

ART EDUCATION, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

The purpose of the Art Education program is to prepare knowledgeable, skilled, and caring professional educators to become critical, reflective practitioners, researchers and artists, and agents of change for social justice in diverse contexts of educational practice; generate and disseminate knowledge that leads to new pedagogical understandings on which more effective policies and practices can be grounded; and collaborate across disciplines, professions, and constituencies to promote social change that leads to educational improvement and transformation. An integral part of the program involves a variety of observational and participatory experiences in art learning environments, and an extensive pre-practice internship. Upon completion of the degree, employment prospects and/or acceptance for advanced graduate studies depends upon individual achievement and qualifications. (See also Teacher Education Programs (<https://ed.psu.edu/academics/teacher-testing-certification>).)

What is Art Education?

Art Education is a practice of exciting others about art, and takes place anytime groups of individuals come together in a learning setting with an art teacher. Hence, as an art teacher, you use your creative capacity for expressing imaginative insights and communicating critical responses about a myriad of social and cultural matters by helping artists of all ages learn through art, and learn about art. Therefore, our mission is to prepare knowledgeable, skilled, and caring professional art educators. Specifically, you are encouraged to fulfill your potential as a creative artist and a reflective practitioner, with the potential to be an agent of social justice that leads to educational improvements. You are introduced to a range of ideas and experiences that build on your individual talent and emerging professional capabilities. To support your professional development, you complete a series of teaching experiences and internships in different art learning settings.

You Might Like this Program If...

You believe that creativity is a primary, renewable human resource that everyone has in abundance, and you feel you have the capacity to make a difference in the learning lives of children and youth. Becoming a visual arts and design teacher means using your creative capabilities to help others explore and discover new ways of seeing and thinking about the changing world in which they live.