



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

Academic Assessment

ART HISTORY (BA AND MINOR)

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Art History Area, which is rooted in the mission of the Department of Art and Design, is to promote the exploration of art and visual culture, from antiquity to the present, in relation to aesthetic, material, cultural, social, historical, critical, and theoretical contexts.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are statements of what a student will know or be able to do when they have completed a program. They represent the knowledge and skills a program has determined are most important for students to gain from that program. The most useful SLOs are specific and measurable so the program can accurately assess the degree to which students have achieved each outcome, and they align with college and institution mission and values. Data on achievement of SLOs is used to make improvements in the program and increase student success.

Upon graduation, an Art History major at UW-Whitewater will be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of artists, themes, theories and artwork crucial to various cultures and art historical time periods.
- Analyze a work of art using art historical methodology (formal, iconographic, contextual, comparative, theoretical, historiographic analyses).
- Respond verbally and in written format to art historical and theoretical material.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills through the analysis of art, artists, art institutions, and art historical writing.
- Engage primary and secondary source material, and use art historical vocabulary and art history methodology.
- Synthesize methodological skills in the production of research papers and activities.
- Continue to participate in and understand art, visual culture, and museums.
- Demonstrate facility with foreign language to facilitate art historical research.

These learning outcomes support the mission of the University and the Department of Art and Design. Furthermore, they align with NASAD Essential Competencies.