

Assessment Plan 2013 - 2014

Master of Art in Fine Arts Education: Studio Option Department of Fine Arts College of Visual and Performing Arts Kean University

Mission:

The MA in Fine Arts Education: Studio Option Program at Kean University has several related goals that are aligned with the University Mission. The MA degree program is designed for individuals who have certification in art education and are interested in advanced work in studio arts to achieve a degree in Fine Arts. Opportunities are provided for exploration in a range of two and three dimensional studio areas. Emphasis is placed on advanced study and mastery in a creative field in which the student has demonstrated prior competency. This program is in keeping with University's mission to provide equal access, equity and diversity for all students.

Assessment Process:

MA Education/Studio students have 8 core courses to take as part of the requirements for the major. These core courses provide a sound backbone of the discipline with regard to the research and theoretical aspects of professional practices in studio art as well as the various areas of study within the field. As such, the core courses are the primary vehicle for assessing the knowledge of our students. Beyond the 8 core courses, students take 3 other courses offered within our program, and it is likely that no two (or very few) majors take the exact same grouping of courses. Therefore, the faculty have agreed to center our assessment on the core knowledge of studio concentration as presented in our core requirements.

Each core course has assessment tools as part of the evaluation process and the program has used results of assessment for making improvements to program practices aimed at increasing student learning. For example, the first portfolio review (done at the end of the student's first semester) has demonstrated to the faculty that students must follow the course sequence in foundations courses in order to steadily improve their skills. Because the course registration software does not enforce prerequisite courses, all faculty now ensure that students enrolled in their courses have the necessary pre-requisites. The portfolio review reinforces the emphasis on the development of studio skills and enables faculty to make recommendations to students on the need for additional courses or adjustments in their course sequence.

Beginning Fall 2011, the culminating assignment done in the capstone course has been identified as a direct measure for assessing attainment of our program Student Learning Outcomes. In this course, assessment data is collected from an assignment that requires students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements. Culminating assessment is done in the Graduate Seminar taught over two consecutive semesters. Additional assessments, in place for over ten

years, include an assessment of student portfolios in December of their first semester and February of their second, the preparation of an artist statement in the first year (spring semester), a ten page thesis statement in the fall of their second year, and a curriculum vitae and biography written in their final spring semester to coincide with the MA student exhibition. In addition, we will make use of the Graduating Student Survey, an indirect measure developed by the Assessment Office. Data from the student survey will also help inform our decisions regarding program improvement to increase student learning.

Extract your program's **Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)** as stated in your **Mission**. Your program should have from 4-6 SLOs as stated in your mission.

After you have enumerated your program SLOs, align your SLOs with the KU SLOs*, and the General Education (GE) SLOs*.

List your **Indirect Measures** and **Direct Measures** that the program uses as evidence of students meeting program outcomes (SLOs). Direct Measures need to be a culminating project/assignment to demonstrate achievement of program goals—for MA level programs, this is usually the thesis- A rubric to score this assignment is necessary so that composite data can be collected and analyzed for to inform program decisions that result in program improvement.

FOR ALL THREE OF THESE STEPS, PLEASE REFER BACK TO THE EXAMPLE PROVIDED.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – as aligned with KU SLOs* derived from the Institutional Mission and GE SLOs. (Data from Direct and Indirect Measures collected each semester in the Capstone Course or a designated, end-of-program course.)**

Students who graduate with a Master's in Art Education: Studio Option should be able to:

SLO1: Develop advanced artistic skills through continued exploration(s) in a variety of two and three dimensional media. (KU 1, 2, 4, GE K4, S3, S4)

Direct Measure: **Master's exhibition and ten page thesis** (*culminating project/assignment/thesis*)

Indirect Measure: None

SLO2: Demonstrate an awareness, understanding, and mastery of technical skill in a chosen media (drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, clay, fiber, metal and wood). (KU 1, 2, 4, GE K4, S3, S4)

Direct Measure: Master's exhibition and ten page thesis (*culminating project/assignment/thesis*)

Indirect **Measure:** None

SLO3: Demonstrate verbal and written communication skills, including the ability to evaluate and describe works of art, artistic insights and inspirations. (KU 1, 2, 4, GE K4, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5)

Direct **Measure:** **Master's exhibition and ten page thesis** (*culminating project/assignment/thesis*)

Indirect **Measure:** None

SLO4: Create a body of work to be shown in a final thesis group exhibition and an accompanying artist statement. (KU 1, 2, 4, GE K4, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5)

Direct **Measure:** **Master's exhibition and ten page thesis** (*culminating project/assignment/thesis*)

Indirect **Measure:** None

*** KU Student Outcomes: *Kean University graduates should be able to:***

1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance their skills in professional areas (Prof. pgms)

****General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

Student Learning Outcomes – Knowledge: Students will demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and content by:

- (K1) applying the scientific method to comprehend natural concepts and processes;
- (K2) evaluating major theories and concepts in social sciences;
- (K3) relating historical references to literature; and
- (K4) evaluating major theories and concepts in the fine arts.

Student Learning Outcomes – Skills: Students will demonstrate the skills necessary to:

- (S1) write to communicate and clarify learning ;
- (S2) communicate effectively through speech;
- (S3) solve problems using quantitative reasoning;
- (S4) think critically about concepts in multiple disciplines; and
- (S5) show information literacy.