

Form E-1-A for Boston College Core Curriculum

Department/Program: Art History

- 1) Have formal learning outcomes for the department's Core courses been developed? What are they? (What specific sets of skills and knowledge does the department expect students completing its Core courses to have acquired?)

This year we streamlined our learning goals for the Arts Core in Art History to the following three criteria:

Students will be able to analyze the relationship between art and its historical context in a broadly defined geographic area and time span.

Students will be able to fluently describe the formal properties of objects and images, explaining how they construct and convey meaning.

Students will be able to make logical, clearly reasoned arguments about the purpose and meaning of art in human history.

- 2)

- 5) What were the assessment results and what changes have been made as a result of using this data/evidence? (What were the major assessment findings? Have there been any recent changes to your curriculum or program? How did the assessment data contribute to those changes?)

As stated above, this year we streamlined the Learning Outcomes for Arts Core.

- 6) Date of the most recent program review. (Your latest comprehensive departmental self-study and external review.)

2012 (external review)

1)

The art history faculty send their responses to the DUS who tallies the averages. We will meet in the fall to discuss the results.

5)

(What were the major assessment findings? Have there been any recent changes to your curriculum or program? How did the assessment data contribute to those changes?)

As stated above, we streamlined and simplified the Learning Outcomes for the Art History major.

This year we also decided to add a optional thesis writing course for our majors. The course will take place in the second semester of the senior year and will be seen as a continuation of the Art History Senior Seminar. In that course, students write a long research paper. Student taking the thesis writing seminar will now have the opportunity to expand that paper into a more polished and rigorous thesis. Previously, the optional senior theses were done as independent studies with a professor whose expertise is most closely related to the thesis topic. We decided to add (optional) thesis writing course to our curriculum in order to create a more collaborative writing environment for our students, as well as to give better instruction in the thesis writing process to our students. The course will be paired with the Senior Symposium in Art History, which we initiated in spring 2023, in that only students in the thesis writing course will be able to present at the symposium. The change was not based on assessment, but rather was a response to our desire to have more students write senior theses.

6

(Your latest comprehensive departmental self-study and external review.)

2012 (external review)