

PEDAGOGY OF FINE ARTS EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL AND QUALIFICATION DEGREE: BACHELOR

DURATION OF STUDY: 4 YEARS

FORM OF STUDY: FULL-TIME

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: TEACHER OF FINE ARTS

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

The Bachelor's degree program in *Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education* was established in 1992. The course of study lasts four academic years and includes a total of 2,550 hours, which corresponds to 240 ECTS credits, in accordance with the national regulations (Article 44a of the Law on Amendment and Supplementation of the Higher Education Act – State Gazette No. 48/04.06.2004 and Ordinance No. 21 of 30.09.2004 on the Application of the System for the Accumulation and Transfer of Credits in Higher Education Institutions – State Gazette No. 89/12.10.2004).

The **compulsory academic disciplines** comprise 1,725 hours (166 credits) and are related to acquiring both general and specialized training, providing fundamental and specific knowledge. These include subjects such as: Pedagogy, Psychology, Methodology of Fine Arts Education, Theory of Art, History of World Fine Arts, History of Bulgarian Fine Arts, Art of the 20th Century, Aesthetics, Analysis and Interpretation of Artworks, and others.

The **elective academic disciplines** total 825 hours (74 credits) and cover specific fields of Fine Arts, complementing the competences of students as future educators.

Students graduate after passing a **State practical-applied teaching exam** and a **State written and oral exam**, or by completing and defending a **thesis**, for which they earn 10 credits.

Optional academic disciplines amount to up to 240 hours and provide additional knowledge in various forms of fine art.

PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING

The educational objectives of the *Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education* program are aimed at providing specialized training and facilitating the professional realization of students as teachers across all levels of general secondary schools, specialized schools, and art-focused classes. Students from all regions of the country, as well as from neighboring countries, are trained in this program.

The goal of the Bachelor's program is to prepare professionals with adequate qualifications and opportunities to successfully work as teachers of fine arts and in other areas related to the arts, including freelance artistic practice.

Theoretical-methodological and practical training equips future teachers of fine arts with the ability to develop teaching documentation aligned with the State Educational Standards, and in compliance with the rules and requirements of the respective schools. The fine arts teacher acquires the necessary practical skills, which are crucial in their teaching profession.

ACQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

Knowledge

Graduates acquire general and specific theoretical knowledge and skills through the study of fundamental, profiling, and knowledge-expanding academic disciplines.

Skills

They possess practical skills and competencies relevant to the current state and challenges of fine arts education in general schools from grades I–XII; apply appropriate teaching methods for fine arts in class-based, extracurricular, school and out-of-school formats; and are capable of independently conducting the teaching process. They foster positive attitudes in students toward artistic activities, which supports the development of a lasting aesthetic culture necessary for personal development.

Competencies

Autonomy and Responsibility:

1. Graduates are aware of the opportunities and risks and demonstrate critical thinking when independently applying learned methodologies.
2. They conduct independent research and professional creative activity, as well as effective teamwork.

Learning Competence:

1. They use various methods to expand and update their professional qualifications.
2. They exhibit adaptability in accordance with the dynamic changes in their professional field.

Communication and Social Competence:

1. They manage the activities of work groups/teams—an essential skill for their future profession as teachers.
2. They publicly present different types of information.

Professional Competence:

1. They can collect, classify, evaluate, and interpret data in the field to solve specific tasks.
2. They apply their acquired knowledge and skills in new or unfamiliar contexts.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS OF THE PEDAGOGY OF FINE ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

In accordance with Article 4 of the Ordinance on the State Requirements for Acquiring Higher Education for Bachelor's, Master's, and Specialist Degrees (State Gazette No. 76 of 06.08.2002), the training in this specialty provides:

1. **General scientific, pedagogical, and artistic preparation**, which includes the study of the conceptual framework, methodology, and principles of the disciplines Pedagogy, Psychology, Aesthetics, Theory of Fine Arts, and History of Art. This also includes essential modern teacher training in Informatics, Foreign Languages, etc.
2. **General training in theoretical and practical art disciplines** such as Plastic Anatomy, Perspective, Color Theory, and Computer Graphics, which relate to the depiction of the human body and its features in spatial environments.
3. **Special theoretical-methodological training** involving mastery of the conceptual framework, methodology, and principles of Methodology of Fine Arts Education, Classroom Observation, Educational Psychology, and others.
4. **Artistic and practical training**, which includes mastery of the methodological skills required to teach core theoretical disciplines and the practical skills necessary for conducting basic artistic activities in art education.
5. **Specialized methodological-practical training**, provided not only through the core mandatory disciplines related to methodology, pedagogy, and practical teaching, but also through the elective subjects offered. These serve to enhance and expand students' knowledge and abilities.

EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY OF ACQUIRED COMPETENCIES

The content of the curriculum, the organization of the study process, the implemented credit system, and the quality assurance system in education enable future teachers to be competitive on the professional labor market within the country, to successfully work, and to continue their education in the field both domestically and abroad.

AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL REALIZATION

Graduates of the *Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education* program receive:

- **General scientific and pedagogical training**, which includes studying the conceptual framework, methodology, and principles of disciplines such as pedagogy (theory of education and didactics), the competence-based approach, educational innovation, and psychology. This also includes subjects that enhance competences specific to the

professional qualification, as well as the training necessary for every modern teacher in the use of information and communication technologies in education.

- **Specialized theoretical and practical training**, provided through both the core course in the methodology of fine arts education (across the different stages of general education) and through elective courses.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES

Graduates of the *Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education* Bachelor's program obtain specialized training that qualifies them to work according to the **List of Positions in the National Classification of Occupations and Positions (2011)** under the following codes:

- **2355 5001** — Instructor in Fine Arts for extracurricular and out-of-school activities
- **2355 5002** — Head of Fine Arts at educational support units in the public education system
- **2355 5003** — Junior Teacher of Fine Arts at educational support units in the public education system
- **2355 5004** — Teacher of Fine Arts at educational support units in the public education system
- **2355 5005** — Senior Teacher of Fine Arts at educational support units in the public education system
- **2355 7006** — Chief Teacher of Fine Arts at educational support units in the public education system

Graduates holding a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts Education may:

- Specialize through various forms of **postgraduate qualification and continuing education**;
- **Pursue a Master's degree** in the same or related field.

The **qualification profile** of the *Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education* program for the **Bachelor's degree** with professional qualification "**Teacher of Fine Arts**" is the fundamental document that governs the development of the curriculum and course syllabi. It is aligned with the **Higher Education Act**, **national standards for the specialty**, and the **regulations of South-West University "Neofit Rilski"**.

Departmental Coordinator for the Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education Program:

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CURRICULUM
“PEDAGOGY OF VISUAL ARTS EDUCATION” – Bachelor's Degree

First Year			
Semester 1	ECTS credits	Semester 2	ECTS credits
History of World Art – 1	3	History of World Art– 2	2
Drawing – 1	5	Drawing – 2	5
Painting – 1	5	Painting – 2	5
Graphics – 1	5	Graphics – 2	5
Sculpture – 1	5	Sculpture – 2	5
		Pedagogy	5
Elective courses (<i>choose 2 out of 3</i>)		Elective courses (<i>choose 3 out of 5</i>)	
Plastic Anatomy	3,5	Color Theory	1
Perspective	3,5	Art Theory	1
Small Sculpture	3,5	Fundamentals of Fashion Design	1
		Informatics	1
		Evening Nude Drawing	1
	Total 30		Total 30
Second Year			
Semester 3	ECTS credits	Semester 4	ECTS credits
History of Bulgarian Art – 1	2	History of Bulgarian Art – 2	2,5
Psychology	5	Drawing – 4	5
Drawing – 3	5	Painting – 4	5
Painting – 3	5	Graphics – 4	5
Graphics – 3	5	Sculpture – 4	5
Sculpture – 3	5	Summer Internship – 1	2,5
Elective courses (<i>choose 2 out of 4</i>)		Elective courses (<i>choose 2 out of 74</i>)	
Art Analysis and Interpretation	2	Cooperation with Families	3
Computer Graphics	1	Pedagogical Interaction in Multicultural Environment	3
Disaster Response and First Aid	1	Civic Education	3
Foreign Language – 1	2	Inclusive Education for Students with SEN	3
		Bulgarian Folk Art	2
		Computer Technologies in Fine Arts	2
		Foreign Language – 2	2
	Total 30		Total 30
Third Year			
Semester 5	ECTS credits	Semester 6	ECTS credits

Methodology of Fine Arts Education – 1 20th Century Art Classroom Observation (Hospitation) Physical Education – 1	3,5 3 3 0	Methodology of Fine Arts Education – 2 Ongoing Pedagogical Practice – 1 Competence-based Approach and Innovations in Education Summer Internship – 2 Physical Education – 2	4 3 4 0
Elective courses (<i>choose 6 out of 12</i>)		Elective courses (<i>choose 4 out of 11</i>)	
Painting – 5 Graphics – 5 Sculpture - 5 Drawing – 5 Creative Drawing – 1 Decorative Arts – 1 Graphic Design – 1 Aesthetics Book Design: Text, Illustration, Layout Visual Materials and Children's Creativity Written and Spoken Communication Educational Psychology Psychology of Art Foreign Language – 3	5 5 5 5 5 3 3 1,5 1,5 3 3 3 3 3	Painting – 6 Graphics – 6 Sculpture - 6 Drawing – 6 Creative Drawing – 2 Communication Skills in Educational Settings Relationship Management in Education Leadership in Education Educational Institution Management Decorative Arts – 2 Graphic Design – 2 Ancient Civilizations Foreign Language – 4	5 5 5 5 5 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
	Total 30		Total 30
Fourth Year			
Semester 7	ECTS credits	Semester 8	ECTS credits
Inclusive Education – 2 ICT in Education and Digital Environments	4 4 4	State Exam or Diploma Thesis Defense	20 10
			Total 30
Elective courses (<i>choose 4 out of 9</i>)		Optional (Facultative) Courses	

