**Art History Minor Assessment**

**Mission:**

The art history program at Albion College provides students with a grounding in the skills of analysis, critical thinking, writing, and a knowledge of art in its historical and cultural contexts. We educate students in both the traditional and innovative modes of artistic expression and critique. We believe that individual expression in the form of artistic creation, analysis and dialogue is essential to the maintenance of human life and the creation of a humane and just society.

**Art History graduates (minors) will:**

speak and write effectively about works of art

understand and use the specific languages and methods of art and art history

be knowledgeable about art across a spectrum of historical periods

distinguish between historically specific styles and expressions

critique and explain art works in their appropriate context

be familiar with area-specific materials and techniques in at least one area of studio art

**Pre-enrollment Assessment**

A small group of students participate in a written portfolio review and interview in the spring prior to their enrollment at the College. These students usually receive Art and Art History Scholarships. As a group they can be tracked throughout the time they hold the scholarship, which is usually four years.

At the time of the Scholarship portfolio review we will assess students on the following:

Art History students at the beginning level will understand and use beginning vocabulary of art history.

Art History students at the beginning level will be able to critique and explain art works in some artistic context.

**Baseline Assessment:**

Students will be evaluated at the time they take ARTH110: Non-Western Art; ARTH111: Art History Before 1400; or ARTH112: Art History After 1400. All minors in art history must take one of these survey classes. Scholarship students are integrated into these classes and their performance can be compared with other students. Quizzes early in the term or embedded questions on the first exam will measure student’s ability to use specific languages about art, to interpret and analyze works of art and to distinguish historically specific styles and expressions. A second marker will be embedded in the final exam.

**At the 100/beginning level the following learning objectives will be measured:**

Art History minors at the beginning level will be able to talk and write about art using appropriate vocabulary.

Art History beginning level minors will be able to distinguish between historically specific artistic styles and expressions.

**Art History minors at the 200/intermediate level will:**

understand and use the specific languages of art and art history. They will be able to discuss meanings of various works of art using appropriate language in oral presentations to their peers.

talk and write about art using a more sophisticated vocabulary than beginning students.

distinguish between historically specific artistic styles and expressions, and will place the works within a social, cultural, and historical context.

In art history classes at the 200 level oral presentations and additional writing assignments will allow us to continue to evaluate the student’s progress Assessment can be done in any 200 level course through questions embedded in exams and through presentations to the class. We will use a modified form of the writing rubric developed for the First Year Seminars as a standard to judge writing at the 200 levels.

**Art History minors at the advanced level will:**

understand and use the specific languages of art history. They will be able to discuss meanings of works of art using appropriate language in oral and visual presentations to their peers.

talk and write about art effectively, using a more sophisticated vocabulary than intermediate students.

distinguish between historically specific artistic styles and expressions, and will be able to place the works within a social, cultural, and historical context.

Students will be assessed in their second or third 200 level class or in one of the 300 level courses: Art as Political Action; Race and Representation in American Art; Women in Art; Earth, Art, and Environment. We will use questions embedded in exams or assessment essays to evaluate these learning objectives.