

ART EDUCATION

U N I V E R S I T Y O F W E S T G E O R G I A

UWG offers two programs in Art Education that lead to teaching certification T-4 (K-12): the B.F.A. in Art Education is designed for undergraduate candidates, while the Post-Baccalaureate Initial Certification in Art is designed for candidates holding an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. Both programs focus on providing quality education, instruction, and guidance to assist pre-service art teaching candidates to become highly effective and efficient art teachers. Emphasis is placed on providing an awareness of traditional and contemporary approaches to teaching art and for methods of developing meaningful, cohesive art curricula applicable to children of all ages, aptitudes, and abilities. The programs place emphasis on teaching and learning strategies that are based on interdisciplinary and cross-curricula approaches to education, which integrate art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetics with other subject fields.

Experiences in the art history courses provide opportunities to become familiar with art forms created from a wide range of cultures and eras, while experiences in the studio courses enable candidates to develop their subject content knowledge further by undertaking a wide range of two and three-dimensional creative problem-solving experiences in art, with opportunities to specialize in areas of preference. The art education facilities include both Mac and PC computers, and a Smart Board that allows for digital presentations. Faculty members in art education are very well experienced, capable of providing a wealth of relevant knowledge about contemporary art teaching issues, approaches, and concerns, and can assist candidates to prepare thoroughly for the career of their choice.

The programs provide opportunities in education courses that cover a wide range of important and relevant general educational theories, issues, and concerns, while the art education courses address broad theoretical and practical aspects of teaching art in particular. Content areas covered include the various philosophical and practical approaches to art education, determining long-range intended outcomes of education in general, the importance of education in the arts in achieving these outcomes, curriculum development and structure, lesson planning, the Georgia and National Visual Arts Standards, classroom management, student motivation, assessment, technology in art, and creative problem solving. The art education courses include opportunities to visit and observe art teachers in their school classrooms. The programs' culminating experience is the completion of a semester-long student teaching internship under the supervision of quality, experienced art teachers and university art education faculty members.

Art Education majors are strongly encouraged to join the Georgia Art Education Association, as well as the National Art Education Association, to maintain an awareness of current developments within the field. Alumni are invited to take part in workshops with Art Education majors, in order to answer questions and share their thoughts and concerns about teaching art and to address problems and issues faced by novice teachers. In conjunction with the College of Education, art majors assist in the organization of the Georgia Young Artists' Exhibition, in which children from all grade levels in local schools have the opportunity to have their work exhibited within the university setting.

These rapidly expanding art education programs are currently enjoying a positive reputation and have approximately 50 candidates, who have the benefit of developing strong professional relationships with their peers, staff, and faculty members from various disciplines. Recently successful graduates from the programs have obtained positions in schools, teaching art at various grade levels both within and outside of Georgia, and even as far afield as Korea.

ART EDUCATION COURSES

U N I V E R S I T Y O F W E S T G E O R G I A

ART 3011 Elementary Art Methods - 3 credit hours

This course is designed for the art education major to focus on the developmental needs and abilities of students at the elementary level. Methods in art education include approaches to art criticism, aesthetics, and creative thinking as well as a variety of studio media. An internship in an elementary art class is a requirement of this course.

ART 3012 Art for Pre-K & Special Populations - 3 credit hours

This class is designed for both art education and special education majors. The art curriculum in this course will be presented as a child-centered approach to art education, which has as a primary goal the enhancement of the child's self-esteem through exploration or art media. The adaptive strategies needed to meet the needs of both pre-kindergarten students and students with special needs will be a major focus. An internship in a special education classroom or adaptive art classroom will be a requirement of this course.

ART 4009 - Art Curriculum & Classroom Management - 3 credit hours

This class is designed for the art education major to apply educational principles of curriculum and a variety of instructional strategies to the content of art education. Students will investigate the evolution of art education's purpose and goals in general education as well as techniques for classroom management and computer assisted instruction. An internship in a middle level art class is a requirement of this course.

ART 4010 - Secondary Art Methods - 3 credit hours

This course is designed specifically for the art education major with an emphasis on the methods and teaching strategies of particular significance for teaching secondary art education. The methods presented in this course are designed to complement curriculum theory discussed in the art curriculum course. Methods in art education include approaches to art criticism and aesthetics, as well as a variety of media and creative problem solving strategies. An internship in a high school art class is a requirement of this course.

ART 4011, ART 4012, ART 4013

Student Teaching in Art Education 3hrs each course for a total of 9 hrs

Student teaching is the culminating course of the teacher preparation program. It is typically viewed as a full class load and done primarily in a selected school under the guidance of an experienced supervising art teacher and the university supervisor. Periodic seminars will be held on campus for students to meet as a group for discussion and instruction. 'C' or better required for certification.

All Art Education students must complete the Junior Review (ART 4078) and the Senior Capstone Sequence (ART 4998 & ART 4999) in order to graduate.