



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

New Specialization

Use this form to propose a new specialization within an existing degree program. Specializations provide students with an alternative to the primary format of the major or it may be one of several tracks within a broad major. Specializations contain courses within the discipline(s) of the existing program. Specializations appear in the institutional catalog and on the transcript. Majors that offer specializations typically have one-third to two-thirds of the credits in common with the remaining course work fulfilling the requirements of the specialization(s) offered. The Board of Regents, Executive Director, and/or their designees may request additional information about the proposal. After the university President approves the proposal, submit a signed copy to the Executive Director through the system Chief Academic Officer. Only post the New Specialization Form to the university website for review by other universities after approval by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| UNIVERSITY: | Northern State University |
| TITLE OF PROPOSED SPECIALIZATION: | Studio Art |
| NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM IN WHICH SPECIALIZATION IS OFFERED: | Art |
| BANNER PROGRAM CODE: | |
| INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION: | August 2026 |
| PROPOSED CIP CODE: | 500702 |
| UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT: | ART |
| BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE: | NART |
| UNIVERSITY DIVISION: | School of Fine Arts |
| BANNER DIVISION CODE: | 5F |

Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read AAC Guideline 2.3.2.2.B, which pertains to new specialization requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

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 Fouberg

2/3/2026

Institutional Approval Signature

Date

President or Chief Academic Officer of the University

Note: In the responses below, references to external sources, including data sources, should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

1. Level of the Specialization (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):

Baccalaureate Master's Doctoral

2. What is the nature/purpose of the proposed specialization? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this specialization.

The Studio Art specialization within the BFA in Art degree emphasizes the studio art techniques needed for a career and professional education within the art field.

3. Provide a justification for the specialization, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential. For workforce related information, please provide data and examples. Data may include, but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc. Please cite any sources in a footnote.

A BFA in Art with a specialization in Studio Art prepares students for careers in the studio and fine art economy. Within the specialization, emphases of 2D and 3D Media exist to provide proficiency in studio techniques and visual communication. National employment data for arts and design careers show a growth of 4% on average yearly, showing meaningful workforce demand and valuable career pathways for graduates with this specialization.¹ For students, the specialization offers a stable career pathway with competitive benefits, expanded career options, and the development of transferable skills that support long-term professional flexibility. Additionally, this aligns with our National Association of Schools of Art and Design Accreditation preferences.

4. List the proposed curriculum for the specialization (including the requirements for completing the major – *highlight courses in the specialization*):

| Prefix | Number | Course Title <i>(add or delete rows as needed)</i> | Credit Hours | New (yes, no) |
|------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| FYS | 101 | First Year Seminar | 2 | No |
| ART | 111 | Drawing I | 3 | No |
| ART | 121 | Design 2D | 3 | No |
| ART | 123 | Three Dimensional Design | 3 | No |
| ARTD | 113 | Introduction to Digital Media | 3 | No |
| ARTH | 211 | History of World Art I | 3 | No |
| ARTH | 212 | History of World Art II | 3 | No |
| ARTH | 311 | History of World Art III | 3 | No |
| ARTH | 416 | Art Theory & Criticism | 3 | No |
| ART | 270 | Photography Techniques I | 3 | No |
| ART | 498 | Research | 3 | No |
| ART | 489 | Senior Capstone | 3 | No |
| ART | 231 | Painting I | 3 | No |
| ART | 241 | Sculpture I | 3 | No |
| ART | 251 | Ceramics I | 3 | No |
| ART | 281 | Printmaking I | 3 | No |
| STUDIO ART - 2D | | | | |
| ART | 211 | Drawing III - Figurative | 3 | No |
| ART | 371 | Mixed Media I | 3 | No |
| ART | 331 | Painting II | 3 | No |
| ART | 370 | Photography Techniques II | 3 | No |
| | 381 | Printmaking II | 3 | No |

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Arts and Design Occupations*, Occupational Outlook Handbook, accessed December 28, 2025, <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/arts-and-design/>.

| Prefix | Number | Course Title <i>(add or delete rows as needed)</i> | Credit Hours | New (yes, no) |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | 470 OR 484 OR 431 | Photography Techniques III OR Painting III OR Printmaking III | 3 | No |
| STUDIO ART - 3D | | | | |
| ART | 211 | Drawing III - Figurative | 3 | No |
| ART | 371 | Mixed Media I | 3 | No |
| ART | 342 | Sculpture II | 3 | No |
| ART | 351 | Ceramics II | 3 | No |
| ART | 342 OR 454 | Sculpture III OR Ceramics III | 3 | No |
| ART | 441 OR 460 | Sculpture IV OR Ceramics IV | 3 | No |
| Specialization Electives - Any ART, ARTD, ARTM course 200+ | | | 25 | No |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Total number of hours required for completion of specialization | 50 |
| Total number of hours required for completion of major | 90 |
| Total number of hours required for completion of degree | 120 |

5. Delivery Location

Note: The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

- A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off-campus location (e.g., USD - Sioux Falls, Black Hills State University - Rapid City, Capital City Campus, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an online program)?**

| | Yes/No | Intended Start Term |
|------------------|--------|---------------------|
| On campus | Yes | August 2026 |

| | Yes/No | If Yes, list location(s) | Intended Start Term |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Off campus | No | | |

| | Yes/No | If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 2.4.3.B.</i> | Intended Start Term |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods) | No | | |

- B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)? This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.**

| | Yes/No | If Yes, identify delivery methods | Intended Start Term |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods) | No | | |

- 6. Additional Information:** *Additional information is optional. Use this space to provide pertinent information not requested above. Limit the number and length of additional*

attachments. Identify all attachments with capital letters. Letters of support are not necessary and are rarely included with Board materials. The University may include responses to questions from the Board or the Executive Director as appendices to the original proposal where applicable. Delete this item if not used.