Painting – 7	6	Introduction to Art Studies	2
Graphics – 7	6	Play-Based Approaches and Children's	1
Sculpture – 7	6	Art Applied Icon Painting	1
Drawing – 7	6	Decorative Techniques for	
Creative Drawing – 3	6	Extracurricular Education	1
Methodology of Teaching Painting in		Intellectual Property	2
Specialized Schools	3		
Extracurricular Fine Arts Program Design	3		
Identifying and Nurturing Gifted	3		
Children	3		
Composition			
Stylization in Creative Fine Arts	3		
Processes			
Graphic Design – 3	3		
	Total 30		Total 30

TOTAL FOR 4 YEARS OF STUDY: 240 ECTS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HISTORY OF WORLD VISUAL ARTS – 1 and 2

ECTS credits: 3.0 (1st semester), 2.0 (2nd semester)

Assessment method: continuous assessment and exam

Weekly hours: 2 lecture hours

Course type: lecture

Course status: compulsory

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Department: Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Course description:

This lecture course covers the history of art from the Late Paleolithic period until the end of the 19th century. Each period is presented with its main historical data, characteristic works, and the relationships between art and society. Lectures are supported by videos, CDs, and reproductions.

Course objectives:

- Knowledge of the genesis and general periodization of universal art
- Knowledge of thematic circles and subjects, specific expressive means, and the relationship between art and reality, art and society in each period
- Understanding of historical conditions for the emergence, development, and decline of styles; cultural models of each epoch
- Knowledge of stylistic development of art in various periods
- Knowledge of key artworks characterizing specific periods

Course content:

Art of the Late Paleolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Eneolithic, and Bronze Age; Egyptian art; Aegean, Greek, and Roman art; Medieval art; Renaissance; European art of the 16th–19th centuries; major styles such as Baroque, Classicism, Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism.

Assessment:

Two written tests during the semester.

DRAWING – 1, 2, 3, 4

ECTS credits: 5.0 (1st semester), 5.0 (2nd), 5.0 (3rd), 6.0 (4th)

Assessment method: continuous assessment and exam (varying by semester)

Weekly hours: 4 practical hours

Course type: practical

Course status: compulsory

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Department: Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Arts

Lecturers: Prof. Dr. Ralitsa Ignatova,
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna Pokrovnishka,
Asst. Rumen Deshev

Annotation:

The course "Drawing" includes a system of practical tasks derived from the principles of artistic form, laws of perspective, plastic anatomy, and the technical-technological aesthetics of visual media. In this sense, it is traditional and scientifically grounded in visual arts. At the same time, it is democratic, as it provides exercises with free content and introduces the challenges of artistic drawing.

Course Content:

There is a sequential modification and complication of tasks throughout the learning process, enabling students to practically master the laws and expressive means for constructing a drawing. Connections are established with other theoretical and practical disciplines (painting, modeling, etc.). The significance of individual elements in composition and their contribution to its completeness are defined and analyzed. The goal is to achieve individual technical and aesthetic results during the learning process.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

Students complete tasks based on arranged setups and specific artistic-aesthetic and technical-technological requirements. At the end of the first semester, students receive a current assessment, while at the end of the second semester, the final grade consists of the ongoing assessment and a semester written exam.

PAINTING – 1, 2, 3, 4

ECTS Credits: 5.0, 5.0, 5.0, 5.0

Semester: I, II, III, IV

Assessment Form: current assessment; exam; current assessment; exam

Weekly Hours: 4 hours

Course Type: practical

Course Status: compulsory

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Ralitsa Ignatova

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Diana Zaharieva

Annotation:

The course "Painting" provides a structured knowledge base on painting theory and the necessary visual literacy to successfully create painted studies and independent painting works.

Course Content:

This course offers knowledge regarding painting technology, composition, drawing, chiaroscuro, and color volumetric-spatial construction of nature with painting-specific expressive means. It covers knowledge of proportions and plasticity of the head, the nude and clothed human body, and the construction of space using the laws of linear and aerial perspective.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

The course is delivered through practical exercises, primarily individual assignments. Students master various artistic techniques and the technology of creating a painted work. Teaching methods include discussion, conversation, demonstration (reproductions of artworks, student studies from the collection, etc.), interpretation, assessment, demonstrations, and corrections during practical exercises.

Assessment and Ongoing Control:

At the end of the first and third semesters, students receive current assessments, while at the end of the second and fourth semesters, they complete practical exams. Grades also consider ongoing evaluations of activities such as self-portrait drawing and landscape sketching.

GRAPHICS – 1, 2, 3, 4

ECTS credits: 5.0, 5.0, 5.0, 5.0

Semester: I, II, III, and IV

Assessment format: Continuous assessment; exam; continuous assessment; exam

Weekly hours: 4 academic hours

Course type: Practical

Course status: Mandatory
Major: Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Mechanical Engineering, Department of Fine Arts
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev
Assistant Yordan Yordanov

Annotation:

The course "Graphics" is intended for all first- and second-year students in the Department of Fine Arts. The practical course is part of the application of theoretical and practical knowledge of various expressive means and graphic techniques.

Course content:

The course covers the origin, essence, history, and development of drawing and graphic techniques, principles of creating graphic artwork, expressive means and types of graphic techniques, graphic technologies, materials and tools for work and their practical use. It includes interdisciplinary links with courses such as Art History, Aesthetics, Drawing, Plastic Anatomy, Chemistry, Information Technology, etc., with the aim of forming an integrated understanding of the historical and contemporary development of visual arts. These skills are essential for the students' future roles as teachers of fine arts.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

Practical exercises follow specific artistic, aesthetic, and technical-technological requirements.

SCULPTURE – 1, 2, 3, 4

ECTS credits: 5.0, 5.0, 5.0, 5.0

Semester: I, II, III, and IV

Assessment format: Continuous assessment; exam; continuous assessment; exam

Weekly hours: 4 academic hours

Course type: Practical

Course status: Mandatory

Major: Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education

Methodological guidance:

Department of Fine Arts
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna Pokrovnishka
Senior Assistant Georgi Pahov

Annotation:

The "Sculpture" course focuses on exploring spatial problems related to the plastic language of the visual arts. It is one of the core disciplines in the curriculum, forming the general sculptural preparation of future fine arts teachers.

Course objectives:

To provide students with rich knowledge of plastic culture. Instruction is divided into two main areas: plastic interpretation of the human body and the construction of sculptural composition. Students study anatomical and plastic construction of the human figure, compositional principles in sculpture, and positioning sculpture in space to develop a strong sense of plastic expression.

Course content:

Includes technological knowledge for working with materials and tools, compositional and volumetric-spatial construction from life, and specific expressive means in sculpture. Students create works such as:

- Replication of ornamental plant elements
- Classical head details
- Human figure (dressed and nude)
- Group compositions

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

In-class activities: Practical assignments including individual tasks; use of visual aids such as reproductions and student studies; interpretation from life models; assessment and ongoing feedback. Demonstrations and corrections are part of the practical exercises. Visual materials include video, computer resources, and library albums.

Out-of-class activities: Students complete individual or team assignments that reinforce core and additional knowledge and skills, contributing to credit accumulation.

PEDAGOGY

ECTS credits: 5.0

Semester: II

Assessment format: Exam

Weekly hours: 3 lectures + 1 seminar

Course type: Lectures and seminars

Course status: Mandatory

Major: Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Snejana Popova,

Annotation:

The discipline “*Pedagogy*” is part of the academic curriculum and consists of 15 summarized topics. Forms of assessment include ongoing evaluation and a final exam. This lecture course is designed in accordance with the qualification profile of the program “*Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education*” and complies with the national educational standard for acquiring teaching qualifications.

The course aims to develop and enrich students’ theoretical thinking, as well as their ability to analyze the inherent relationships between tradition and innovation in the educational and instructional spheres, and to navigate the evolving pedagogical landscape. Students will be introduced to a range of current theoretical concepts and frameworks related to education and upbringing both in Bulgaria and globally.

In light of the profound and radical socio-economic, cultural, ideological, demographic, environmental, and other transformations in society, there is a need—based on new methodological approaches—to rethink contemporary educational issues. The same applies to didactics. Through a scientific approach to these issues, students will gain a deep understanding of the essence, regularities, and technologies of education. It is important to improve their ability to thoroughly analyze practical situations and to find purposeful and well-reasoned solutions in their creative teaching practice. This will facilitate their future professional adaptation.

Each lecture includes three core components:

1. **Problem-oriented block**
2. **Informational block**
3. **Curiosity-enrichment block**

Additional optional blocks may include:

- **Corrective block**
- **Self-assessment block**

These aim to systematize the students' accumulated pedagogical experience and build each new piece of knowledge upon well-established foundations.

