



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Substantive Program Modification Form

Use this form to request minor changes in existing programs (majors, minors, certificates, or specializations).

UNIVERSITY:	Northern State University
CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:	Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)
CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:	Studio Art
CURRENT SPECIALIZATION (If applicable):	NBFA.SAR
CIP CODE:	500702
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	ART
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	NART
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:	School of Fine Arts
BANNER COLLEGE CODE:	5F

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Erin Foubert

Vice President of Academic Affairs or
 President of the University

2/3/2026
 Date

1. This modification addresses a change in (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program name
<input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code
<input type="checkbox"/> Modification requiring Board of Regents approval
<i>Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below) |
|---|--|

2. Effective date of change: August 1, 2026

3. Program Degree Level (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- Certificate Specialization Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- On the effective date for all students
 On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name: Art

Reminder: Name changes may require updating related articulation agreements, site approvals, etc.

6. Is the program associated with a current articulation agreement? (Yes or **No**)
 a. If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner institution as a result of this minor program modification? Why or why not?

7. Primary Aspects of the Modification (add lines or adjust cell size as needed):

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
FOUNDATIONS				FOUNDATIONS			
FYS	101	First Year Seminar	2	FYS	101	First Year Seminar	2
ART	111	Drawing I	3	ART	111	Drawing I	3
ART	121	Design 2D	3	ART	121	Design 2D	3
ART	123	Three Dimensional Design	3	ART	123	Three Dimensional Design	3
ARTD	113	Introduction to Digital Media	3	ARTD	113	Introduction to Digital Media	3
ARTH	211	History of World Art I	3	ARTH	211	History of World Art I	3
ARTH	212	History of World Art II	3	ARTH	212	History of World Art II	3
				ARTH	311	History of World Art III	3
				ARTH	416	Art Theory & Criticism	3
				ART	270	Photography Techniques I	3
				ART	498	Research	3
				ART	489	Senior Capstone	3
CORE							
ART	112	Drawing II	3				
ART	231	Painting I	3				
ART	241	Sculpture I	3				
ART	251	Ceramics I	3				
ART	270	Photography Techniques I	3				
ART	281	Printmaking I	3				
ARTH	311	History of World Art III	3				
ARTH	312	History of Graphic Design	3				
ARTH	416	Art Theory & Criticism	3				
		Major Electives -- 15 Any ART, ARTD, ARTH, ARTM courses except ARTH 100. Maximum of 9 credits in ARTH and ARTM courses.					
EMPHASES							
2-DIMENSIONAL MEDIA							
ART	211	Drawing III - Figurative	3				
ART	331	Painting II	3				
ART	371	Mixed Media	3				
ART	381	Printmaking II	3				
ART	370 OR 431 OR 484	Photography Techniques II OR Painting III OR Printmaking III	3				
ART	489	Senior Capstone	3				
ART	498	Research	3				
ART	370 OR 470 OR 484 OR	Photography Techniques II OR Photography Techniques III OR Printmaking III OR Printmaking IV OR Painting III OR Painting IV	3				

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
	481 OR 431 OR 432						
		3-DIMENSIONAL MEDIA					
ART	341	Sculpture II	3				
ART	342	Sculpture III	3				
ART	351	Ceramics II	3				
ART	371	Mixed Media	3				
ART	454	Ceramics III	3				
ART	441 OR 460	Sculpture IV OR Ceramics IV	3				
ART	489	Senior Capstone	3				
ART	498	Research	3				
		INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS					
ART	341 OR 351	Sculpture II OR Ceramics II	3				
ART	331 OR 370 OR 381	Painting II OR Photography Techniques II OR Printmaking II	3				
ART	371	Mixed Media	3				
ARTD	334 OR 335	Digital Imaging I OR Digital Illustration I	3				
ARTD	231	Graphic Design I	3				
ARTD	333 OR 338	Game, App, and Web Design I OR Video Streaming & Digital Filmmaking I	3				
ART	489	Senior Capstone	3				
ART	498	Research	3				
						STUDIO ART SPECIALIZATION CORE	
				ART	231	Painting I	3
				ART	241	Sculpture I	3
				ART	251	Ceramics I	3
				ART	281	Printmaking I	3
						DIGITAL MEDIA SPECIALIZATION CORE	
				ARTD	231	Graphic Design I	3
				ARTD	335	Digital Illustration I	3
				ARTD	345	Documentary Filmmaking	3
				ART	370	Photography Techniques II	3
						EDUCATION SPECIALIZATION CORE	
				ART	231	Painting I	3

