Student learning in the Studio Art program is assessed in three areas: 1) discipline specific knowledge and skills; 2) communication skills; 3) critical thinking skills.

Disciplinary Knowledge I is assessed in 2000, 3000, and 4000 level courses through direct assessment of students' mastery of the concepts and applications of specific artistic techniques and processes. Techniques are taught using learning objects encompassing readings, discussion of relevant artworks, and practical demonstrations. Students then produce work designed to demonstrate conceptual and practical understanding of the relevant technique. Disciplinary Knowledge II is assessed in 3000 and 4000 level classes using direct assessments of students’ knowledge of the history and reception of significant artists, artworks, and artistic concepts. The degree of mastery is measured using appropriate rubrics.

Communication I, visual communication, is assessed in 3000 and 4000 level courses through direct assessment of the student’s ability to...
express or convey an idea in a work or body of works of art. Ability in visual communication is assessed using a standardized rubric. Communication II, written communication, is assessed in 3000 and 4000 level courses through direct assessment of the student’s ability to express in writing an aesthetic perspective as the creator of a work or body of works of art. The degree of mastery is measured using appropriate rubrics.

Critical Thinking I is assessed in 3000 and 4000 courses through indirect assessment of the student’s ability to reflect on and respond to artworks through the process of critique, using appropriate critical terms and methods. Critical Thinking II assessed in the senior capstone through direct assessment of the student’s senior portfolio using a appropriate rubrics to evaluate the student’s demonstrated ability to respond thoughtfully through the creative process to artistic critique.