

College of Fine Arts
Assessment Plan and Assessment Status
as of February 15, 2012

Daniel J. Reeves, Dean

As a result of the assessment initiatives established by Arkansas State University, I asked each department chair to establish individual assessment committees for each department. Since each of the departments are unique in their instructional methodologies and outcomes, each departmental assessment plan is expected to reflect these uniquenesses while at the same time addressing the overall strategies and requirements of a solid assessment program. The three committees are charged with the responsibilities of establishing assessment procedures, assessment methods, student outcomes, assessment reports, filing data on TracDat and any additional administrative needs relative to assessment.

The Chairs of each departmental assessment committees are as follows: Dr. Temma Balduci, Art; Mr. Ken Hatch, Music; Mr. Tim Bohn, Theatre. As of February 15, I have been advised that the committees in each department have accomplished the following:

DEPARTMENT OF ART

General Education – Fine Arts Visual

Unit Assessment Plan – One Outcome: Developing an Appreciation of the Arts and Humanities - Knowledgeableness - Students will be able to recognize works of literature or fine arts and place them in their historical, cultural, and social contexts. According to the university plan, the College of Fine Arts General Education Courses will be assessed on a quadrennial basis.

Art Department Degree Programs

Program (FA-AR) - Art BFA - Graphic Design

Unit Assessment Plan – Seven Outcomes including:

- Problem Solving
- Communication Skills
- Technical Competence
- Technological Competence
- Interpretations of Historical Artistic Styles
- Organizational Skills
- Collaboration Skills

Program (FA-AR) - Art BFA - Studio Art Emphasis

Unit Assessment Plan – Eight Outcomes including:

- Content Knowledge
- Interpretations of Artistic Styles
- Critical Thinking Skills
- Problem Solving Skills
- Analytical Skills
- Application
- Technical Competence
- Professional Teaching Competency
- Synthesis Skills

Program (FA-AR) - Art BA

Unit Assessment Plan – Three Outcomes including:

- Awareness
- Research
- Written and Oral Communication

Program (FA-AR) - Art MA

Unit Assessment Plan – Four Outcomes including:

- Material Manipulation
- Professional Standards
- Research Method Knowledge
- Aesthetic Awareness

While many of the above art outcomes are in need of specific assessment tools, all are being assessed through critique, class discussion, project development, and grading.

All art programs support five Learning Goals, and all of the required information is on file in TracDat.

Please note, however, that it seems that TracDat has combined the BFA – Art: Studio Art with the BFA – Art: Art Education.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

General Education – Fine Arts Musical

Unit Assessment Plan – One Outcome: Developing an Appreciation of the Arts and Humanities - Knowledgeableness - Students will be able to recognize works of literature or fine arts and place them in their historical, cultural, and social contexts. According to the university plan, the College of Fine Arts General Education Courses will be assessed on a quadrennial basis.

Undergraduate Degree Programs in Music.

The Music Assessment Committee has been working with the faculty to create rubrics to evaluate the performance of students in all degree programs. All undergraduates will be evaluated in either the Final Exam (Jury) in their applied area of study or as a part of the Senior Recital (Required of Bachelor of Music majors). Rubrics will be applied to evaluate performance in accordance with learning outcomes from previous documents, "A graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree will be able to interpret and perform music from a cross-section of musical styles in the major performance area."

Once the data is collected from the juried performances, the Assessment Committee will evaluate the degree to which the Department of Music is meeting the learning outcome. Each area of performance (instrumental, vocal, keyboard) will receive a rating relative to the department as a whole. Each area will be asked to evaluate the performance and make recommendations as needed. This first round of evaluations by rubric will establish a base line against which future semesters will be compared.

Graduate Programs in Music.

Students in the **Master of Music** degree program will also be assessed in the end of semester jury (or its equivalent) based on the stated learning outcome, "A graduate with a Master of Music degree in performance will be able to interpret and perform music at an advanced level from a cross-section of musical styles in the major performance area." The Assessment Committee will evaluate the degree to which the Department of Music is meeting the learning outcome and make recommendations as needed.

Students in the **Master of Music Education** program will be evaluated on the stated learning outcome, "A graduate with a Master of Music Education degree will complete a major presentation of applied learned coursework demonstrating a high level of academic rigor and scholarly contribution to the field of music education." The Assessment Committee will collect evidence from professors and students. The results will be reported to the Dean of the College of Fine Arts and the Director of Assessment. The Assessment Committee will make recommendations as needed.

The Music Department Assessment Committee is also charged to recommend changes in procedures and measurement instruments as needed.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

General Education – Fine Arts Theatre

Unit Assessment Plan – One Outcome: Developing an Appreciation of the Arts and Humanities - Knowledgeableness - Students will be able to recognize works of literature or fine arts and place them in their historical, cultural, and social contexts. According to the university plan, the College of Fine Arts General Education Courses will be assessed on a quadrennial basis.

The Department of Theatre has completed Unit Assessment Plans and Outcomes for each of its undergraduate degree programs:

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre
The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre

The Theatre Assessment Committee has filed all required documentation and TracDat information with the Office of Student Learning Outcomes.