writing through feedback on earlier drafts.
- A. Behavior: Art majors should engage in specific kinds of writing experiences that include, but are not limited to:
- *Journal entries*, in which a student records experiences, judgments, and ideas he or she encounters in course work.
 - *Essay exam questions*, in which a student writes short essays as part of an exam.
 - *Substantive papers*, in which a student argues for a particular position or point of view, based on understanding of relevant literature and on individual insights.
 - *Reaction writing*, in which a student evaluates arguments in relevant literature and applies them to personal or prevailing ideas.
 - *Artist's statements*, in which a student develops a statement of context for an artwork or exhibition.
 - *Review articles*, in which a student evaluates art works and effectively presents opinions.
 - *Catalogue entries*, in which a student writes extensive descriptive materials for art objects and exhibitions.
 - *Grant writing*, in which a student writes effective grant applications.
- B. Conditions: Art majors should have access to specific contexts and resources that include, but are not limited to:
- *Examples* of the kind of writing expected from them, including prominent writings in the discipline, exemplary writing assignments from previous semesters, and writings to critique.

- *Style books and references* for prevailing writing styles in the discipline.
- *Class time* devoted to discussing problems and suggestions in writing activities.
- *Individual conferences* with faculty that include discussion of specific writing activities.

C. Criteria: Writing components in courses for Art Majors should be appropriate to the level of the student and the kind of course that provides the writing experience. Kinds of writing components are:

1. *Writing about art making*, in which students record experiences and insights about creating visual objects. Students will be required to write journal entries, review articles, and artist's statements. 25% of the grade depends on writing assignments.
2. *Writing in Art History, Museum Studies, and Seminar*, in which students use writing as a significant means of understanding the subject matter. Students will be required to write reaction writing, essay exam questions, substantive papers, and review articles. 50-100% of the grade depends on writing assignments.
3. *Writing in Other Disciplines*, under advisement. Students will be required to write reaction papers, review articles, essay exam questions, and substantive papers. 50% of the grade depends on writing assignments.

D. Required courses for each major:

1. Studio Art — BFA & BA
Choice of five from the following courses:
 - ART 207: Digital Media— Static
 - ART 210: Drawing I
 - ART 243: Digital Photography
 - ART 353: 20th Century Art
 - ART 496: Studio Practicum
 - And one of the following:
ART 350, ART 353, ART 354, ART 357, ART 358, ART 368, ART 369, ART 371, ART 374, ART 380, ART 381, ART 490
2. Graphic Design — BFA & BA
Choice of five from the following courses:
 - ART 207: Digital Media — Static
 - ART 210: Drawing I
 - ART 243: Digital Photography
 - ART 307: Type and Image
 - ART 309: Digital Media — Motion and Interaction
 - ART 317 Web Design I
 - ART 323 Digital Media for Transfers
 - ART 414: Graphic Design Practicum
3. B.A. Art Major, Track II — Art History
All students are required to take the following courses:
 - ART 207: Digital Media— Static
 - ART 353 20th Century Art
 - ART 471 Seminar in Contemporary Issues in Art and Design
 - And two of the following:
ART 350, ART 354, ART 357, ART 358, ART 368, ART 369, ART 371, ART 374, ART 380, ART 381, ART 490

- III. **Special Circumstances:** The Department of Art receives a significant number of majors as upper division transfer students from area colleges, and encourages students to take a second major. Procedures must be developed to provide writing components to these students while ensuring the timely completion of the degree:
- A. Transfer students with the required number of credits for junior standing should provide writing samples that will be evaluated by each student's advisor and a faculty member to be appointed by the department Chair, who will make recommendations to the Chair regarding waiver of no more than two writing requirements.
 - B. Double majors, with the advisors in both departments, may produce a written agreement that designates which kinds of writing components will be provided by which department.