Course Content:

This academic discipline aims to provide undergraduate students in “*Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education*” with a conceptual understanding of the nature and regularities of the modern system of education and upbringing, both within educational institutions and beyond. It equips them with the knowledge and skills necessary to organize a high-quality and effective teaching-learning process that ensures cognitive development and the enhancement of students' personal growth. It also supports the development of future art teachers' professional competencies and pedagogical thinking.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

In-class activities:

- Lectures combined with discussion
- Demonstrations and observations
- Debates on specific issues
- Group work on problem-solving and case analysis
- Design of educational tools and tests
- Work on educational projects
- Lesson planning and extracurricular activity design (e.g., interest-based clubs)
- Presentations, etc.

Out-of-class activities:

- Analysis of specialized academic literature
- Compilation of bibliographies for theoretical research
- Solving instructor-provided case studies
- Writing essays, reports, and research papers
- Individual and group project work
- Participation in academic forums

The final grade is based on results from both ongoing assessment and the final exam.

ECTS credits: 2.0, 2.5 Semester: III, IV semester

Form of knowledge assessment:

continuous assessment and exam Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Type of course: lecture-based Status of the discipline: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Sociology

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zhanna Pencheva

Annotation: The course “History of Bulgarian Visual Arts” introduces the major stages of cultural development on Bulgarian territory and builds upon the course in General History of World Visual Arts. Since the general art history course, delivered during the first and second semesters, ends with Post-Impressionism, and the course on 20th Century Art is taught in the fifth semester, the course on the history of Bulgarian visual arts is limited to the mid-20th century (Second World War), so as not to introduce students to European movements and trends that are the subject of the upcoming course.

Teaching methods: historiographical texts, analysis of artistic facts, comparative analysis, interpretation of selected works within historical and stylistic context.

The aim is to enable students to acquire knowledge of the major historical stages in the cultural development of the Bulgarian lands, which can be applied in various forms of work in museum environments, for didactic or creative purposes, in consulting different activities, etc.

Teaching and assessment technology: The course is taught through lectures and seminar exercises. At the end of the III semester, students receive a continuous assessment grade, and at the end of the IV semester, they sit a written exam. Independent work is a priority in the learning process. Knowledge, skills, and competence are assessed during seminar sessions, through continuous control, and the results of assigned tasks and tests are of great importance.

Out-of-class activities (independent work): reading of the core literature, viewing reproductions, and individual visits to museums, art galleries, and studios.

PSYCHOLOGY

ECTS credits: 5.0 Semester: III semester

Form of knowledge assessment:

exam Weekly workload: 3 lectures + 1 seminar

Type of course: lectures and seminars Status of the discipline: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Psychology,

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bilyana Yordanova

Annotation: The course “Psychology” includes methodological issues of psychology and specific problems of two of its branches – pedagogical and developmental psychology. This combination is necessary due to the great importance of these branches for the professional competence of educators. It is assumed that the problems of developmental and pedagogical psychology are closely interconnected, which is why it is appropriate for them to be organically linked in each lecture. The focus is on pedagogical psychology in order to introduce students to the important activity of acquiring knowledge, skills, and experience, and transforming them into characteristics of the psyche and personality.

Content of the discipline: The Psychology course in full-time study includes 60 academic hours annually (45 hours lectures + 15 hours seminars) and is studied in one semester – the third semester. The course develops students’ interest and forms skills to apply a research approach to the educational process. By solving, processing, and analyzing personality, anxiety, and character self-assessment tests, students study themselves and prepare to understand their pupils and their individual personality traits.

Teaching and assessment technology: The final grade in this discipline is determined at the end of the course based on students’ written responses to exam questions.

SUMMER PRACTICAL TRAINING – 1, 2

ECTS credits: 2.5, 3.0 Semester: IV and VI semester

Form of knowledge assessment:

exam; exam Weekly workload: 2 practical exercises

Type of course: practical Status of the discipline: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Fine Arts

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Lect. Rumen Deshev

Annotation: Through the summer practical training, students have the opportunity to creatively interpret what they have learned in a new environment. They express their individuality and imagination by interpreting the surrounding environment in various ways. The summer practical training, also known as "PLEIN AIR," is a popular and effective form of visual arts education that has proven beneficial in stimulating creativity in students.

Content of the discipline:

During the first part:

- The student should develop a sense for artistic interpretation;

- The student should develop a sense for interesting and diverse use of materials, techniques, and means of expression;
- Exchange of valuable experience between students in a new creative environment.

During the second part:

- The student should develop a sense for artistic interpretation;
- The student should develop a sense for interesting and diverse use of materials, techniques, and means of expression;
- Exchange of valuable experience between students in a new creative environment.

Teaching and assessment technology: Conducted mainly through practical activities, after prior research of the location selected for creative visual activity. Students create a series of artworks in material and type of visual arts. Through this academic discipline, students have the opportunity to test their creative abilities in a new environment.

Independent tasks related to drawing – plein air sketches.

METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING VISUAL ARTS – 1, 2

ECTS credits: 3.5, 4.0 Semester: V and VI semester

Form of knowledge assessment:

Continuous assessment; exam Weekly workload: 3 lectures

Type of course: lecture-based Status of the discipline: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Fine Arts

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Annotation: The course “Methodology of Teaching Visual Arts” focuses on uncovering the main methodological and general theoretical issues related to teaching visual arts in general education schools from grades I to XII. The methodology of teaching visual arts is considered strategic for the preparation of art pedagogy specialists in a university setting. Observations show that a significant portion of graduates in this specialty pursue careers in teaching visual arts in various contexts: general education schools (grades I–XII), specialized secondary schools, private art studios, workshops, hobby courses, etc. This generates special interest in the issues of teaching visual arts across various age groups.

Content of the discipline: The lecture course covers: theoretical foundations of art education; specific characteristics of teaching visual arts; specific requirements for developing methodologies for art instruction.

The course introduces methods and forms of visual arts education applicable in professional art schools, clubs, specialized high school art programs, private schools, and colleges.

Teaching and assessment technology:

1. In-class activities: Conducted through lectures, individual or group assignments. Lecture material is delivered using lectures, discussions, dialogues, visual aids (reproductions of artworks, children's drawings, etc.), evaluation, and continuous control. The last ten minutes of each lecture are reserved for students' questions and discussion.
 2. Out-of-class activities (independent work): Students participate individually or in groups in various forms of activity that, once completed, will contribute to mastering the basic and additional knowledge and skills related to the course and provide the respective academic credit.
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ART OF THE 20th CENTURY

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: V semester

Form of assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: lecture Course status: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Fine Arts

Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Diana Zaharieva

Annotation:

The course “Art of the 20th Century” is included as a compulsory academic discipline in the curriculum of the Bachelor's degree program in Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts. This part of art history completes the sequence of history of art courses. The lecture course builds upon and presupposes knowledge of history as studied in the first four semesters in the Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts and Fashion programs.

Course content:

The aim of the course is to provide students with extensive and in-depth theoretical and factual knowledge in the field of 20th-century art, including the latest concepts and trends in contemporary art. The course presents the main processes in visual arts during the 20th century, covering all art forms—architecture, sculpture, painting, graphics, applied arts, and new synthetic forms. The emphasis is on the general and fundamental shifts in artistic perspectives. Individual key figures are covered relatively briefly.

Teaching and assessment methods:

The course is delivered through theoretical lectures (oral) with visual aids, including video materials, reproduction albums, and monographic publications on individual artists. In addition to lectures, the program includes museum visits, art gallery tours, and studio visits.

At the end of the 5th semester, students complete a written exam. The final grade considers both ongoing assessment and the exam score.

CLASSROOM OBSERVATION (HOSPITATION)

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: V semester

Form of assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 practical classes

Course type: practical Course status: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Fine Arts

Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Assistant Prof. Dr. Boyan Blazhev

Annotation:

This course involves observing and conducting art classes in the lower grades of general education schools. Students learn to master the technology and methodology of lesson planning and execution, processing learning outcomes, and planning individual and thematic lesson units for an entire academic term.

Course content:

Students explore how psychological and pedagogical principles are applied in teaching basic artistic skills and creative thinking to younger students. They also acquire essential technical skills and habits necessary for visual art instruction.

Teaching and assessment methods:

Students observe, assist, and conduct art classes in lower primary school. Activities include group discussions to stimulate debate and conducting mini pedagogical experiments both in and out of the classroom. Final assessment is based on ongoing evaluations and a final exam. All evaluations include both written and visual materials.

SPORTS – 1, 2

ECTS credits: 0 Semester: V and VI semesters

Form of assessment: — Weekly workload: Part I – 2 practical units; Part II – 2 practical units

Course type: practical Course status: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Sports
Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer:

Annotation:

The “Sports” course is intended for students of all majors at South-West University “Neofit Rilski.” Depending on available facilities and teaching staff, students can choose among athletics, outdoor sports, team sports, swimming, football, skiing, volleyball, tennis, basketball, table tennis, therapeutic gymnastics, fitness, and sport specialization.

Course content:

The curriculum focuses on acquiring sport-specific techniques, tactical group and individual skills, rules of competition, and improving physical fitness.

Teaching and assessment methods:

The course consists of practical exercises with a total duration of 30 hours. Regular attendance and active participation in practical sessions are required. No grade is assigned.