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
				ART	241	Sculpture I	3
				ART	251	Ceramics I	3
				ART	281	Printmaking I	3
				ART	371	Mixed Media I	3
						EMPHASES	
						STUDIO ART - 2D	
				ART	211	Drawing III - Figurative	3
				ART	371	Mixed Media I	3
				ART	331	Painting II	3
				ART	370	Photography Techniques II	3
				ART	381	Printmaking II	3
				ART	470 OR 484 OR 431	Photography Techniques III OR Painting III OR Printmaking III	3
						STUDIO ART - 3D	
				ART	211	Drawing III - Figurative	3
				ART	371	Mixed Media I	3
				ART	342	Sculpture II	3
				ART	351	Ceramics II	3
				ART	342 OR 454	Sculpture III OR Ceramics III	3
				ART	441 OR 460	Sculpture IV OR Ceramics IV	3
						DIGITAL MEDIA – GRAPHIC DESIGN	
				ARTD	241 OR 333 OR 334	Animations & Visual Effects I OR Game, App, and Web Design I OR Digital Imaging I	3
				ARTD	331	Graphic Design II	3
				ARTD	443	Digital Illustration II	3
				ARTD	445	Graphic Design III	3
				ARTD OR ART	446 OR 371	Graphic Design IV OR Mixed Media	3
				ARTD	238 OR 338 OR 450	Video News, Advertising & Sportscasting OR Video Streaming & Digital Filmmaking I OR Digital Illustration III	3
						DIGITAL MEDIA – FILM, BROADCAST, AND INTERACTIVE PRODUCTION	
				ARTD	241	Animations & Visual Effects I	3
				ARTD	333 OR 334	Game, App, and Web Design I OR Digital Imaging I	3

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
				ARTD	337	Podcasting and Sound Design I	3
				ARTD	238 OR 338	Video News, Advertising & Sportscasting OR Video Streaming & Digital Filmmaking I	3
				ARTD	341 OR 433 OR 437 OR 438	Animations & Visual Effects II OR Game, App, and Web Design II OR Podcasting and Sound Design II OR Video Streaming & Digital Filmmaking II	3
				ART OR ENGL OR HIST OR MCOM	494 OR 494 OR 494 OR 495	Internship OR Internship OR Internship OR Practicum	3
						ART EDUCATION – TEACHER EDUCATION	
				EDFN	102	Introduction to Education	3
				SPED	100	Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities	3
				EPSY	302	Educational Psychology	3
				EPSY	296	Field Experience	0
				INED	211 OR 411	SD American Indian Culture/Ed OR South Dakota Indian Studies	3
				SEED	396	Field Experience	1
				EDFN	440	Classroom Management	3
				EPSY	428	Child and Adolescent Development	3
				EDER	415	Educational Assessment	2
				SEED	496	Field Experience	2
				EDFN	472	School Law and Ethics for Educators	2
				ARTE	310	K-8 Art Methods	2
				ARTE	414	K-12 Art Methods	3
				SEED	488	7-12 Student Teaching	3
				ELED	488	K-8 Student Teaching	3
						Art Education Specialization Electives – Any ART, ARTD, ARTM course	12
						Digital and Studio Specialization Electives - Any ART, ARTD, ARTM course 200+	25
		General Education Requirements	30			General Education	30
Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization			90	Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization – Studio and Digital			90
Total number of hours required for degree			120	Total number of hours required for degree – Studio and Digital Specialization			120

<i>Existing Curriculum</i>				<i>Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)</i>			
Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
						Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization – Art Education Specialization	98
						Total number of hours required for degree – Art Education Specialization	128

8. Explanation of the Change:

The proposed modification restructures the existing Art degrees into three clearly defined specializations: **Studio Art**, **Digital Media**, and **Art Education**. This restructuring maintains the overall integrity and identity of the program while providing students with more flexible and clearly articulated pathways to degree completion. These modifications revise the organization of the curriculum, allowing for the first three semesters to be the same across the BFA, giving students time to choose a specialization, while opening elective credits for their interests.

Under the new structure, students will choose one of the three specializations, which replaces the previous system of distinct degrees. Emphases will still exist as advising pathways, but they will no longer be formally coded in the system. This provides students greater flexibility in selecting and modifying their academic trajectory. For example, a student who begins in the Art Education specialization but later determines they cannot progress due to Praxis requirements can transition into Studio Art or Digital Media without extending their time to degree. This flexibility is expected to improve student retention, graduation rates, and financial aid eligibility by preventing delayed degree completion.

In addition to supporting institutional goals and the strategic plan, these modifications align the Art Department with our accrediting institution, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. These modifications ensuring that each specialization aligns with contemporary professional and educational standards.

For substantial modifications requiring Board approval, complete the items below.

References to external sources should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

9. Date of approval from the Executive Director or designee.

10. Identify the program modification requested.

Change the BFA, Studio Art to a BFA, Art with three specializations: Studio Art, Digital Media, and Art Education.

11. Provide justification for the desired modification.

The proposed modifications are essential for strengthening the clarity, structure, and long-term sustainability of the Art Department. By establishing three distinct specializations (**Studio Art**, **Digital Media**, and **Art Education**), the program more accurately reflects current disciplinary standards, national reporting expectations, and workforce pathways. This alignment also positions the program competitively alongside peer institutions with similar specialization structures within the SDBOR. A major reason for this change is the need to **align ourselves with**

our accrediting body, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

NASAD standards emphasize clearly defined curricular structures, transparent pathways, and appropriate distribution of credits within specialized areas. The revised curriculum better meets these expectations by organizing coursework into coherent specializations, clarifying learning outcomes within each path, and ensuring that credit hours align with national norms for professional preparation in the visual arts.

