

**SENATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE  
MINOR CURRICULAR CHANGE FORM**

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**PROPOSAL TITLE:** Proposed that Fiber Design be Deleted from the Art Department Art Major Curriculum  
 UNDERGRADUATE       GRADUATE      \_\_\_ CREDIT HOURS

**SPONSOR(S):** Art Department, George Neff, Chair  
**DEPARTMENT:** Art  
**TELEPHONE:** 4021

**CHECK:**

- CHANGES IN APPROVED MINORS, SPECIALIZATIONS, CONCENTRATIONS
- CATALOG DESCRIPTIONS, TITLES, AND/OR PREREQUISITES
- SMALL CHANGES IN COURSE CONTENT OF EXISTING COURSES WHICH DO NOT SUBSTANTIALLY VARY THE CURRICULUM
- CHANGES IN HEGIS NUMBER

**STEP #1 (DEPARTMENT)**

Date Approved: 4/23/97  
 Date **NOT** Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

*Joseph Fisher* 10/6/97  
 Dept. Curriculum Chairperson signature/date  
*George Neff* 10/7/97  
 Dept. Chairperson signature/date

**STEP #2 (COLLEGE)**

Recommend To Approve/date: 1/10/98  
 Recommend **NOT** To Approve/date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

*Joseph May* 1/20/98  
 College Curriculum Chairperson Signature  
 /date

**STEP #3 (ACADEMIC DEAN)**

Recommended   
**NOT** Recommended

*Donald C. Gyliff* 1/23/98  
 Dean of College Signature/date

**STEP #4 (CURRICULUM COMMITTEE)**

SCC# 9798-211A  
*Rec'd 11-7-97*      *05 2/20/98*

**APPROVED:** 2/20/98  
**NOT APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

*A. Reeves* 2/25/98  
 Curriculum Committee Chairperson Signature/date

**STEP #5 EXECUTIVE VP/PROVOST**

Approved   
 NOT Approved

*C. Reeves* 2/26/98  
 Signature /Date

**REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE/DATE:** *E.C. Gyliff* 3/2/98

*TM 3/5/98*

# ROWAN

Art Department  
(609) 256-1020

Fax: (609) 256-1929

October 4, 1997

**TO:** University Senate Curriculum Committee  
**FROM:** Department of Art  
**RE:** Minor Curricular Change

## Details

**Change Requested:** That Fiber Design be deleted from the Art Department art major curriculum.

**Sponsors:** The Art Department, George Neff, Chair

## Rationale

### Need for the change

A key element in the the Rowan Vision is enrollment management. The goal as stated by the University Plan is to increase undergraduate and graduate enrollment by 740 for a total of 10,300 students by 2001. If the Art Department maintains its current percentage of the overall enrollment, we would average about 80 beginning students (freshmen, transfers, minors, and change of majors) each year. Since we are already close to this number (74 in Fall,1996). We cannot look to a large influx of students to justify programs. Our task is to design our curriculum so that it provides quality programs for the number of students we have.

Following the Rowan University Institutional Assessment program, the Art Department is in the process of: 1. Determining how the Art Department mission fits into the mission of the University, 2. Identifying those programs which can best carry out the mission of the Art Department, 3. Determining the "critical mass" for those programs and 4. Putting our resources behind developing the "critical mass" for those programs, if necessary, at the expense of programs which are peripheral to our mission.

One of the measures used to evaluate the strength of all programs is course enrollment patterns. The Art Faculty having established criteria for evaluating the enrollment of studio classes, determined that there was insufficient enrollment to continue major courses in Fiber Design, given that the program is not central to the mission of the Art Department.

Space allocation was another critical element which the Art Faculty considered. Last year the Art Department moved all of its activity to Westby Hall. We wrestled with the problem of designing studio space to accommodate our existing studios with a reduction in floor space. The Department believes that we cannot in good conscience devote the space necessary to house the equipment required to teach Fiber Design for the number of students served by this program.

## Curricular Effect

No students have been enrolled in Fiber Design major courses since the Spring of 1996 and the record indicates that demand has been extremely low for at least ten previous years. Thus, the effect on the art major curriculum will be negligible.

**Art Department Minor Change : Fiber Design (cont.)**

**Parties Consulted**

The Art Department Faculty  
Donald L. Gephardt, Dean, College of Fine and Performing Arts

Process: The decision on Fiber Arts was the product of several phases. 1) An extensive compilation of enrollment patterns in art major courses for the last ten years, 2) Discussion among the studio faculty within the Art Department, 3) An open hearing attended by the Art Faculty and the Dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts and 4) Formal action at a regular Art Department faculty meeting.

**Results of Consultation**

The Art Department Faculty

Motion (Daniel Chard / Second - John Gallinelli): *That Fiber Design be deleted from the Art Department art major curriculum.*

Discussion: Mr. Travis questioned whether any fiber design courses would be offered. Dr. Neff said that any fiber design courses to be offered other than under the Workshop in Art title would be processed as new courses. No further discussion ensued. Vote: In Favor - 9, Opposed - 3 (1 in absentia), Abstentions - 0 (Minutes of the Art Faculty meeting, April 23, 1997)

Note: While there was limited discussion at the above meeting, the Art Faculty engaged in extensive debate at the meeting of the studio faculty and the departmental open hearing.

Donald L. Gephardt, Dean, College of Fine and Performing Arts  
(See attached memo)



*College of Fine & Performing Arts*

November 1, 1997

Dr. George Neff, Chair  
Department of Art  
Rowan University  
201 Mullica Hill Road  
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Dear Dr. Neff,

I write in support of your proposed minor change to delete Fiber Design from the major curriculum of the department. I believe that you have followed a proper process in examining the history of enrollment in this studio area as well in taking a hard look at the mission of the department at this time.

You are on target in following the recommendation of our College Plan in determining what is proper critical mass for each major program and, in this case, each studio area. Also, in trying to mount a successful BFA program, it is important to offer students more than one major instructor in each studio. Therefore, the question of resources becomes paramount in this regard.

Given the background presented and the action of the faculty, I hereby endorse your proposal to delete the area of Fiber Design from the art major curriculum. Please keep me informed of the progress of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Gephardt  
Dean, College of Fine and Performing Arts

Catalog and Publication Changes

Publication Changes

Delete all references to Fiber Design as a course of study in all Rowan University publications.

Catalog Changes

Delete the following courses:

- ~~1009.215~~ Fiber Design I - Surface Design
- ~~1009.220~~ Fiber Design II - Woven/Constructed Design
- ~~1009.216~~ Fiber Design III - Surface Design
- ~~1009.315~~ Fiber Design V - Surface Design
- ~~1009.216~~ Fiber Design VII - Surface Design
- ~~1009.222~~ Fiber Design IV - Woven/Constructed Design
- ~~1009.303~~ Fiber Design VI - Woven/Constructed Design
- ~~1009.304~~ Fiber Design VIII - Woven/Constructed Design
- ~~1009.298~~ Textile Design for Industry
- ~~1009.515~~ Graduate Fibers I
- ~~1009.516~~ Graduate Fibers II