ONGOING TEACHING PRACTICE – 1, 2

ECTS credits: 3.0, 4.0 Semester: VI and VII semesters

Form of assessment: exam; exam Weekly workload: 2 practical units; 2 practical units

Course type: practical Course status: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Fine Arts

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assistant Prof. Dr. Boyan Blazhev

Chief Assistant Dr. Svetlin Abadzhiev

Annotation:

Ongoing teaching practice in visual arts plays a key role in preparing future school teachers. It addresses the complexity of the knowledge, skills, and habits students need to acquire, as well as the creative nature of the discipline. The course includes observing, analyzing, and teaching art lessons in middle school, mastering the planning and implementation of lessons, processing results, and evaluating students' artwork.

Course content:

Students explore psychological and pedagogical aspects of creative processes among middle

and upper-grade students, focusing on the development of their artistic abilities, skills, and techniques.

Teaching and assessment methods:

In-class activities: Practical sessions involving observation and analysis of a predetermined topic. Students assess the methodological strengths and weaknesses of the observed teaching practices and participate in structured debates to evaluate various pedagogical theses.

Out-of-class activities: Library work involving research, analysis, and summarization of key sources; theoretical analysis of pedagogical issues; preparation of annotated bibliographies. Assessment includes evaluation of delivered lessons and submitted lesson plans.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

ECTS credits: 4.0 Semester: VII semester

Form of assessment: exam Weekly workload: 1 lecture

Course type: lecture Course status: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance:

Department of Education Management and Special Pedagogy

Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Pelagia Terziyska

Annotation:

The “Inclusive Education” course focuses on inclusive education as a key policy area aimed at significant reforms and rethinking of traditional educational models. It involves creating a school environment based on respect and acceptance of diversity. The course provides a theoretical and content-based analysis of essential terms and concepts.

Course content:

The lecture course discusses challenges to teaching in an inclusive context, factors that foster inclusion, prerequisites for effective inclusive education, dropout prevention, and forms of teacher training.

Teaching and assessment methods:

The course is delivered through lectures. An introductory session introduces students to the syllabus, assessment methods, and credit system.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN TEACHING AND WORKING IN A DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

ECTS credits: 4.0 Semester: VII semester

Form of assessment: exam Weekly workload: 1 lecture + 1 seminar

Course type: lecture and seminar Course status: Compulsory

Major: Pedagogy of Education in Visual Arts

Methodological guidance: Department of Education Management and Special Pedagogy
Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer:

Chief Assistant Dr. Radoslava Topalska

Annotation:

The course is focused on mastering modern tools and technologies applicable in education. It covers characteristics and applications of software packages used in informatics and IT education, with emphasis on multimedia resources and the use of internet technologies for creating supplementary teaching materials.

Course content:

The main goal is to prepare future teachers to apply current ICT tools in the learning process. Topics include: ICT as a means of instructional administration, visualization of learning content, and subject of instruction; use of software in teaching; educational software design; educational computer games and gamification in education.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

Lectures are conducted in a traditional format, with students sequentially introduced to the planned material. The implementation of interactive teaching methods is envisaged, primarily focusing on discussion-based methods—conversation, debate, discussion—and situational methods. Lectures are supported with visual aids such as presentations, demonstrations of the applied software, or video materials. Practical tasks are also solved.

INTERNSHIP PRACTICE

ECTS credits: 20.0

Semester: 8th semester

Form of knowledge assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 6 hours practical

Course type: Practical

Course status: Mandatory

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts
Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Assist. Prof. Dr. Svetlin Abadzhiev

Annotation:

The internship pedagogical practice in visual arts, aimed at acquiring the professional qualification "teacher," seeks to involve the student in real professional activity by taking over the functions of the titular mentor teacher.

Course content:

The goal is the independent implementation of the educational process in schools. Organizing and conducting the educational process in visual arts at school; independently selecting technologies and preparing didactic materials for lessons; planning and conducting independent experiments related to the effectiveness of new forms, tools, methods, and approaches for teaching visual arts at school. Developing skills for communication and maintaining optimal student engagement and emotional comfort.

Teaching and assessment methods:

Familiarization with school documentation; knowledge, use, and implementation of all regulations approved by the Ministry of Education and Science; preparation of a thematic plan for lessons during the internship; submission of planned and conducted lessons for review. The student prepares lesson plan variants for different types of lessons (according to the mentor teacher's schedule); creates multimedia lesson projects applying principles of multiperspectivity (summary lessons and practice lessons); prepares tests for assessment and evaluation of students' knowledge (as judged by the mentor teacher). These activities form the basis for the grade in Internship Practice in Visual Arts. Only students who have passed exams in Methodology of Visual Arts Teaching, Hospitation, and Current Pedagogical Practice in Visual Arts Parts 1 and 2 are admitted to the internship.

PLASTIC ANATOMY

ECTS credits: 3.5

Semester: 1st semester

Form of knowledge assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 3 hours lecture

Course type: Lecture

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance:

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dimo Krastev, MD

Annotation:

Plastic anatomy is a specialized theoretical discipline that examines the structural organization of the human body in terms of morphological, static, and dynamic characteristics. Its great importance makes plastic anatomy a fundamental science in various art fields. It forms the basis of academic training in pedagogy of visual arts.

Course content:

Students learn knowledge in four modules:

- Introduction to anatomy
- Anatomy of the head
- Anatomy of the torso and limbs
- Proportions, anthropometry, and somatotyping

The introduction covers anatomical terminology and related disciplines dealing with cells, tissues, bones, and muscles. The head anatomy module presents all anatomical levels of the human head and its external forms—facial expression and physiognomy. The torso and limbs module includes bones, joints, and muscles of the spine, chest, abdomen, back, upper limb with shoulder girdle, lower limb, and pelvic girdle, along with their external shapes. The last module covers principles and types of human body proportions (from antiquity to today), basic anthropometric measurements and indexes, and the relationship between somatotyping and temperament.

Teaching and assessment methods:

The lecture course is conducted via multimedia presentations, blackboard drawing, discussion of sketches and drawings, observations, and analysis of many reproductions of artworks, observation of anatomical models in a specialized Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory. The lab is equipped with a computer class, anatomical models, and posters. Out-of-class activities include independent student preparation using the Blackboard system, internet resources in the physiology lab, textbooks, and other materials.

PERSPECTIVE

ECTS credits: 3.5

Semester: 1st semester

Form of knowledge assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 3 hours lecture

Course type: Lecture

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance:
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Technical Faculty

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Annotation:

The proposed brief lecture course on perspective covers the essential foundational knowledge of descriptive, projective, and perspective geometry necessary for students to solve future professional problems related to space, form, and light. It is tailored to the specifics of the specialty. Theoretical content includes minimal practical exercises, which are indispensable for mastering the complex issues of perspective.

Perspective, as a theoretical discipline, is an integral part of the special (private) theory of the arts and is closely methodologically linked to drawing, painting, sculpture, composition, and art history classes.

Course content:

Introduction to artistic perspective. History and theory. The essence of perspective as a theoretical foundation for the plastic arts. Main problems in perspective theory. Development of spatial concepts and the genesis of perspective problems in art history.

Subjective and objective geometry of space. Projection—classification and laws. Orthogonal projection, trigonal (3D) system—epure. Objects in the trigonal system—point, line, plane, parallelepiped. Movements in the system—rotation, translation. Auxiliary projection planes. Morphology. Sections and cuts—basic combinatorial positions. Mutual penetration of edged bodies. Surfaces in the 3D system. Conic sections. Rotational bodies—mutual penetration. Reading orthogonal images. Stages of projection—ground plan, facades, side views, cuts.

Teaching and assessment methods:

Training includes lectures and practical exercises in perspective, involving constructive drawing tasks from everyday visual practice. Mainly elements and segments from architectural compositions such as interiors, exteriors, terrains, buildings, vaults, arches, churches, etc., are developed. Modern audiovisual tools are used for illustration, including video equipment with films and reproductions of artworks.

SMALL SCULPTURE

ECTS credits: 3.5

Semester: 1st semester

Form of knowledge assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 3 practical hours

Course type: Practical
Course status: Elective
Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education
Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna Pokrovnishka
Assist. Prof. Georgi Pahov

Annotation:

The Small Sculpture course focuses on spatial problems related to the plastic language of visual arts. It is an elective course in the Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education program.

It covers technology in working with materials, knowledge of compositional and volume-spatial construction, and specific expressive means used in sculpture. It teaches plastic representation of small sculpture and construction of sculptural space, supported by knowledge of volume and form. The course aims to enrich the future teacher's plastic culture.

Course content:

Students study plastic and anatomical construction of the human body, compositional building in sculpture, and placement of sculpture in space to develop good plastic culture.

Teaching and assessment methods:

1. In-class: Practical exercises and individual tasks. Visualization methods include reproductions of artworks, student sketches from the collection, nature interpretation, assessment, and ongoing control. Demonstrations and corrections during practical exercises. Visual aids include video, internet, and library albums.
2. Out-of-class: Students independently complete tasks that help master core and additional knowledge and skills. Final grade is based on ongoing assessment and exam results.

COLOR THEORY

ECTS credits: 1.0
Semester: 2nd semester
Form of knowledge assessment: Exam
Weekly workload: 1 hour lecture
Course type: Lecture
Course status: Elective
Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Abstract:

The course "Color Science" is included as an elective subject in the curriculum of the specialty "Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education" – Bachelor's degree. The lectures aim for students to acquire fundamental theoretical knowledge about the nature of color and its application in the process of artistic visual activity. Students should develop knowledge on the application of colors in visual arts, acquire understanding of harmonization and systematic construction of colors within a specific composition with abstract-decorative, applied-utilitarian, or fine art character.

