

Colorado State University Pueblo
Department of Art & Creative Media
Program Assessment Plan
Revised 2026

Mission

The Department of Art offers experience-based instruction in the practices of studio art, creative media, art history and art education. A full-time faculty of working artists and scholars along with accomplished visiting professionals are dedicated to the development of emerging creatives who enrich our society with thoughtful insight, valuable skill sets and an understanding of the responsibilities that come with visual literacy.

Creativity and critical insight are essential to any academic inquiry. As such, the Department is committed to being accessible to students from a variety of University disciplines, our vibrant Pueblo culture and the Southwest United States. Art, history, and education are fundamental to a community's identity; they are a reflection of its values and are key to fostering a diverse culture of lifelong learners. CSUP Guiding Principles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Department Goals

- Prepare students in the practices of Studio Art, Creative Media, Art History, and Art Education toward the achievement of personal creative goals, art-related careers or further academic and professional education. CSUP Guiding Principles 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
- Provide relevant studio and laboratory opportunities within well appointed facilities that are conducive to creative growth and the development of fundamental skills across a range of formal topics. CSUP Guiding Principles 4, 5, 7
- Nurture an environment that encourages professional curiosity, collaboration, and respect for diverse and multiple viewpoints. CSUP Guiding Principles 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8
- Provide services and experiences to a variety of University disciplines as well as local, regional, and national communities, fostering a culture of lifelong learning and global citizenship. CSUP Guiding Principles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1 Exploration of the Creative and Scholarly Process

Experiment with and adopt a variety of processes, methods, and interpretations to explore innovative solutions to creative and scholarly challenges.

Outcome 2 Development of Skills & Techniques

Exhibit sufficient fluency in one or more media to craft work that meets appropriate professional standards for the scale and scope of a project. Demonstrate an ability to adapt techniques and formal methods to serve the intentions and objectives of the work.

Outcome 3 Communication of Ideas & Context

Clearly articulate visually, orally, and in writing the content and context of art historical research and creative work.

Outcome 4 Demonstrate Awareness & Intellectual Maturity

Display a willingness to question one’s own perspective. Approach the creative and scholarly process with curiosity and persistence. Take initiative in working independently or collaboratively to achieve stated objectives.

Assessment Methods

Program Assessment uses three types of artifacts:

1. On-campus portfolio presentations in ART 410 Senior Portfolio. This 1-credit course is offered each Spring and is required for all ACM majors. Students with disabilities for whom a strictly timed in-person presentation is inaccessible may pre-record their presentation and play the recording during class.
2. The Senior Art Show. All graduating students display their artwork or research in the Fine Art Gallery at the end of the Spring semester.
3. Writing samples from ARH 411 Theory & Methods. This 3-credit course is offered each Fall and is required for all ACM majors.

Artifacts will be rated with the following scale:

- 1 - Insufficient to Score
- 2 - Introductory
- 3 - Proficient
- 4 - Advanced

SLOs	Measures	Target Proficiencies
1. Exploration of the Creative and Scholarly Process	ART 410 presentations Senior Art Show	At least 80% of students are expected to score at 3 (proficient) or above in the ART 410 presentations and Senior Art Show.
2. Development of Skills & Techniques	ART 410 presentations Senior Art Show	
3. Communication of Ideas & Context	ART 410 presentations ARH 411 writing portfolios	At least 70% of students are expected to score at 3 (proficient) or above in the ARH 411 writing portfolios.
4. Demonstrate Awareness & Intellectual Maturity	ART 410 presentations ARH 411 writing portfolios	

Given the low reading skills among local High School graduates, and the fact that our department attracts students with language-related disabilities, a 70% proficiency score in the ARH 411 writing portfolios is ambitious and will likely require substantial time and effort to achieve.

Assessment Cycle

Art 410 Presentations and the Senior Art Show will be assessed every year. ARH 411 Portfolios will be assessed every 3 years.

Closing the Loop

Each August, Faculty will gather to discuss program assessment results. During this meeting, they will make a plan for curriculum and pedagogy changes to implement.