Program Name: Art - Photography
Program Contact: Cheyanne Cortez
Academic Year: 2023-2024
Status:
Updated on:

1. <u>Description of Program (200-400 words)</u>

The College of San Mateo Photography department provides a safe learning environment that allows students the opportunity to develop visual literacy by allowing students to choose their own subject matter in their own photographs while following assignment guidelines. Over the years students have addressed issues such as homelessness, poverty, and the lack of public mental health care. Photography students documented the uprising of Black Lives Matter, creating portfolios of street protests and portraits of those fighting for racial equality. This first-hand exposure allowed students to see racial and economic issues in person. We define our department within the campus as anti-racist, respectful of the LGBTQ and BIPOC community; living in an academic environment where we are all stronger together.

Within the program, our students embrace mindful learning, the ability to think independently, and develop the ability to absorb visual information in a thoughtful and discerning manner. Over the years our department has attracted students who wish to learn photography and they have flourished in developing a keen interest in photography. Additionally, they have acquired visual literacy skills needed for the visually-oriented world they will be facing in their careers.

Research into the field of photography tells us that a fine art approach, an emphasis on self-expression and a unique personal style, like the program we offer, is the best way to learn photography. Art directors look to the fine art photography galleries to find new talent and new stylistic trends. We teach our students to communicate and innovate.

The department has a studio where we teach portraiture. There we prepare our students to work with those having their portraits taken by providing the proper guidance. Students collaborate by learning how to communicate with their subjects by creating a rapport and inspiring confidence in the photographer, and the process. In order to facilitate independence and self-reliance, we have advanced students in the studio with intermediate students, helping them develop studio lighting techniques.

Most students in our program make photographs for personal expression, but some have developed part-time businesses that cater to portraiture like headshots, and wedding and event photography.

The photography department has built a culture of participation and communication. We interact with the International Students program and the DRC. At regular intervals in the semester, we have as many as eight student-based, inclusive critiques. We operate within the guidelines that everyone is equal, from the beginners and the advanced students. This fosters effective communication student-to-student and faculty-to-student. This is the core value within the department and helps build and sustain our photography community.

2. <u>Results of Previous Program Review (200-500 words)</u>

Our first goal from our 2021/2022 review to continue our use of the available online teaching tools is still ongoing. Our faculty use Canvas for their classes to provide students with semester long information as well as last minute changes or additions. Through Canvas, we provide students with information to assist them in their assignments and preparation for lectures in our in-person classes. For our asynchronous online classes, students are provided all the information needed to complete their classes. Our instructors are constantly trying to streamline the information for their students.

Our second goal of increasing enrollment by working with DGME and 2D Art is still ongoing. DGME and 2D Art are unable to teach their students how to generate digital reproductions of their art so they can create websites, submit their art to juried art exhibitions, etc. The Photo Department instructors, especially digital photography instructors, need to talk with the current instructors in DGME and 2D Art about promoting the photography classes to assist their students in this process.

Our third goal is always an ongoing goal. We encourage our students to express themselves freely. We welcome students to show their culture, their religious beliefs, sexuality issues, political issues, etc. Everyone's opinions are valued and respected. We currently have a student who has chosen to represent his Latino heritage by photographing low rider car shows. We have another student who is photographing Drag Kings and Queens to try to bring them out of the shadows and into the mainstream. Faculty are encouraged to update and include photos from artists of all ethnicities, sexual orientations, varying points of view.

a) **Explain any curriculum or programmatic changes since last program review**

We did not change any of our guidelines for our course sequences, degree or guided pathways.

b) **Discipline-level and SLO (Student Learning Outcomes) assessment/Student Services and SAO (Service Area Outcomes) assessment:**

The majority of our SLO assessment is done by each faculty member in our program. This is done through looking at the work of their students, how their students talk about the work of their peers through critiques in class and through written assignments. Our faculty assist their students in creating a well-crafted portfolio of images throughout the semester by providing feedback regarding how to edit/adjust their images, helping students identify images that may not be as strong as the rest of their images, that their ideas are clearly expressed in a suite of images. Because of the pandemic and coming back to teaching on campus, the Photography Department has not had a group conversation about how well everyone is doing at fulfilling the SLOs throughout our program. We plan to start having these meetings at least once a year, if not every semester.

The Photography program's only full-time faculty retired in 2023. Without a full-time faculty member, the program is solely focused on teaching classes and has no capacity for growth or self-assessment.

We had no activities or interventions during the last two years in regard to SLO assessment because none were needed. There were no changes or improvements implemented to our SLOs.

