Art Education, B.S.

Wisconsin Experience

The Wisconsin Experience

UW–Madison’s vision for the total student experience, the Wisconsin Experience (https://wisconsinexperience.wisc.edu/about/), combines learning in and out of the classroom. Tied to the Wisconsin Idea (https://www.wisc.edu/wisconsin-idea/) and steeped in long-standing institutional values—the commitment to the truth, shared participation in decision-making, and service to local and global communities—the Wisconsin Experience describes how students develop and integrate these core values across their educational experience.

UW–Madison encourages students to mindfully engage in four core concepts throughout their time on campus: Empathy & Humility, Relentless Curiosity, Intellectual Confidence, and Purposeful Action (https://wisconsinexperience.wisc.edu/intellectual-confidence/).

Since its inception the School of Education has embraced the concepts of the Wisconsin Experience, providing opportunities for students to learn in venues beyond the traditional classroom. Our students also independently seek out related activities and experiences, thus creating their own unique Wisconsin Experience.

Art Education and the Wisconsin Experience

Teaching Art - As part of required courses, art education students teach art to children and teens in school and community-based settings in every semester of the program. Some of our most recent partners include:

- The Art Zone at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (https://www.mmoca.org/)
- Monroe Street Arts Center (https://www.monroestreetarts.org/)
- Afterschool art clubs in Madison elementary, middle and high schools
- Fieldwork experiences in private schools like Edgewood, Wingra, Eagle and Madison Country Day, and public schools in rural, suburban and urban districts.

Learning from Current Practitioners - In all field placements art education majors receive support, guidance and advice from veteran art teachers and university supervisors. They meet art teachers who lead special-topic workshops such as Adaptive Art, Building a High School Ceramics Program, and Integrating Digital Media in Traditional 2D Art Classes, or teaching artists who lead studio-centric workshops such as Monoprint, Puppetry, and Comics, in which in-service art teachers join them as fellow learners.


Student Organizations - Art education majors join a wide variety of student organizations on campus. Art-related organizations (https://art.wisc.edu/art-at-uw/student-orgs/) include the Mad Gaffers (glass blowing), Fresh Hot Press (printmakers), and the Chazen Art Museum Ambassadors. Aspiring Educators of Wisconsin (https://www.facebook.com/AspiringEducatorsUWMadison/) is an active organization for pre-service teachers in all areas of education.

Exhibiting Artwork - Art education majors also have ample opportunity to submit their artwork for consideration for art exhibitions, scholarships and competitions.