

Art History Program Review Progress Report

May 29, 2025

The Art History programs (minor and extended minor) underwent a program review in 2021-2022. Below is a summary of the unit's progress toward addressing the recommendations in the action plan.

The core recommendation of the action plan reads: "Develop a strategic plan for AH that includes: hiring and succession planning, curricular directions, external engagement/practicums/work- integrated learning, program growth, especially around increasing the number of Minors and Extended Minors. This plan should also include the steps needed to develop a Major, with benchmarks of when to proceed to the next step in the plan."

Progress: A new tenure-track, full-time faculty member has been hired, with a January 1st, 2026, start as a retirement replacement. This new faculty member will be instrumental in aiding program visioning, including the possibility of developing a Major.

The action plan also outlines six recommendations for curricular review, namely:

"Map out a "spine" for AH programs. Revise calendar copy for all programs to include "spine". Revise course outlines/create new course outlines for "spine". Differentiate between 100, 200, and 300 level courses; streamline offerings at 200 and 300 level, consider creating new offerings focusing on intersectionality, internationalization, environmental art, etc. Revise survey courses to further incorporate EDI and decolonization across curriculum. Meet with colleagues in history and other cognate disciplines to discuss how AH (or visual studies) could contribute to students' experiences."

Progress: The Art History faculty was originally scheduled to begin this work in fall 2023. However, several factors led to its postponement. The existing faculty at the time—with one in their last year before retirement and the two other faculty seeing themselves as nearing retirement—chose to postpone this important curricular work until a new faculty joined them, to ensure that the curricular work is undertaken with a colleague that is future facing. This delay does allow for the upcoming curriculum work to be undertaken with a better sense of needs across the School of Creative Arts, as significant updates have been made to the Visual Art program, which includes Art History courses as requirements, as of fall 2024.

Recommendation: Work with external liaison, City Studio, etc. to increase opportunities for students to take practicums, and incorporate work-integrated learning into courses as they are revised.

Progress: As part of the College of Arts, Art History students have benefited from support the Partnership Development and Practicum Coordinator in the College of Arts.

Recommendation: Discuss staff positions with Dean's office and HR

Progress: Staff positions and support for the Gallery are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Recommendation: Include promotion of research showcases/competitions to students in TOR of

SOCA Awards and Scholarships Committee.

Progress: This has been implemented.

Recommendation: Offer PD training in accessible methods of assessment, including UD

Progress: PD workshops are offered by UFV's Teaching&Learning Centre, as well as as part of School of Creative Arts council meetings.

Recommendation: Discuss how to encourage students to participate in more international opportunities, at School level and with students.

Progress: This is ongoing, especially in terms of considering study tour opportunities.