3. Current Program Review (200-400 words)

a) Student population equity:

Findings	Analysis	Resources	Plans to Address Opportunity Gaps
1. Low enrollment rates for Black (0.2%), Native American (0.003%) and Pacific Islander (0.01%) students	We attribute this with a lack of communication with academic counseling and learning support centers to encourage students to explore photography.		Initiating a dialog and highlighting the importance of students taking a photography class to help learn more about visual communication. This can be done through academic counseling and promoting the photography classes at college-wide events.
2. Low enrollment rates of low-income students (15-20%)	There is a high-cost barrier to taking photography classes (supplies are expensive)		We do our best to provide cameras to every student who needs one to complete the course work. We ask our students to talk to us if they have financial difficulties. We can provide almost all of the supplies needed. We need to have a conversation with counseling to let them know that finances do not need to be a factor for students to take photography classes.

b) Modes of Delivery equity:

Changes since last Program Review	Analysis of Gaps	Plans to Address Opportunity Gaps
1. We have lost the last full-time faculty in the Photography program.	Without a full-time faculty member, the program is solely focused on teaching the existing classes and has no capacity for growth or self-assessment.	Hire a full-time Photography instructor. Position to be approved.

(c) Challenges and Opportunities:

A full-time faculty is required for the program. A full-time instructor will be the lead with coordinating scheduling, updating curriculum, and coordinating with adjunct faculty on SLO assessments and program needs.

Current adjunct faculty maintain high standards and prepare students to improve their skills and to transfer. Faculty remain active in their professions and maintain studios, have successful art exhibitions – serve as role models for students.

4. Planning
a) **Discipline-level and SLO (Student Learning Outcomes) assessment/Student Services and SAO (Service Area Outcomes) assessment for 2023-2025:**

SLOs/SAOs	Assessment Plan	Resources for SLO/SAO assessment
1. We are unable to meet the request for assessment due to no longer having a full-time Photography instructor.		

b) **Program goals**

Goal	Actions	Measurable Outcomes	Timeline	Responsible Party	Support Needed
1. Hire a full-time Photography instructor. This position is required to meet program goals, address equity gaps, update course catalog.	Include the position in Photography's Resource Request. Gain CASS Division endorsement for prioritization and receive College approval.	Full-time Photography faculty is required to develop and improve curriculum and the program-at-large. The full-time faculty will have the necessary time, discipline expertise and effort essential to collaborate with the adjunct faculty and possibly other programs, address the equity gaps, and help promote the program to reach a broader range of CSM students.	ASAP Submitted in the current Photography Resource Request (Fall 2023)	CASS Division for prioritization, CSM for approval	CASS Division
2. Hire a Program Services Coordinator. Position required to meet programs goals of equity,	Include position in CASS Division Resource Request. Gain endorsement for prioritization and receive College approval.	Program Services Coordinator required to relieve ART department faculty (2D, 3D, Photography and Art History) of multiple administrative tasks and help each program reach their goals of		CASS Division for prioritization, CSM for approval	CASS Division

viability and visibility.		equity, viability and visibility.			
3. Adjust Photography Lab Coordinator position from part-time to full-time	Include the position in Photography's Resource Request. Gain CASS Division endorsement for prioritization and receive College approval.	Because Photography does not currently have a full-time instructor, the Photography Lab Coordinator now has to maintain both the film darkroom and the digital lab as well as being available during class times to assist the instructors, assist the students and check out equipment to the students.	ASAP Submitted in the current Photography Resource Request (Fall 2023)	CASS Division for prioritization, CSM for approval	CASS Division
4. CSM program funding of student materials	We recognize the financial encumbrance for student supplies/materials required in our courses	Increased enrollment, retention, and success rates for all CSM students		CASS division for prioritization, CSM for approval	CASS division for prioritization, CSM for approval
5. Create a better presence on the CSM website	Update photos and videos on the Photography page of the CSM website, include headshots of the current faculty	Potential to increase enrollment by creating a better public face for the program		Photography faculty and Marketing &PR department	
6. Change the Digital portion of the Photography program to CTE		This will help students learn the skills needed to be a photographer, whether that is being self-employed or for a company		Photography faculty	
7. Adjust class unit hours to allow adjunct to teach 2 lab classes in a semester	Adjust lecture vs lab hours for all photography courses	This will allow our adjunct faculty to teach more classes each semester and it will reduce the number of hours that students are required to be in class.		Photography faculty	

5. CE Only

a) Review the program's available labor market data, as applicable, and explain how the program meets a documented labor market demand. Here are two relevant links:

- State of California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division (the official source for California Labor Market Information):
- Employment data (by Program Top Code) from the State Chancellor's Office

b) Summarize student outcomes in terms of degrees and certificates. Identify areas of accomplishments and areas of concern.

c) Review and update the program's Advisory Committee information. Provide the date of most recent advisory committee meeting and outcomes of the meeting (updates, changes, new members, etc.).

d) What strategies have you discussed in your recent Advisory Committee's meetings to meet the needs and challenges of getting people retrained and back to work?