Course Content:

Students master the general theoretical foundations of color science – the origin and essence of color, basic characteristics, methods of obtaining and identifying colors; fundamental rules for creating various color combinations; the possibilities of color as an aesthetic and artistic-expressive means are revealed.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

Classroom workload: The color science course consists only of lecture material. Therefore, good visualization and demonstration of some methods for identifying, grouping, and producing colors are necessary. The training is supported by appropriate visual aids such as reproductions and sample solutions for study tasks.

Extracurricular workload: This activity is an important supplementary element of students' knowledge. They independently develop practical tasks based on given conditions. They research and analyze literature and artworks from applied and visual arts and their color solutions.

THEORY OF ART

ECTS credits: 1.0

Semester: 2nd semester

Assessment form: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture

Course type: lecture

Course status: elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts;
Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Abstract:

The lecture course aims to provide knowledge about the fundamental theoretical principles in creating an artwork and its perception. Art theory is considered as the theory of the plastic image with its inherent structure and elements.

Course Content:

Possible approaches to art theory. Aesthetics and art theory. Art theory as a theory of the general artistic process and as a theory of the image. Structure of the plastic image. Material embodiment. Figuration. Constructedness. Spatiality. Semantics. Communicativeness.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

Lectures include analysis and interpretation of reproduced artworks favorable for theoretical analysis, summarizing, and interpretation, as well as acquaintance with texts of artist-theorists.

FUNDAMENTALS OF FASHION DESIGN

ECTS credits: 1.0

Semester: 2nd semester

Assessment form: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture

Course type: lecture

Course status: elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts;

Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tatyana Hristova-Popovska

Abstract:

This course introduces students to the essence and function of the artist-designer in the fashion industry. By mastering some specific creative methods and approaches to artistic design, students are expected to gain knowledge and skills to independently solve creative tasks in the field of fashion. Students acquire knowledge about the artistic design of clothing according to assortment (target) groups, age, gender, season, functional purpose of clothes, and accessories. They gain knowledge about fashion style and trends.

Course Content:

Students should acquire skills for creative interpretation and application of theoretical

knowledge in independent work on artistic design and construction of clothing and accessories.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

Classroom workload: The course is delivered through lectures. The foundations of the theory of form-creation in fashion design of clothing are laid, and some problems in this field are revealed with differentiation, specificity, and features according to the assortment groups.

The educational process uses audiovisual aids, albums, magazines, creative works of famous designers, and the teacher's original solutions.

Extracurricular workload: Students attend exhibitions and fashion shows, use information from fashion magazines and audiovisual aids, prepare independent projects, and create models for participation in fashion shows.

At the end of the 2nd semester, students take a theoretical exam. It is conducted by drawing an exam ticket with a question based on the pre-assigned syllabus. The final grade considers the results of ongoing assessments and the exam grade.

INFORMATICS

ECTS credits: 1.0

Semester: 2nd semester

Assessment form: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture

Course type: lecture

Course status: elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Informatics;

Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Irena Atanasova

Abstract:

The course is a brief introduction to the main areas of computer science. Its goal is for students to familiarize themselves with the basic functions of different types of operating systems; various communication technologies through computers; principles of computer graphics, word processing; spreadsheets; and different application products useful in their professional realization.

Extracurricular workload includes working with computers and on the internet. The ratio between classroom and extracurricular workload is 1:1.

Course Content:

Operating systems. Working with files in Windows, Paint, etc. Data and object exchange

between applications; Word for Windows word processing; Excel spreadsheets; Introduction to the Internet; Working with email.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

The course consists of lectures and independent extracurricular work:

Classroom workload: lectures on the main topics

Extracurricular workload: independent work with key programs; independent word processing; independent creation of spreadsheets; working on the internet.

Final grade is based on ongoing assessment during the semester and the exam grade.

EVENING ACT

ECTS credits: 1.0

Semester: 2nd semester

Assessment form: exam

Weekly workload: 1 practical hour

Course type: practical

Course status: elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts;

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Instructor Rumen Deshev

Assistant Ilia Filipov

Abstract:

The training in Evening Act aims for students to acquire skills for making quick sketches of the human figure in motion and at rest, necessary for their future practice as artists. Through this course, students get acquainted with perspective drawing and methods for using various materials and drawing techniques.

Course Content:

To develop students' sense for sketch drawing through experimentation and mixing different drawing materials on various formats and bases.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

Assessment is carried out through practical exercises. This course is closely related and complementary to drawing training. Through this educational-practical course, students can independently solve creative problems related not only to drawing but also to other academic subjects.

DESCRIPTION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF ARTWORKS

ECTS credits: 2.0

Semester: 3rd semester

Assessment form: exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: lecture

Course status: elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts;
Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Abstract:

The course covers the fundamental principles for examining and interpreting works of visual art. Specific features of different types of arts and their works, suitable approaches for their understanding and verbal presentation, are among the main requirements. Types of scientific analysis of artworks are briefly discussed, emphasizing changes in approach in different schools and philosophical-aesthetic orientations in art studies.

Course Content:

Students should enrich and consolidate their language and skills in describing and explaining artworks. They must be able to use specialized terminology and uncover layers of meaning in diverse works from different epochs.

Teaching and Assessment Methodology:

The course is delivered with theoretical lectures (verbal) supplemented by slides, videos, albums with reproductions, and monographic publications of specific artists (or notable monuments by anonymous authors from earlier centuries). Besides lectures, museum and art gallery visits are planned.

Extracurricular work (independent): reading main literature, viewing reproductions, and individual visits to museums, galleries, and studios.

COMPUTER GRAPHICS

ECTS credits: 1.0

Semester: 3rd semester

Assessment form: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture

Course type: lecture
Course status: elective
Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education
Methodological guidance: Department of Mechanical Engineering;
Technical Faculty

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Annotation:

The course is an introduction to computer graphics – a field within computer science aimed at specialists. The goal is for students to familiarize themselves with the main functions of different types of computer graphics software and the principles of computer graphics. Extracurricular activities include computer and internet work. The ratio between classroom and extracurricular workload is 1:1.

Course Content:

Students acquire basic theoretical knowledge about the essence of computer graphics and the application of color theory in the artistic creative process. They learn to work with images of various digital formats.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

The course is delivered through a 15-hour lecture series introducing general concepts of the discipline. Assignments for independent work related to practical tasks are given. If a student does not accumulate enough credits for passing the semester, the lecturer assigns practical tasks to be completed and presented during the retake session along with a theoretical exam based on the lecture content.

DISASTER PROTECTION AND FIRST AID

ECTS Credits: 1.0
Semester: 3rd semester
Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam
Weekly Hours: 1 contact hour
Course Type: Practical
Course Status: Elective
Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education
Methodological Guidance: Department of Mathematics and Physics, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Lecturer:

Asst. Todor Cholakov

Annotation:

The course "Disaster Protection and First Aid" equips students with essential knowledge of first aid in emergencies such as natural disasters, major accidents, and other critical situations. Exercises aim to enhance students' practical skills in providing first aid to victims of various disasters.

Course Content:

Students learn about the characteristics of different types of natural disasters, major accidents, and other critical situations. They study ways and means to provide first aid, including stopping severe bleeding, restoring breathing and cardiac activity outside clinical settings, immobilizing bones in severe fractures, decontaminating food and water in radioactive contamination, and more.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

Traditional teaching methods combined with interactive approaches are used, including group work and practical tasks. Students prepare and defend a report on a researched literature source, compile a bibliography on a course topic, and solve practical exercises independently. Final grades result from continuous assessment and the exam.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE - 1, 2, 3, 4

ECTS Credits: 2.0; 2.0; 3.0; 3.0

Semester: 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th semester

Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam

Weekly Hours: I - 2 contact hours; II - 2 contact hours; III - 2 contact hours; IV - 2 contact hours

Course Type: Practical

Course Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Culturology; Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Senior Asst. Dr. Anastas Ifandiev

Annotation:

The "Foreign Language (English)" course is designed for full-time bachelor's students in the Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education program. The course aims to expand students' English knowledge and help develop skills for understanding and using original English texts related to their specialty.

Through the course, students acquire a basic phonetic, grammatical, lexical, and thematic minimum, as well as skills and habits for participating in real communicative situations and independent dictionary work.

Course Content:

Students should develop basic communicative skills, listening comprehension, reading, speaking, language knowledge, and independent work skills. Using English, students will be able to:

- Communicate via phone, e-mail, and other text messaging programs
- Use printed and electronic dictionaries and machine translation software
- Communicate freely in English with colleagues, clients, etc.
- Fill in and submit work and travel-related documents
- Read and understand texts related to their professional duties

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

The course involves practical exercises across four semesters. The first semester focuses on phonetics, grammar, thematic, and lexical minimums and building basic communication skills. The following three semesters cover main verb tenses and grammar structures, vocabulary expansion, and communicative competence improvement. Audio-visual aids, dictionaries, and other teaching materials are used. Extracurricular work includes preparation on assigned discussion topics, text translation, grammar and vocabulary exercises, and test preparation.

FAMILY INTERACTION

ECTS Credits: 3.0

Semester: 4th semester

Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam

Weekly Hours: 2 lectures

Course Type: Lecture

Course Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Educational Management and Special Pedagogy;
Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Snezhana Popova

Annotation:

The elective course “Family Interaction” holds an important place in the professional training of future educators. It supports the development of professional competence, appropriate attitudes, and personal readiness to handle diverse professional tasks. The primary goal is to assist and stimulate the professional, social, and life competence of students, and build knowledge about the essence, specifics, and current trends in school-family interaction amid rapid globalization.

