

# Implementation Plan

## 1. Cover memo

Department of Art Education Year of appraisal 2015

To: Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning  
From: Faculty Dean  
Faculty of: Fine Arts  
Date: July 1, 2018

Please find enclosed the finalized Implementation Plan for the Department cited above as part of the academic program appraisals process. This Plan was duly discussed with:

The Department Chair

The Dean of Graduate Studies (if applicable)

As mentioned in the Concordia University Academic Program Appraisals Manual, 5<sup>th</sup> edition revised, the Faculty and Department will follow-up on this Plan in two years, when prompted by your office.

Sincerely,

Faculty Dean's name Rebecca Duclos

Faculty Dean's signature



# Implementation Plan

## 2. Summary

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The Department of Art Education focuses on learning and teaching in the visual arts, with programs of study at undergraduate and graduate levels. The department is the only English-language program in Quebec for training visual arts teachers, and one of the largest art education programs in Canada. The doctoral program was the first, and remains the only PhD in Art Education degree offered in Canada.

As part of Concordia University's internationally recognized Faculty of Fine Arts, the Department of Art Education provides excellent professional preparation in the visual arts and art teaching. Courses cover traditional visual media and digital technologies. Our professors are known internationally for their research in such areas as studio practice, cross-cultural aesthetics and education, adult education, the juvenile work of world-famous artists, built environment education, museum education, popular culture, digital technologies, community arts, and curriculum history and theory. Students are encouraged to develop individual artistic and teaching practices that integrate conceptual understanding, critical reflection, and practical experience.

#### Programs offered:

BFA Specialization in Art Education – Visual Arts

BFA Major in Art Education – Visual Arts

BFA Minor in Art Education – Visual Arts

MA in Art Education

PhD in Art Education

Faculty members as a group are recognized teachers, active researchers, and full participants in the life of the departments. Their diverse research profiles support varied student interests and offer high-quality mentorship. The department has significant and long lasting relationships in the community. The multiple new initiatives with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and many internships in local schools for students show the importance and grass roots nature of the department's contributions to the public. A search for a tenure-track hire in Inclusive Practices in Visual Arts Education is now concluding in Winter, 2018. A Graduate Certificate program in Museum Education is in development. These faculty research programs and plans, as well as ongoing community outreach initiatives should be increasingly spotlighted and communicated both within the university and to the community at large, supporting the growth of more internal and external collaborations, as well as increased opportunities for students.

It is clear that the department is now running more programs than it can reasonably sustain. Therefore, the recommendations below suggest some consolidation and reorganization of administrative and pedagogical capacity.

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## 3. Recommendations

The Faculty Dean is invited to include a numbered list of recommendations for improvement, as well as a rationale and implementation schedule (an Excel spreadsheet is also available by request to the Appraisal Coordinator).

Recommendations	Prioritized timeline for completion	Responsibility	Dean's comments and resource implications
<p>1. The task of developing and coordinating practicum placements for the Specialization program should be rethought in the context of future faculty hiring requests and the management of existing administrative staff.</p>	Ongoing	Chair and Dept. Administrator; dean's office director of Administration; associate dean, academic affairs	
<p>Rationale: Both the DAC and the EEs have identified staff workload as an issue. The Dean and Department Chair have prioritized the request for an ETA who would take on the task of coordinating and cultivating new practicum placements for Specialization students through initiatives such as Lab School Partnerships. Further, the Dean's office will review with the Department Chair whether additional casual staff support is needed to sustainably support the practicum program, in light of a successful new TT hire arriving in August, 2018.</p>			
<p>2. Seek ways to increase experiential and studio-based learning opportunities for students in the course-based MA. Suitable space could be sought in the VA, in off hours or offsite. Manage the expectations of incoming students</p>		Department Chair, GPD, to consult with AD	

<p>around the availability of studio space and the balance between course and studio work.</p> <p>Rationale: MA students often arrive with unrealistic expectations of access to studio space. Nonetheless, a minimum of studio access should be provided.</p>		Facilities and AD Academic Affairs	
<p>3. Review the scope of MA thesis projects with the goal of facilitating the timely completion of the program.</p>		GPD, faculty members, Curriculum Committee	
<p>Rationale: The UAC expressed concerns that the research and practicum hours do not match the credits obtained, and that the workload may be too heavy.</p>			
<p>4. Evaluate possibilities for fast-tracking strong MA candidates into the PhD program. Consider lowering the required coursework in the research option of the MA in Art Education, as this might enable a faster transfer from the MA to the PhD. Consider the possibility of opening an additional graduate-level studio-based stream for professional teachers, possibly limited to the summer session.</p>	Immediate	Chair, GPD, to consult with SGS AD and Manager, Academic Programs and Development; and AD Academic Affairs	
<p>Rationale: Efforts are needed to attract and retain able and ambitious graduate students.</p>			
<p>5. Meet with the Faculty Communications Advisor to discuss ways the department can become more visible across campus. The department has many faculty research programs and ongoing community outreach initiatives that could be spotlighted. The new Graduate Certificate in Museum Education should also be promoted.</p>		Faculty Members; Communications Advisor	

<p>Rationale: Many of the department's exciting initiatives are not being disseminated more within and outside of Concordia. Individual faculty members should reach out, as needed, to the Communications Advisor with updates, events, etc.</p>			
<p>6. Consider ways the department could collaborate with other units across the university. The Department of Studio Arts is an obvious choice, but many other departments with cognate needs could be approached. The current collaborative courses with the departments of Design and Computation Arts and Contemporary Dance are an excellent initiative.</p>		<p>Chair, Faculty Members</p>	
<p>Rationale: Fostering collaborations between researchers and graduate students from different departments is a priority for the Faculty.</p>			
<p>7. Organize a retreat to discuss strategic planning, vision, and future orientations.</p>		<p>Chair, Faculty Members</p>	<p>The provost's office has offered its support.</p>
<p>Rationale: The department has expressed an interest in convening a departmental retreat to reassess its current resources, current and future objectives, and to develop a plan of actionable pathways to address them.</p>			
<p>8. The department should realistically assess its ability to deliver and launch the Graduate Certificate in Museum Education, with the current faculty complement and staffing.</p>		<p>Chair, Faculty Members, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs</p>	
<p>Rationale: The department has spent considerable effort in conceiving and planning for the Graduate Certificate in Museum Education, in collaboration with the Musée des beaux-arts de Montreal (MBAM) and other museums in town. The Faculty supports this important initiative. The decision to postpone the program's launch to Fall, 2020 makes sense.</p>			