Thursday, March 21, 2013

TO: CEP Committee

RE: Department of Art Honors program

FROM: Mark Hosford, Acting Chair, Department of Art

Dear Chair and CEP Committee:

With full art faculty support, 8 for 0 against, we would like to put forward an Honors program for the Department of Art. This is in keeping with the precedent set by the other departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. We are a new department and therefore just now developing this program.

We have outlined a rigorous addition to the art major that we believe will warrant an Honors degree bestowed upon the students that participate and complete the requirements. In addition to the already required senior exhibition, the honors student will enroll in a newly created ARTS 299a and 299b courses, where they will be responsible for creating a 15-30 page thesis paper that relates and expands on concepts explored in their senior exhibition. They will also be required to have an oral examination from members of the faculty at the end of their senior year to defend both their senior exhibition and thesis paper.

Yvonne Boyer, who works closely with the Art Department’s needs in the library has assured us that this will not impact the library in any negative way. She also offered her help whenever it is needed in regard to the Honors program.

There will be some impact on faculty. We feel as a group this is a necessary addition to our program. By evidence of the vote, we agree this additional work will be welcomed to help strengthen our program.

I would like to take this opportunity to officially thank everyone on behalf of the studio faculty and myself for your time, consideration and suggestions in regards to our proposed undergraduate Honors program. We have carefully reviewed your suggestions and incorporated them into the final proposed documents. I hope you will find them satisfactory.

Thank you for your hard work and service,

Mark Hosford
Acting Chair, Department of Art
Program of Concentration in Art

The art major requires 36 hours and presents our students with the opportunity to explore their ideas conceptually, as well as to learn the technical skills involved in the creation of art. The program offers a wide range of classes and media. Our students are offered a strong grounding in traditional processes such as drawing, painting, ceramics, and sculpture, as well as the opportunity to explore contemporary processes involving video, performance, digital photographic media, and social interactive art practice. Our diverse faculty of artist/educators represents a wide range of teaching styles and aesthetic philosophies. We consider how ideas have been developed through the centuries as well as how specific techniques have been used to enrich the expression of the idea. In addition to modern art history offerings, art majors are encouraged to take courses in pre-Renaissance, non-Western art history, philosophy of aesthetics, and film. The Contemporary Art Maymester offers an opportunity to study contemporary art in a concentrated manner.

Requirements for the Program of Concentration in Art

Drawing Requirement (6 hours)
• Options: ARTS 102, 202, 203, 205, 207, or 208

Studio Requirements (15 hours), which must include at least:
• One 2-D course (ARTS 110, 111, 120, 121, 122, 130, 210, 211, 220, 221, 222, 230, 231)
• One 3-D course (ARTS 140, 141, 150, 151, 152, 240, 241, 250)
• One time-based course (ARTS 160, 171, 172, 173, 260, 271, 272, 273)
• Within the 15 hours, students must take at least one 200-level ARTS courses.

Related Requirement (9 hours), which must include each of the following:
• Either HART 110 or 111 (suggested for entry into 200-level ARTS courses)
• One course from the following: ARTS 180, 285, 288, HART 231, 242, FILM 125, 170, 201, PHIL 241
• One additional 200-level History of Art (HART) course

Directed Study (6 hours)
• ARTS 290, Directed Study: Senior Show and Contemporary Practices
• ARTS 291, Independent Research: Senior Show

Majors are required to complete the Independent Research course, ARTS 291, their senior year. This course is designed specifically to help prepare majors for their Senior Show. For this reason, it is typically taken in the spring semester of the senior year. No other independent research/study course can count toward the major.

Honors Program in Art

The Honors Program in the Department of Art offers excelling art majors the opportunity to pursue their interest at a higher level. To be admitted to the honors program in Art, students must have:
• At least a 3.25 cumulative GPA.
• At least a 3.5 GPA in courses that count toward the major in Art.
• Completed the sophomore year.

Students interested in pursuing the honors program should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Application materials must be submitted to the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the applicant’s junior year; applications may be submitted electronically. Applications must include 10
digital images of recent work with written explanations of each image. Applicants will be notified in writing of the department’s decision.

Each Honors student shall have a committee consisting of one faculty member appointed by the department chair, the student’s selected Honors adviser, and the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Requirements for graduation with Honors in Art:
- Successful completion of the requirements for the major in Art.
- Successful completion of either ARTS 180 Sources of Contemporary Art or ARTS 285 Maymester Contemporary Art Blitz.
- Successful completion of a senior exhibition.
- During the senior year the student is required to register for ARTS 299a (3 credit hours) in the first semester and 299b (3 credit hours) in the second semester in order to complete a written thesis, expanding concepts explored in the senior exhibition.
- Successful oral defense of the thesis and senior exhibition during the final semester of undergraduate study.
- At least a final 3.25 cumulative GPA.
- At least a final 3.5 GPA in courses that count toward the major in Art.

Minor in Art
The minor in art requires 18 hours of course work, including the following:

HART 111 (History of Western Art: Renaissance to Modern), ARTS 102 (Drawing and Composition I), and four other ARTS courses, with at least two at the 200 level. (One independent research course may be substituted with permission of a studio art professor toward additional advanced work in a medium.)

Course descriptions begin on page 150.
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Hi, Jonathan and Malcolm-

I'm attaching Art's proposal for Honors. CEP has approved it 4-0 (two abstaining).

I'm afraid I may be getting this to you late: I just realized that Michael mentioned in an email yesterday that it needed to reach you before today - hope it's still OK, if not I'm very sorry!

Calvin