Course Content:

The course builds professional orientation towards key theoretical and methodological issues, contemporary theoretical frameworks, and their practical dimensions in real life.

Expected Outcomes:

Expansion of pedagogical knowledge, reflection on life and emotional experience, transfer of skills to everyday professional situations, and development of problem-solving abilities.

CIVIC EDUCATION

ECTS Credits: 3.0

Semester: 4th semester

Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam

Weekly Hours: 2 lectures

Course Type: Lecture

Course Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Educational Management and Special Pedagogy;

Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miroslav Terziyski

Annotation:

The course “Civic Education” enables students to acquire knowledge about the essence, principles, approaches, and methods for working with students in civic education. The goal is to develop understanding of education’s connection to citizenship, stimulate critical thinking and active participation, and expand competence for democratic culture. Students learn innovative approaches for building civic awareness and behavior.

Expected Outcomes:

Skills in teaching and stimulating critical thinking, building active civic positions in students, and promoting learning through action oriented towards civic behavior.

AESTHETICS

ECTS Credits: 1.5

Semester: 5th semester

Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam

Weekly Hours: 2 lectures

Course Type: Lecture

Course Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Visual Arts; Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Annotation:

The course “Aesthetics” introduces students to the history and origins of art, its development and forms. It clarifies the diversity of art across cultures and epochs, presenting key artists and movements. The development of art is shown as a continuous expression of the eternal creative striving of humanity from antiquity to today. Students explore aesthetics from Antiquity and the Middle Ages through Japanese aesthetics to modern art, understanding cultural development laws and art genesis.

Course Content:

Aesthetics studies the general theory of art, its aesthetic essence, artistic specifics, morphology, creative process, nature of artworks and perception, functions and aims of art, and artistic-creative processes.

An important goal is to develop students’ criteria and value orientations for independently appreciating and evaluating contemporary aesthetic and artistic phenomena, fostering aesthetic activity and creativity.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

Lectures use modern audiovisual tools. Final assessment includes continuous evaluation and exam results.

BULGARIAN FOLK ART

ECTS Credits: 2.0

Semester: 4th semester

Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam

Weekly Hours: 1 lecture

Course Type: Lecture

Course Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Culturology; Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Vasyl Markov

Annotation:

This course offers a comprehensive overview of Bulgarian folk art, examining its formation from the ethnic traditions of Thracians, Slavs, and Proto-Bulgarians, development during the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Special attention is given to folk aesthetics, cultural influences from East and West, and the symbolism of motifs in Bulgarian folk art, including their origins and evolution over time and space. The relationships between different folk arts and especially between folklore and Bulgarian folk visual art during the Renaissance are emphasized.

Course Content:

Students study the artistic merits and semantic messages of Bulgarian folk art in its diversity – stone carving, wood carving, coppersmithing, goldsmithing, etc.

Teaching and Assessment Methods:

The course combines theoretical lectures (verbal), illustrated with videos, albums, and monographs. Includes:

1. Lectures
2. Discussion led by the instructor
3. Informal student debates on current issues

Extracurricular work involves preparation for tests or control tasks, bibliographic research, literature summaries and reviews, and course papers. Significant time is allocated for semester exam preparation.

THE BOOK – TEXT, ILLUSTRATION, DESIGN

ECTS Credits: 1.5

Semester: 5th semester

Form of Knowledge Assessment: Exam

Weekly Hours: 1 lecture

Course Type: Lecture

Course Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological Guidance: Department of Mechanical Engineering; Technical Faculty

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Annotation:

The course offers fundamental knowledge about the history of the book, writing systems, and types of book design throughout the centuries. In chronological order, it covers the manuscript book, early printing, and current polygraphic book production. It briefly touches

on types of illustrations and ways of book design by genre. The course also aims to enhance the culture of handling books as a whole.

Course content:

The aim of the course is to improve the culture of handling books; the book as text, the book as illustration, the book as an integrated polygraphic organism. It briefly addresses new forms of computer handling of text and illustrations. The course includes an introduction to the diverse functions of the book – memory, knowledge, pleasure. It covers written signs, types of alphabets, and the art of typography through the ages. Changes in illustration types are traced – miniatures, early printed engravings, lead printing, lithography. Book publishing is briefly reviewed in its contemporary forms – market, pricing, legal norms, authorship, diversity in production. E-books and types of storage – library science.

Teaching method and assessment:

The course "The Book – text, illustration, design" is delivered through theoretical lectures and illustrated with albums of reproductions and monographic editions on individual artists (or notable monuments by anonymous authors for earlier centuries). In addition to lecture-based learning, visits to museums, art galleries, and artists' studios are planned. Independent work includes reading core literature, viewing reproductions, and individual visits to museums, galleries, and studios. Final grading is based on continuous assessment and exam results.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES IN VISUAL ARTS

ECTS credits: 2.0

Semester: IV

Assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture, 1 practice session

Course type: Lectures and practical

Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching

Methodological guidance: Department of Mechanical Engineering; Faculty of Engineering

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Annotation:

The course introduces the general possibilities of using modern technologies in visual arts. Due to the need for more specificity and practical benefits, it includes the study of the Corel Draw program, especially in relation to graphic design problems, as well as applied decorative arts, fashion design, and typography. The course supports the "Graphic Design" discipline and helps to master it fully and deeply.

Course content:

The course includes an introduction to the application of technologies in art, acquaintance with the interface and capabilities of Corel Draw for solving various tasks in different types of design (mainly graphic) and applied decorative arts. Students learn and master key tools in the program, menu and docker features, work with layers and text, creating graphic compositions and projects.

Teaching method and assessment:

Through lectures, demonstrations, and various visualization methods, students learn the theoretical part, and in practical exercises apply their knowledge by completing specific tasks. Visits to exhibitions, advertising studios, and artist workshops are also planned. Independent work includes reading core literature, analyzing projects, and self-directed work on additional projects in the program.

PAINTING – 5th, 6th, 7th semesters

ECTS credits: 5.0, 5.0, 6.0

Semester: V, VI, VII

Form of knowledge assessment: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture, 3 practice sessions

Course type: lecture and practical

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts,
Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Ralitsa Ignatova

Annotation:

The Painting course, offered as an elective for 3rd and 4th-year students, aims to provide deep professional knowledge and skills to students, preparing them for professional realization both as educators and as artists.

Course content:

The lecture course addresses complex problems related to the construction of pictorial space and the painting as a pictorial form. Students are introduced to characteristic examples from art history, past and present.

In the practical exercises, parallel to the lectures, students acquire and develop practical skills related to the expressive means of painting. Methods of using color to construct pictorial forms and solving various practical painting problems are studied. The practical painting

course is connected with other disciplines such as drawing, plastic anatomy, perspective, composition, etc.

Teaching method and assessment:

Classroom activity is conducted through lectures and practical exercises, mostly individual tasks. Teaching methods include lectures, discussions, conversations, visualizations (reproductions of artworks, student sketches from the fund, etc.), interpretation, assessment and ongoing control, demonstrations, and corrections (for practical exercises). Visualization techniques include video (over 200 video films on visual arts). At the end of each session, about ten minutes are allotted for students' questions and discussions arising during the lecture.

Out-of-class work (independent study):

Students independently or in teams engage in activities that contribute to mastering essential and additional knowledge and skills in the course and earn corresponding credits, including:

- Drawing sketches for figurative compositions;
- Drawing the human figure in various color compositional solutions;
- Drawing sketches using different materials and techniques.

GRAPHICS – 5th, 6th, 7th semesters

ECTS credits: 5.0, 5.0, 6.0

Semester: V, VI, VII

Form of knowledge assessment: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture, 3 practice sessions

Course type: lecture and practical

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching

Methodological guidance: Department of Mechanical Engineering;

Technical Faculty, Department of Visual Arts;

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Asst. Yordan Yordanov

Annotation:

The Graphics course is intended for students of the Department of Visual Arts and is elective. It expands the discipline "Graphics" and consists of two parts: The lecture course for students specializing in Graphics covers the main problems, expressive means, concepts, history of graphics, and graphic composition as a type of plastic art. The practical course applies theoretical and practical knowledge of various expressive means and graphic techniques.

Course content:

Origins and essence, history and development of drawing and graphic techniques, principles of creating graphic works, expressive means and types of graphic techniques, graphic technology, materials, and tools and their practical use. Connections are made with other subjects such as Art History, Aesthetics, Drawing, Plastic Anatomy, Chemistry, Information Technologies, etc., to provide a unified view and reveal common laws in the historical and contemporary development of visual arts. The course prepares students with knowledge and skills necessary for their future careers as visual arts educators.

Teaching method and assessment:

Lectures are accompanied by practical exercises with assignments based on specified themes and artistic-aesthetic and technical-technological requirements.

SCULPTURE – 5th, 6th, 7th semesters

ECTS credits: 5.0, 5.0, 6.0

Semester: V, VI, VII

Form of knowledge assessment: exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture, 3 practice sessions

Course type: lecture and practical

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts;

Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna Pokrovnishka

Annotation:

The Sculpture course focuses on spatial problems related to the plastic language of the visual arts. This course is a fundamental part of the curriculum for the specialty “Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching,” defining the overall sculptural preparation of future visual arts teachers.

