The Graduate Art Education Programs at Northern Illinois University are designed specifically for people interested in pursuing advanced education in multiple aspects of the artistic experience, visualization, learning, and art as part of visual culture. Students accepted in the two art education tracks (M.S. in Art and M.S. in Art with Certification) or the Ed.D. programs are curious, motivated, collaborative, and engaged learners.

**Position Statements**

- Art is the evidence of human cognition across time and cultures.
- Art is more than objects exhibited in museums and galleries. It has become a commodity that is part of market economy and multi-sensory experience.
- Justice, equality, dignity, and self-determination are the centerpieces of a quality art education.
- Critical issues of social justice are part of all art education courses.
- Students should see their own cultural experiences reflected in curricula and develop skills necessary for cross-cultural understanding.
- Diversity education is not just for students from ethnic minority cultures, but for all students.
- Good art education is not achieved by transmitting inert facts. Learning, while adapted to the styles of individual students, should be born of students’ curiosity, informed by inquiry processes and centered on challenging content.
- Processes for instituting good education in art are complex, multi-layered, and yet manageable.
- The artistic process is one “way of knowing” and has generalizability to other areas of study within the curriculum.
- Visual education is essential in contemporary culture because of the abundance of information that is communicated visually. Art students must be taught to be competent coders and de-coders of visual information.
- Good art education includes, but is not limited to issues addressing cultures, religions/spiritual beliefs, nationalities, mental and physical challenges, socioeconomic status, gender, and sexual orientation.
M.S. IN ART (Art Education)

1. Contact the Art Education Division to receive program information. Fill out appropriate forms for application to the M.S. in Art (Art Education) program. See the secretary in the School of Art Graduate Office or Art Education Office for appropriate forms. (Acceptance will be based upon GRE scores, written essay, and references.)

2. Take the Graduate Record Exam and score at least 400 on each section.

3. Students may enroll in courses as a SAL (Student At Large) while their application is being processed. However SALs may not take more than 3 graduate courses to count toward the M.S. degree before acceptance into the program. Students who have been admitted to the M.S. program have priority class slots, and SALs may be dropped from classes if there is not enough room.

4. See “Interim Adviser” (page 1)

5. Students should complete the Program of Courses (Forms IIa and IIb) with an advisor soon after being admitted to the program.


7. Complete 2 additional electives in art education.

8. Complete 6 additional courses in art education and/or art history, studio, or related approved professional courses for a total of 18 semester hours.

9. With the consent of the School of Art and the Graduate School, a maximum of 9 semester hours (3 courses) may be taken outside the School of Art. This includes courses from either NIU or transfer courses from other institutions.

10. Students need 33 semester hours and a passing grade on the Comprehensive Examination to graduate with a M.S. in Art. (Forms V, VI, and VII)

11. Comprehensive Examination. Very early in the last semester of coursework, students meet with the graduate committee to arrange a time to complete the comprehensive examination. Each committee member will ask a question based upon the coursework you have taken with that person.

12. The Committee may allow a student to re-take up to two failed questions. Re-examination must be arranged with the student’s Graduate Advisory Committee and will likely result in a delayed graduation.¹

¹ Art Ed Grad Program/Art Ed. Smith-Shank, 1/03
CERTIFICATION TRACK

ART EDUCATION
Certification at the Masters Level and subsequent M.S. Degree in Art

If a student already possesses a Bachelor’s Degree, s/he must be accepted into the Master’s Degree program in Art Education to pursue a teaching certificate in art at Northern Illinois University. Successful students will have received a score of at least a 400 on each part of the GRE exam, presented supportive letters, written a compelling personal statement, and accurately completed the application. To be admitted to the Certification Program and to enroll in ARTE 342 students must have passed the Illinois Test of Basic Skills and a Criminal Background Check.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:
___ ARTE 342 (methods, elem) FIRST IN SEQUENCE OF CERT COURSES
___ ARTE 344 (methods, mid) PRE-REQ. ARTE 342
___ ARTE 463* (Aesthetics, Art History & Criticism) PRE-REQ. ARTE 342
___ ARTE 579 or TEDU 457 (Special Needs Populations)
___ ARTE 587 (Eval. in Art Educ.)
___ ARTE 584 (Hist/Philosophy of Art Educ)
___ EPS 501 (Psych Foundations of Educ)
___ EPS 508 (Adolescent Behavior)
___ LTIC 501, also cross-referenced as TLRN 501X (Multicultural) or a documented, extended and approved multicultural experience
___ ARTE 482 OR documented 25 clock hours of clinical in-school experience APPROVED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR
___ ARTE 582 (curriculum development) PRE-REQ. ARTE 342 AND ARTE 344
___ ARTE 488 A & B (Student Teaching elementary) PRE-REQ. All teacher cert. Requirements. Beginning Fall 2004: Successful completion of Art (K-12) content area test.

strongly SUGGESTED SEQUENCE:
Semester 1: ARTE 342, ARTE 584, LTIC 501
Semester 2: ARTE 344, ARTE 463, ARTE 482, EPS 501
Semester 3: ARTE 587, EPS 508, ARTE 583 or ART 580
Any Summer: ARTE 579
Semester 4: ARTE 488A/B

PORTFOLIO: Students may not student teach without passing a portfolio review. They must SHOW PROFICIENCY in five art production areas and expertise in one. (Ceramics, Drawing, Fibers, Jewelry, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, or Computer-generated art forms/media may be considered.)

To Complete MS Degree in Art after certification, students need a total of 33 GRADUATE CREDIT hours.

Smith-shank 1/03