The restructuring also addresses significant student success and retention concerns present under the former coded-emphasis model. Under the current structure, students may face extended graduation timelines if they encounter barriers to their degree, such as Praxis exam requirements or a change in Art major. Because these specializations are currently specific, shifting to a different pathway often requires substantial additional coursework, increasing financial burdens and negatively affecting retention, timely graduation, and financial aid eligibility.

By removing the individual degrees and adjusting to specializations, students have flexibility to change direction earlier without prolonging their time to degree. This improves academic mobility, allows advisors to better support students' evolving goals, and minimizes unnecessary credit accumulation. Overall, the modification protects and strengthens the Art program, enhances compliance with NASAD accreditation standards, expands student options, and supports timely degree completion—ultimately improving student success while ensuring the program remains aligned with national expectations and institutional goals.

12. Would the requested modification require a change to the catalog description and/or the program learning outcomes? If so, describe.

Yes, the catalog description will be changed as well as the learning outcomes.

Updated Catalog Description

The BFA in Art at Northern State University allows students to explore in-depth practice and study with three specializations: Studio Art, Digital Media, and Art Education. Within the BFA in Art, students will investigate historic, critical, aesthetic, and theoretical discourse to the discipline. We offer hands-on learning through our studios, digital labs, workshops, and student teaching and practicum. Our curriculum gives you a foundation in color theory, elements and principles of art, and media exploration needed to engage in your discipline at an advanced level. Within each specialization, you will be prepared to start your career, work as a professional artist or educator, or pursue graduate studies.

Updated Student Learning Outcomes for BFA

- Students will acquire and demonstrate understanding and proficiency with fundamental concepts of visual art and design. (*Cross-curricular Skills: Critical and Creative Thinking; Problem Solving*)
- Students will acquire and demonstrate understanding and proficiency with fundamental precepts in art and design history. (*Cross-curricular Skills: Critical and Creative Thinking; Information Literacy; Intercultural Knowledge*)
- Students will acquire and demonstrate understanding and proficiency with art media. (*Cross-curricular Skills: Critical and Creative Thinking; Problem Solving; Foundational Lifelong Learning Skills*)
- Students will acquire and demonstrate understanding and proficiency with professional methods of practice. (*Cross-curricular Skills: Critical and Creative Thinking; Information Literacy; Problem Solving*)

All art majors must earn a minimum grade of “C” in all required major courses (including art electives). Those students who earn a “D” (or lower) in a required major course (including art electives) must repeat the course. No art major will graduate if their GPA within the major is lower than a “C” average (2.0).

13. Indicate the number of students currently enrolled in the program.

BFA, Digital Media: 26

BFA, Studio Art: 18

BSEd: 13

14. Describe the real impact to students.

The restructuring of the Art program will provide students with clearer, more flexible, and nationally aligned pathways that support timely degree completion. By removing the individual degrees and aligning the curriculum with NASAD accreditation standards, students gain the ability to shift their academic direction earlier without adding extra semesters or financial burden. Additionally, by allowing for greater flexibility with electives, students are able to build stronger portfolios, gain more hands-on experience, and pursue advanced courses that align with their intended career paths. The updated course sequences enhance student choice, strengthen degree value, and support greater retention and graduation success.

15. Describe the real impact to the university.

This modification enhances the university's ability to recruit and retain students by offering clearer, nationally aligned academic pathways within the visual arts. By reorganizing the curriculum to reflect NASAD accreditation standards and matching our program offerings to what is already available at other SDBOR institutions, the university strengthens the program's competitiveness and marketability, appealing to a broader range of students with diverse artistic and professional interests. This modification supports institutional goals by improving retention and graduation rates, as students can more easily shift between specializations without delaying degree completion or jeopardizing financial aid eligibility. By updating the program to reflect the interdisciplinary trends in art, digital media, and education, the university reinforces its commitment to academic relevance, student success, and long-term program viability.

16. Describe any cost associated with the program modification.

None. The courses are already active; no additional faculty required.

17. Describe any risks and unintended consequences associated with the program modification.

As with any significant curriculum restructuring, transitioning from three distinct degrees to a single degree with specializations will require adjustments in advising, recruitment messaging, and course scheduling. Some current and prospective students may need clarification regarding the new specialization structure, especially those familiar with the former emphasis-based model, but this creates an opportunity to strengthen communication and ensure students understand the increased flexibility and clearer pathways now available to them. The redistribution of course requirements and the introduction of specialization-specific cores may also shift enrollment patterns within the department. With deliberate advising support, coordinated departmental planning, and targeted outreach that explains the benefits of the new structure, these risks can be minimized. Overall, any potential disruptions are manageable and are far outweighed by the long-term advantages of a more flexible, transparent, and accreditation-aligned program.

18. Would this modification be effective for current and future students, or only students who enroll following the change?

This modification would be effective for current and future students.