Course content:

The course provides knowledge about working technologies with materials, compositional and volumetric-spatial construction in working from nature, and specific sculptural expressive means. It includes plastic representation of nature through copying plant ornament, details from classical heads, and the human body (head, clothed figure, nude figure, compositions of figures). Knowledge about building sculptural space is supported by drawing, volume, and form studies.

The goal is to provide a rich plastic culture for future educators. The training focuses on plastic mastering of the human body and building sculptural compositions.

In exercises, students study plastic and anatomical construction of the human body, compositional construction in sculpture, and familiarize themselves with situating sculptures in space to develop good plastic culture.

Teaching method and assessment:

Classroom activity includes practical exercises with individual tasks. Visualization methods include reproductions of artworks and student sketches from the fund.

Out-of-class work involves individual or team tasks to help master basic and additional knowledge and skills.

DRAWING – 5th, 6th, 7th semesters

ECTS credits: 5.0, 5.0, 6.0

Semester: V, VI, VII

Form of knowledge assessment: exam

Weekly workload: 4 practice sessions

Course type: lecture

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts;

Faculty of Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering;

Technical Faculty

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Ralitsa Ignatova

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna Pokrovnishka

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Annotation:

The Drawing discipline is fundamental for the entire educational process. It includes a system of study tasks derived from the principles of perspective laws, artistic form, visual means, and their technical-technological and aesthetic realization. It is a traditional and scientifically grounded discipline based on contemporary visual arts science.

Course content:

The Drawing program is designed to prepare teacher-artists. Its scope and content fully meet the requirements of the curriculum for the specialty “Pedagogy of Visual Arts Teaching.” Through gradually changing and complicating the tasks during training, students master practically the laws and means of constructing drawing. Connections with plastic anatomy,

perspective, and other theoretical and practical disciplines (painting, graphics, sculpture, decorative arts, etc.) are established. Students analyze and identify the elements of composition and their importance for its completeness. The goal is to achieve individual technical and aesthetic results in the educational process.

Teaching method and assessment:

The Drawing discipline is primarily practice-oriented. The theoretical part is illustrated with video films, albums of reproductions, and selected study sketches.

In the exercises, students carry out study setups, while the instructor provides methodological consultations and corrections related to the problems of the plastic construction of still life and the human figure using various drawing techniques and materials.

DECORATIVE ARTS – 1, 2

ECTS credits: 3.0, 3.0

Semester: 5th and 6th

Assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture, 1 practice

Course type: Lectures and practical exercises

Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna Pokrovnishka

Annotation:

The course topics aim to build fundamental knowledge and skills in the field of decorative arts through practical activities. Work with color, line, texture using drawing, collage, printing techniques and methods, and completing tasks to a finished artistic product. Students learn about rhythm, symmetry, harmony; types of ornaments (geometric, floral, animal, mixed) and composition (dynamic, static, open, closed, frieze).

Course content:

Students acquire knowledge about design as part of the artistic creation process; principles, specifics, and applications of decorative arts; stages of creating decorative artworks and their practical application. Practical exercises focus on mastering decorative line, drawing, rhythm, symmetry, techniques, and technologies of decorative arts.

Teaching and assessment method:

In-class activities include lectures and practical exercises with assigned tasks, including individual work. Methods include reproductions of artworks, student works, nature

interpretation, evaluation and continuous control, demonstrations, and corrections during practical work. Visual aids include video, computer, and library albums.

Out-of-class work involves individual or group projects contributing to the acquisition of essential knowledge and skills, awarding corresponding credits.

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 5th

Assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: Lecture

Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Teodor Gergov

Annotation:

The course plays an important role in the overall training of students in pedagogy of art education by revealing essential psychological principles and conditions for personality formation in students. Educational psychology is a boundary discipline between pedagogy and psychology, scientifically illuminating issues of the teaching and educational process in secondary schools.

Course content:

The course develops student interest and skills for conducting research in the educational process. Through solving, processing, and analyzing tests on personality traits, anxiety, and character, students study themselves and prepare to understand their pupils and individual personality differences.

Teaching and assessment method:

Lectures are conducted using graphic, symbolic, and visual materials with interactive discussions, questions, and arguments. Students perform independent work including oral defenses, scheme construction, examples, group discussions, tests, and term papers submitted both in print and electronically.

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 5th

Assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: Lecture

Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rusanka Mancheva

Annotation:

The course aims to clarify basic concepts and theories in social psychology, provide clear understanding of research methods, ethical requirements in social-psychological research, and develop skills in interpersonal communication and social influence.

Course content:

Modules include socialization process and personality theories, social groups, leadership and social influence, communication, aggression, conflicts, and prosocial behavior.

Teaching and assessment method:

Lectures use traditional teaching methods supplemented by slide projector and multimedia. Out-of-class work includes conducting psychological research, tests, and theoretical assignments.

PSYCHOLOGY OF ART

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 5th

Assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: Lecture

Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bilyana Yordanova

Annotation:

The course covers the psychological structure of artistic representation and age-related characteristics of visual artistic activity.

Course content:

A systematic historical overview of psychological concepts and debates on the nature of art, artistic styles, aesthetic categories. Psychological perspectives on art practice are demonstrated with focus on visual arts and individual personality traits.

Teaching and assessment method:

Students acquire knowledge and skills for application in general and applied psychology. Evaluation is through written exams based on course material and independent research skills related to art.

GRAPHIC DESIGN – 1, 2, 3

ECTS credits: 3.0, 3.0, 3.0

Semester: 5th, 6th, 7th

Assessment: Exam

Weekly workload: 1 lecture, 1 practice

Course type: Lectures and practical exercises

Status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Mechanical Engineering, Technical Faculty

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ognyan Georgiev

Annotation:

The course aims to develop skills in designing projects related to overall visual design of products in design fields. Students learn about print design layout, logos, printed graphics, artistic fonts.

Course content:

Introduction to graphic design tasks, design as a fundamental discipline for various production types; development of skills for corporate and advertising graphics; composition and graphic realization; mastery of styles and techniques; understanding the functions of graphic signs; development of skills for creating personal graphic styles.

Teaching and assessment method:

Achieved through lectures and practical exercises with assigned tasks. Practical exercises assess students' ability to select optimal graphic solutions including composition, format, fonts, and colors.

PAINTING AS GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 6th semester

Assessment form: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: Lecture

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Arts

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Annotation:

“Painting as group and individual therapy for children and adults” is an interdisciplinary field where students graduating in Pedagogy of Art Education can find application.

Course content:

The aim of the course is to orient students in the theory, history, and contemporary practices of painting and art therapy. The knowledge gained will enable students, through artistic creation (painting), to understand contemporary art therapy practices (both passive and active) and to apply them with the assistance of a specialist.

Teaching and assessment method:

In-class activities include lectures with individual or team assignments. The methods of instruction include lectures, discussions, conversations, visual aids (reproductions of artworks, children’s drawings, etc.), assessment, and ongoing control. At the end of each lecture, about ten minutes are allotted for student questions and discussion related to the material presented.

Out-of-class activities involve independent work that contributes to acquiring essential and additional knowledge and skills in the subject, earning the corresponding credits.

WRITTEN AND ORAL CULTURE

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 6th semester

Assessment form: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 seminars

Course type: Seminar

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Bulgarian Language, Faculty of Philology

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lachezar Perchikliyski

Annotation:

Goal: To develop students' ability to correctly use the spelling and pronunciation rules of modern standard Bulgarian. To develop the ability to explain the mechanisms behind spelling or pronunciation mistakes (assimilation, dissimilation, dialectal influence, etc.). To cultivate respect for the creative genius of Bulgarians embodied in the Bulgarian language.

Expected results: Students will master spelling and pronunciation rules well enough to pass their semester exam successfully and to apply these rules in their professional practice.

Mastery of norms will help them become competent specialists in Bulgarian educational institutions or any other field requiring correct language usage. Students will earn the course credits accordingly.

Course content:

The program is organized into one module of seminar classes covering core theoretical topics in spelling and pronunciation of modern Bulgarian: establishing unified spelling, rules for full and short definite articles, capitalization, writing compound words, variable letter "Я", use of commas, quotation marks, periods, pronunciation rules, etc.

Teaching and assessment method:

Seminars focus on acquiring theoretical knowledge about Bulgarian orthography and pronunciation. Out-of-class work includes library research, consultations, preparation for seminars and tests, writing assignments and reports, term papers, and fieldwork (material collection and processing).

COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS IN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 6th semester

Assessment form: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: Lecture

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy, Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Gergana Dyankova

Annotation:

The course clarifies and analyzes the communicative competence of the teacher as a primary resource for effective pedagogical interaction. It emphasizes communicative behavior tools

(speech culture, verbal communication, paralinguistic expressiveness) to optimize pedagogical communication in terms of (1) educational relationships as the result and condition for effective teacher-student interaction; (2) mutual understanding, influence, and self-awareness in verbal, nonverbal, and paraverbal communication; and (3) collaboration and interaction with students' parents as active partners in the educational process.

The main goal is to familiarize students with the theoretical foundations, characteristics, and functions of communication and to develop skills for practical application in optimizing the educational environment.

MANAGEMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS IN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

ECTS credits: 3.0

Semester: 6th semester

Assessment form: Exam

Weekly workload: 2 lectures

Course type: Lecture

Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Art Education

Methodological guidance: Department of Social Pedagogy, Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yuliana Kovachka

Annotation:

This course addresses the specific features of interaction between involved subjects in education at various levels. The lecture course studies relationships among educational stakeholders and managing bodies, ways to overcome aggression and violence in schools, and issues concerning ethical norms of behavior.

