Creative Pulse and the Unit’s Conceptual Framework

The Creative Pulse is a summer, arts education program in the College of Visual & Performing Arts. Candidates graduate with a Masters of Arts (M.A.) in Arts Education with a Specialization in Arts and Education. Our assessment systems align with the Conceptual Frameworks for the Professional Education Programs.

Integration of Ideas
The Creative Pulse is grounded in arts integration. Our candidates take hands-on courses in a variety of arts areas including vocal performance, acting, dance, media design, West African drumming, and visual art. Measurement outcomes consist of creative projects and performance projects. Creative Pulse candidates also attend academic seminars focused on Leadership, Digital Technology in the Arts, Reflective Teaching, and Teaching in Cultures which also reinforce a variety of themes that cross the disciplinary lines. Assessment and measurement are examined through creative projects, teaching projects, and oral presentations.

Cooperative Endeavors
Creative Pulse candidates are placed in student learning groups at the beginning of the summer session and they work throughout the 5-week programs in these groups. Groups are formed of diverse students, men and women from different disciplines, communities, ages and expertise. Students complete group assignments each week; thus are required to work collaboratively, assume personal responsibility within the groups, and work out differences that arise. Groups are required to complete a weekly group check-in using Erik Erikson’s theories that parallel human development theory. Each group member rates their group based on: trust/mistrust, autonomy/doubt, initiative/guilt, industry/inferiority, identity/identity confusion, intimacy/isolation, generativity/stagnation, integrity/despair.

Respect for Diversity & Individual Worth
By their very nature, study in the arts reinforces a diversity of ideas, abilities, viewpoints, and experiences. The arts support multiple approaches to problem-solving and encourages lateral thinking styles. New, innovative viewpoints and forms of expression are a part of every Creative Pulse course, building diversity and individualized thinking. Candidates are assessed by creative projects, performance projects, teaching projects, oral presentations and personal performances.