

Curriculum

FYE Courses

Communication

Communication builds on the development of a student's relationship with their creative practice. Through contemporary creative resources, students will learn new ways to express their connection with their work. Group discussions will bolster students with the opportunity to empathize, critique, and empower their peers. The role of a Creative within a community is discussed to develop students' confidence in communication further.

Ideation

Ideation explores the methods that assist in the development of creative ideas. Students will navigate the relationship between concept, theory, process, and outcomes. Skills that include brainstorming, documentation, and categorization will be taught to aid in developing the Independent Series. Students will be encouraged to create ideas while understanding the content and context of their practice.

Discovery

Discovery engages students to develop habits and skills that create an opportunity for exploration, cultural awareness, and identification of personal influence. Research methods will be outlined to connect students to a range of visual, written, and social sources of inspiration. A focus on direct classification of influences will structure the class in order to connect this to their Independent Series.

Voice

Voice reflects the critical role of individual exploration within creative practices. Students are prompted to analyze their vision, artistic strengths, and expansion for growth. Positive identifying methods will be taught to aid in the student's recognition of self-discovery. Through Independent Series, students will engage with their interests, goals, and voice as a Creative. Using verbal discussions and written statements, students will gain experience in developing their vision and voice.

Digital Literacy

Digital Literacy will focus on the development of student's artistic relationship to digital platforms. Students will be provided with educational resources to navigate a variety of software. Digital Exhibition will structure this class as students learn how to network through social media and display their practice online professionally. Resources provided aid students in the outreach of their portfolios and websites. Students will discuss and learn new methods to present their work and connect with Creatives.

Independent Series

Independent Series are created during a full 3-Week curriculum that focuses on the cumulation of cohesive work accompanied by documentation that includes: critical and creative writing, progress photos, sources of interest, and social outreach. Using the AAC First-Year Experience courses as a catalyst to investigate, exemplify, and develop artistic voice and vision, students will join a virtual classroom of fellow artists, writers, designers, and social advocates. Courses will be taught conceptually and offer open-ended prompts that encourage students to experiment and create work with intention and purpose.

Educational Objectives

- Creation of Independent Series
- Creative Socialization and Communication
- Encourage Discovery and Exposure to New Mediums & Methods
- Structure of Peer Connections and Studio Visits
- Draft Creative Essay or Artist Statement

Student Engagement and Outreach Objectives

- Artist Studio Visits (AAC Alum & Local Artists)
- Private videos with museums, artists, and studios
- Common Hour Student Life
- Student Engagement Workshops and Events

Media and Majors Introduced in Program

Design, Drawing & Painting, Digital Arts, Photography, Illustration, Mixed Media, Fiber, Fashion, Video, Performance, Creative Writing, Print Media, Interdisciplinary Arts, Social Practice and Creative Studies