The course aims to introduce students to the specifics of professional activity of specialists, identify management approaches and methods for working with special target groups. It covers relationships in the educational environment — between teachers and students, teachers and parents, teachers and other pedagogical specialists; students' rights and responsibilities; conflict resolution; and collective and individual management bodies.

Upon completion, students should be able to apply interdisciplinary integrative links within their training, and acquire skills to manage relationships with pedagogical and non-pedagogical specialists and parents.

LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VI semester

Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lec.

Course type: lecture Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of “Educational Management and Special Pedagogy”;
Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miroslav Terziyski

Annotation: This lecture course on the discipline “Leadership in Education” is developed in accordance with the qualification characteristics of the specialty “Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education” and provides an opportunity, in compliance with state requirements, for students to acquire pedagogical qualifications. The aim of the training in this discipline is to enrich the knowledge of bachelor students on issues related to the development of leadership skills. The curriculum clarifies the importance, main advantages, and prerequisites of leadership, as well as the specific functions and roles of the leader in the educational institution. In content terms, it covers fundamental theoretical-methodological and applied knowledge about the essence of leadership, leadership qualities, leadership styles, and main concepts of leadership. Through scientific interpretation of these issues, students will be able to thoroughly master techniques and pedagogical practices related to the development of leadership skills.

MANAGEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VI semester

Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lec.

Course type: lecture Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of “Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy”
Faculty of Pedagogy

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Blaga Djorova

Annotation: The discipline “Management of Educational Institutions” enables students to enhance their professional competence by enriching their administrative and legal literacy. During the training, problems related to the structure, organization, and philosophy of education are presented and discussed; professional activities are carried out in compliance with regulatory requirements and rules for public participation in the institution’s activities; awareness is raised regarding the relationship between the legal framework and the institution’s autonomy (possibilities for independent decisions in selecting and introducing

new elements in the organization and content of the educational process), based on the normative documents of the Republic of Bulgaria, which provides for lawful, responsible, calm, and secure management of the institution. The course enriches students' professional culture and knowledge in management, law, and administration of educational institution activities, guiding them towards the necessity of implementing management processes aligned with legal regulations and requirements. The training systematizes strategies, approaches, principles for management, horizontal and vertical management, functions, competencies, managerial activities of the director, and necessary institutional documents.

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VI semester

Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lec.

Course type: lecture Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of "Cultural Studies";

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Vasyl Markov

Annotation: The aim of the course is to introduce students to the main characteristics, features, and problems related to the development of ancient cultures and arts, to stimulate their creative thinking, and to prepare them for independent work with written, archaeological, and visual art sources, as well as with contemporary scientific literature.

Content: The discipline "Ancient Civilizations" studies the culture and art of Ancient Egypt, Ancient Mesopotamia, Ancient Anatolia, Ancient Thrace, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome. Particular attention is paid to the specific features and achievements of each culture and art, as well as their mutual influences, both temporally and spatially. An attempt is made to outline the directions of movement and the complex process of accumulation of cultural and artistic values that formed the foundation of European civilization.

Teaching and assessment technology:

Classroom workload: Lectures on main topics – 30 hours.

Out-of-class workload: Independent work involves completing assigned tasks such as preparing bibliographies; preparing for tests and quizzes; summarizing and reviewing literature related to studied topics (including reviewing articles, studies, or parts of monographs); writing term papers. The final grade accounts for continuous assessment and exam results.

METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING PAINTING IN SPECIALIZED SCHOOLS

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VII semester
Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lec.
Course type: lecture Course status: Elective
Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education
Methodological guidance: Department of “Visual Arts”;
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Emil Kukov

Annotation: The course “Methodology of Teaching Painting in Specialized Schools” is aimed at revealing the main methodological and general theoretical problems related to teaching painting in classes with extended study of visual arts in general education schools, art high schools, art schools (painting), and higher education institutions training visual arts teachers (painting). This discipline is important for the formation of specialist art pedagogy teachers (painting) in university settings.

Observations show that a significant portion of graduates pursue careers teaching visual arts (painting) in various spheres: general education schools (grades 1–12), specialized secondary schools, private schools, studios, and hobby courses. This creates special interest in problems of painting education across different age groups.

Content: The lecture course covers theoretical foundations of visual arts (painting) education; specific teaching features; specific requirements for developing teaching methodologies for visual arts (painting).

The course acquaints students with methods and forms of education applicable in professional art schools, clubs, specialized classes in high schools teaching visual arts (painting), private schools, and colleges.

Teaching and assessment technology:

Classroom workload: Lectures, individual or team assignments. Methods include lecture, discussion, conversation, illustration (reproductions of artworks, children’s drawings, etc.), evaluation, and ongoing control. About ten minutes at the end of each lecture are allocated for student discussion and questions.

Out-of-class workload: Students engage in independent work that contributes to mastering core and supplementary knowledge and skills in the discipline and earns them the respective credits.

IDENTIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF GIFTED CHILDREN

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VII semester
Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lec.
Course type: lecture Course status: Elective
Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of “Visual Arts”;
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Diana Zaharieva

Annotation: This discipline fits well into the current task of developing a National Strategy for working with gifted students. Including this important topic in the training of future teachers ensures acquisition of knowledge and competencies for identification and development of gifted students already during their university studies.

Content: The aim of the training is for students to understand the importance and essence of the issue of identifying and developing children’s talents and to acquire the necessary competencies for its effective resolution in pedagogical practice. Main tasks are: 1. Building positive motivation among students for discovering and developing gifted children; 2. Forming competencies for characterization, diagnosis, and work technologies with gifted students; 3. Developing practical skills for applying effective methods to identify and nurture talent in pedagogical practice (through group and individual training); 4. Developing divergent thinking and research skills in students to find and apply optimal strategies and technologies for working with gifted children.

Teaching and assessment technology:

Classroom workload includes lectures combined with conversation, demonstration, observation, discussion, debates on specific issues; teamwork for solving problems and tasks, case studies, development of instruments and tests, project work for lesson preparation and presentation.

Out-of-class workload involves document research; literature analysis; solving problem questions and tasks; bibliographic research; case and test development; experimental work in joint publications with lecturers; teamwork in student problem groups.

At semester end, students are evaluated based on continuous assessment and an exam.

COMPOSITION

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VII semester

Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 1 lec. 1 pract.

Course type: lecture and practical Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of “Visual Arts”;
Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Ralitsa Ignatova

Annotation: Composition is the very essence of an artwork. It determines the quality and significance of the painting. Successful and original organization of the composition can even justify a freer approach to some formal tasks and details. From the first to the last brushstroke in a painting – everything is composition. The size of the “brushstroke,” even according to Delacroix, depends on the size of the canvas.

Composition is the precise arrangement of the components of the work to reveal the main idea. Composition resolves issues of space, modeling, color harmony, rhythm and contrast, symmetry and movement, light, and compositional center.

Content: Composition begins with sketches, drawing studies, and the actual execution of the work in the chosen format, grounds, paints, and materials. The ability to compose is based on and developed through continuous drawing from life, memory, and imagination, acquaintance with and in-depth analysis of works by the greatest artists past and present.

Skills in Composition develop and improve through various creative assignments students complete at home as well as in presentations and analysis of their painting sketches for compositions. Composition has fundamental and methodological links to Drawing, Painting, and Graphics exercises, lectures in Art History, Aesthetics, Plastic Anatomy, and Perspective.

Teaching and assessment technology: The teaching is structured through lectures and practical exercises examining principles of organization and the plastic structure of artworks. Characteristic works of famous artists are analyzed using modern audiovisual media—films and richly illustrated books on artists and art schools. In practical exercises, students independently create painting sketches for various figurative compositions. At semester end, students take a written theoretical exam. The final grade considers continuous assessment and exam results.

STYLIZATION IN THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF VISUAL ART

ECTS credits: 3.0 Semester: VII semester

Form of knowledge assessment: exam Weekly workload: 2 lec.

Course type: lecture Course status: Elective

Specialty: Pedagogy of Visual Arts Education

Methodological guidance: Department of “Visual Arts”;

Faculty of Arts

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Diana Zaharieva

Annotation: The aim of the lecture course “Stylization in the Creative Process of Visual Art” is to familiarize students with the concept of style in theoretical and practical aspects, with the history of art styles, with specific stylistic features of different art periods and individual artists. This knowledge aims to develop students’ own creative abilities to create stable stylistic characteristics, as well as for possible future pedagogical work with various age

groups. Understanding the stylistic features of visual art works historically, as well as styles of various types of contemporary visual art, will also enable students to work as specialists in art galleries, museums, antiquities, and art appraisal.

Content: First module: Theoretical problems of style; Second module: Styles in art history (stylistics); Third module: Style in the individual creative development of the contemporary artist.

Teaching and assessment technology:

Classroom workload: Conducted through lectures, with tasks assigned either individually or for group work. Methods of delivering lecture material include lecture, discussion, conversation, visualization (reproductions of artworks, children's drawings, etc.), evaluation, and ongoing assessment. At the end of the allotted lecture time, approximately ten minutes are reserved for students' discussion questions arising during the lecture.

Extracurricular workload: Students participate in independent forms of work, which upon completion will contribute to mastering the basic and additional knowledge and skills of the course and will earn the corresponding credits for the students.