

## Recommendation for Discontinuance of a Degree or Certificate Program

(USRR Academic Program Discontinuance Policy <https://policy.ku.edu/governance/USRR#ArticleVIII>)

Name of Program and Type of Program (Degree or Undergraduate or Graduate Certificate):

- Visual Art Education:
  1. Bachelor of Art Education in Visual Art Education (degree)
  2. Masters of Arts in Visual Art Education (degree)

Academic plan and subplan codes to be retired:

1. Bachelor of Art Education in Visual Art Education
  - a. AE-BAE (active code)
  - b. AEPS-BAE (active code)
  - c. AEF-BAE (appears inactive)
  - d. AEFF-BAE (appears inactive)
2. Masters of Arts in Visual Art Education
  - a. VAE MA (active code)
  - b. VAEGF-MA (appears inactive)
3. VAE course prefix also can be retired after the last student graduates

Department: Visual Art

School/College: College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

CIP Code: 13.1302

Number of students currently enrolled (AIR):

1. Bachelors of Art Education in Visual Art Education
  - a. 25 students (per CASS advisor & department list), although 3 are not enrolled this term
2. Masters of Arts in Visual Art Education
  - a. 1 student (per COGA advisor & department list), although this student is not enrolled this term or in recent terms
  - b. 5 graduate students are pursuing the graduate licensure program (per department list)

Average number of students enrolled over the past five academic years (AIR):

3. Bachelors of Art Education in Visual Art Education
  - a. 17 (per KBOR low enrollment list)
4. Masters of Arts in Visual Art Education
  - a. 5 (per AIMS – Fall 2015-Fall 2019)

Average number of program graduates over the past five years: (AIR):

1. Bachelors of Art Education in Visual Art Education
  - a. 6 (per KBOR low enrollment list)
2. Masters of Arts in Visual Art Education
  - a. 2 (per AIMS – FY14-15-FY18-19)

Last admit term:

1. Bachelors of Art Education in Visual Art Education
  - a. Spring 2021 (transfer students primarily)
2. Masters of Arts in Visual Art Education
  - a. Fall 2020

Effective date of discontinuance: We think all students will complete the program in Spring 2022 or earlier but recognize that policy indicates a 4-year window for bachelors and masters degrees (i.e., until Spring 2023). We will monitor student progress and adjust discontinuation plans (if needed).

**Rationale for recommendation:**

1. Low enrollment: Both the bachelors and masters are below KBOR minima for enrollment and degrees earned and have been routinely under-enrolled for the past 8-10 years.
2. Lack of faculty: Currently there is only one tenured/tenure-track faculty member in the department with skills in visual art education due to the recent retirement of the other tenure/tenure-track faculty member. These two faculty have routinely been assisted by a Visiting Assistant Professor/lecturer. We do not have the financial ability to re-build the faculty in this specialty, particularly in light of the relatively low student demand for the program.
3. Note: The School of Education has been consulted on this decision and has approved the decision.

**Impact of discontinuance:**

On students: Current students will be able to complete their degrees. Future students will not be able to enroll in this program.

On faculty: The current tenured/tenure-track faculty will remain in Visual Art and will transition to teaching in her creative area (e.g., painting, textiles). The College will likely continue to hire the current lecturer to assist in offering the required curriculum until current students graduate. See appendix for tentative program close-out procedures.

On staff: No impact.

On mission: The College and University will no longer train art educators at either the undergraduate or graduate level.

**Signature and Sequence of Review:**

Dean, School/College:



Date: 14 October 2020

Provost/EVC:



Date: 20 October 2020

## Tentative Close-Out Plan: Visual Art Education

Meeting Date: October 9, 2020

Attendees:

- Holly Storkel (Associate Dean, CLAS),
  - Karen Ledom (Director, College Advising and Student Services),
  - Krystle Perkins (CASS Senior Advisor, Visual Art),
  - Kristine Latta (Director, College Office of Graduate Affairs),
  - Morgan Swartzlander (COGA Associate Director, assisting with graduate advising for Visual Art),
  - Tanya Hartman (Chair, Visual Art),
  - Liz Kowalchuk (Visual Art Education faculty)
1. Reviewed student lists
    - a. 25 undergraduate student, 3 inactive (but one is expected to return)
    - b. 6 graduate students, 1 inactive (and not expected to return)
  2. Reviewed current application websites
    - a. Will look into closing down application portals for Fall 2021. It was unclear if there were any applications yet for Fall 2021. It appeared that there weren't but this should be verified.
    - b. There is at least one transfer student who will start in Spring 2021. It is likely that this student can complete the degree under the draft curriculum close-out plan. Perkins and Kowalchuk will verify this after a more thorough review of the transfer credits.
  3. Discussed website and catalog updates. Need to add language such as "no longer accepting applications." Once all students have completed their degree, catalog and website entries can be removed.
  4. Reviewed undergraduate curriculum plan
    - a. Undergraduate curriculum will need to be offered through Spring 2022 to graduate all current undergraduate students.
    - b. Two faculty will be needed: Kowalchuk and another person (Langdon has been serving as a VAP or lecturer and would be ideal to continue)
    - c. Kowalchuk and Perkins will monitor student plans and progress and will update curriculum close-out plan (as needed)
  5. Reviewed graduate curriculum plan
    - a. Active students will graduate in Dec 2020, May 2021, December 2021, and possibly as late as May 2022
    - b. Students generally are able to complete with existing graduate courses, with some possible substitution of requirements. Main VAE-specific element is the capstone project/final exam. Kowalchuk will be able to guide these projects to completion.
    - c. Kowalchuk and Swartzlander will monitor student plans and progress and will update close-out plan (as needed)
  6. It appears that all current undergraduate and graduate students tentatively will finish in Spring 2022 (or earlier).
  7. Kowalchuk and Hartman will review and finalize curriculum plan. Hartman will submit a hiring request to the CLAS hiring committee, likely requesting to hire Langdon through Spring 2022 as a VAP.
  8. It was acknowledged in the meeting that the quality of the faculty and the program has been stellar. The sole reasons for closure are low enrollment and lack of faculty.