

## **Program Goals and Objectives:**

The Department of Art sees its mission as reflective of the overall goals and mission of the University of Northern Iowa. The Department of Art's mission gives emphasis to:

- a student's development by providing an intellectually vigorous and vital learning environment through exemplary undergraduate programs in the visual arts;
- the expansion of our knowledge base in the visual arts through creative activities and research; and
- the sharing of that knowledge base within the institution, the broader community of Iowa and the profession.

To fulfill this three-fold mission the Department has evolved and defined its primary goals as follows:

- to develop degree programs of excellence and distinction;
- to provide Art majors with a comprehensive and superior education in the study and practice of the visual arts and design through instructional excellence and faculty/student interaction;
- to provide leadership in the arena of K-12 Art Education by continuing to perfect and refine instructional offerings in that area and by establishing and maintaining relationships with teachers in the field;
- to ensure that education in the visual arts is complemented by university studies in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences;
- to increase awareness and appreciation of the significance of the visual arts among the general student body and university community through the UNI Gallery of Art and the UNI Permanent Art Collection, and by hosting visiting artist lectures by professionals in the fields of design, visual arts, art history and art education;
- to promote the professional growth and development of its faculty and professional staff as artists and scholars;
- to assume a leadership role in the visual arts while serving as a cultural resource for the institution, the community-at-large, and the profession; and
- to identify and seek alternative sources of support for existing programs and new initiatives within the department.

The Department of Art has developed objectives in support of and to meet the aforementioned goals. The objectives are categorized under the following headings: Teaching, Academic Programs, Research/Creative Activity, Facilities/Equipment, and Service.

Teaching objectives:

- Develop in our students the creative, analytical, and technical skills that are requisites for professions in the visual arts and design and provide them with

opportunities to cultivate a sophisticated understanding and appreciation of the visual arts.

- Prepare majors in the Department for careers in the visual arts and design with structured educational experiences that contribute to their creative, intellectual and professional growth.
- Establish firm links between pedagogical theory and creative practice as a means of educating future teachers to be adaptable and resourceful in the classroom.
- Provide students with the fundamental knowledge of the principles and concepts underlying the visual arts through the first-year foundation sequence expanding into a breadth of knowledge about the visual arts through the studio and art history distribution requirements and depth of knowledge about a defined area of the visual arts through the emphasis requirement.
- Recognize that a student's learning experience should be an effective preparation for their lives.

Academic Program objectives:

- Continue to refine the Student Outcome Assessment instrument that will allow continuous review of all Departmental academic programs.
- Strengthen the art history emphasis in the undergraduate degree.
- Enhance commitment to the liberal arts core program.
- Promote and develop the integration of appropriate technologies in all areas.
- Identify and promote international learning experiences for art majors.
- Identify and promote national learning experiences for art majors.
- Promote the inherently experiential nature of learning in the visual arts.
- Continue to assess the current lab fee system to better meet the needs of our students, the Department, and the institution.
- Enhance the system of periodic appraisals to determine student and department needs.

Research/Creative Activity objectives:

- Provide faculty members with greater incentive and opportunities for professional growth and development.
- Increase currency in both creative and scholarly practice as well as teaching.
- Emphasize the relationship between creative and scholarly activity as beneficial to classroom and students.
- Recognize and encourage the diversity and expansive possibilities of creative and research arenas.

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Service and Outreach objectives:

- Increase awareness of the role of the Department of Art and the UNI Gallery of Art as major cultural centers for the community and the region.

- Increase awareness of the Department of Art and UNI Gallery of Art among its constituencies throughout the state, the region, and the nation.
- Continue to provide stewardship for the UNI Permanent Collection of Art.
- Promote participation by the Department of Art and UNI Gallery of Art in cross-disciplinary programming on campus.

Facilities/Equipment objectives:

- Ensure well-maintained, orderly and safe operating facilities in the tool/intensive areas of the Department.
- Effectively use available spaces within the Kamerick Art Building for the enhancement of student development.
- Formulate a plan to meet the space needs of the foundations sequence, the painting area, and BFA studio workspace as well as other areas of the Department
- Seek better spaces for a student-run gallery