

ART EDUCATION (AE) MAJOR

What you will study

You will study art education from multiple perspectives, including the content of art and media, art history, art in society, learners as artists, and educators as artists. You will explore what is taught in art curriculums and question who chooses, who is represented, and how learners engage with art. You will consider topics of social justice, art as a social construction of reality, and the need for art education in society and community. Your courses will give you opportunities to analyze the unique needs of the learners—considering experiences, abilities, and universal approaches to learning in the art setting, while considering what is meaningful to your learners along with the pedagogical strategies that support learning in the art setting. You will explore how to integrate curriculum, develop meaningful lessons, and communicate and interact professionally with your art education community. And you will investigate your own values and approaches to art and strategies to remain your own artist in the midst of educating others. Our approach to art education is a hands-on implementation of contemporary theoretical approaches to art education, based in your own ongoing reflection of what you are learning while teaching in a variety of settings.

In order to teach art effectively, you first need to develop a solid base in studio art. Your studies focus on both the meaning and form of art. By actively creating works of your own, you are able to engage fully with aesthetic experience. By working with various media, you expand your ability to invent and experiment. Your program of studies includes an introduction to drawing and 2D and 3D design and color theories. You learn the processes of ceramics, painting, metals, fibers, photography, computer graphics, printmaking, sculpture, and digital media to support your ability to create effective lessons and develop your own knowledge, skills, and abilities while making art.

You also study art history and art from other cultures. By studying the legacy of the past you come to better understand yourself and the work of contemporary artists. You analyze art in historical context, considering how factors such as politics, economics, religion, education, and technology impact the arts. You learn to make informed artistic judgments and to recognize the artistic relationships necessary to produce art. In addition, you learn about the cultural and artistic influences of historically underrepresented and disenfranchised groups.

In order to develop and refine your teaching ability, you take courses in psychology and art education, integrated with the liberal arts curriculum. You learn to analyze the general and specific needs of particular age groups, and to relate these needs to artistic forms, manipulation of materials, and behavioral characteristics. Your art education fieldwork includes classroom observations and practice.

The culmination of the art education major lies in successful completion of two nine-week student teaching experiences in PreK-12th grade art education. These experiences are required by the State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for licensure. Upon graduation, you can be licensed as a PK-12 art educator (550). Graduates are confident and highly qualified art educators who can flexibly and creatively meet the needs of all of their students after completing this comprehensive art education program.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Art Courses		
A-121	Analytic Drawing	3
A-122	Expressive Drawing	3
A-134	2-D Design	3
A-147	Grant Writing for Artists & Educators	1
A-189S	Form and Space	4
A-193C	Art in the Professions	2
A-221	Beginning Figure Drawing	3
A-234	3-D Design	3
A-262	Graphic Design & Illustration	3
A-491	Senior Art Seminar	1
A Elective	Art (A) Electives, 300 or 400 level	18
Art Education Courses		
AE-222	Principles of Art Education	3
AE-386	Media & Methods in Art Therapy	3
AE-387	Adaptive Field Experience	1
AE-392	Art in Early Childhood & Elementary Sch	4
AE-393	Art in the Secondary School	4
AE-480L & AE-480S	Direct Observ & Teaching Art/Elem Sch and Direct Obs & Teaching Art/Secondary Sch	12
Art History Courses		
AHS-210	Ancient to Byzantine Art	2
AHS-252	Medieval to Modern Art	4
AHS-409	Modern & Contemporary Art	3
AHS Elective	Art History (AHS) Elective	3
Additional Courses		
ED-116	Relational Competence Workshop	3
HS-312	Lives of First People	2
PSY-110	Life Span Development	4
DA/TA/MU Elective	Dance (DA), Theater Arts (TA) or Music (MU) Elective	2
Assessments		
A-100	Community Art/Design Midsemester (Take in semesters 1 - 7) ¹	0
A-399	Formal Introduction to Advanced Work	0
AE-130	Aesthetic Engagement Ext Assessmnt Lev 1	0
AE-230	Aesthetic Engagement Ext Assessmnt Lev 2	0
AE-330	Aesthetic Engagement Ext Assessmnt Lev 3	0
AE-395	Ext Assessmnt Aesthetic Engagement Lev 4	0
AE-400	Ext Assessmnt Aesthetic Engagement Lev 5	0
AE-450	Ext Assessmnt Aesthetic Engagement Lev 6	0
AE-482	Ext Assessmnt Effective Citizenship Lev4	0
ED-220	Interview Assessment	0
ED-475	Student Teaching Seminar	0
PST 329	Praxis II Prep	
PST 406	Praxis II	
Total Credits		94

¹ Take this mid-semester assessment in each semester

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² 3 credits must be at 400 level

This major does not require a minor and follows the general education requirements (<https://catalog.alverno.edu/catalogarchives/2024-2025/weekday-college/general-education/>) for mega majors-not science related.