



Republic of Iraq  
y of higher education and scientific  
University of Basra  
Faculty of Fine Arts



## **Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats**

**For the Department of plastic arts**

**Faculty of Fine Arts**

**University of Basra**

**College website**

<https://www.facebook.com/bfac.uobasrah.edu>

**2021–2022**

Based on the results of the self-assessment report of the requirements of the Department of Plastic Arts / Faculty of Fine Arts / University of Basra for the academic year (2020–2021), the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that appear on the structure of this department were indicated according to the analysis (SWOT) as follows:

The first criterion: the strategy of the educational institution

Strengths:

The Department of plastic arts has a vision, mission, and goals that can be applied and verified, proven and announced, and are reviewed periodically in order to measure the level of their application and adjust them in line with the challenges that arise later due to social reality and quality assurance requirements.

Weaknesses:

The social gap achieved due to the negative view of the disciplines of Fine Arts and the reluctance of the government labor market and the private sector to invest the youth energies that are trained and graduated annually and the lack of support of various institutions for these energies.

Opportunities:

The department has a large number of scientific competencies, multiple titles, and various exact specializations, depending on their specialized research tracks, in order to provide a base capable of planning and

creating renewable opportunities to improve the reality of educational outcomes.

#### Threats:

The lack of actual, consistent and systematic funding aimed at improving the educational process, which is an obstacle to the manufacture of quality plans and strategies, improving compliance with approved standards, and affecting the course of the educational process in the Department.

The second criterion: community service

#### Strengths:

Among the annual activities of the Department on an ongoing basis is hosting educational institutions and informing them about the artistic activities within the department and involving them in them, as well as field visits held to public and private sector institutions and holding various activities in order to contribute to bringing closer and strengthening ties between the plastic arts department and the visual community in general.

#### Weaknesses:

All the activities that are held in the department towards the community are carried out in a personal diligence without prior planning and with a clear strategy. The desirability of these institutions is not measured and measured in an official form, away from oral dealings. In addition, there

is no cumulative measurement of the secretions of these activities and their improvement.

#### Opportunities:

The desire of students and teachers to constantly communicate with the community and the aesthetic acceptance of these initiatives socially in order to enhance the artistic experience.

#### Threats:

The lack of real and tangible investment of these initiatives by these institutions and civil society organizations and the lack of clear and explicit support for them.

The third criterion: Learning Policy and curriculum

#### Strengths:

The curricula represent a pre-reading that is constantly updated for what the student needs in the Department of plastic arts, depending on the progression upwards from the stage towards the fourth stage, based on a thoughtful compatibility between practical and theoretical materials in order to achieve a vision of producing a student capable of artistic achievement.

It also complements the course of educational curricula in graduate studies by relying on the prescribed subjects while granting a space of freedom for teaching in order to develop the subject and motivate students to compete in the specialty.

Setting up temporary scientific committees to evaluate students in practical subjects in a way that achieves transparency and confirms the state of competition between them.

#### Weaknesses:

The lack of availability of all specialized supplies in order to complete works of art that keep pace with global developments, thereby weakening the students' opportunity to keep up with international production in the specialty of plastic arts.

The small number of theoretical and practical halls and laboratories, compared to the Department's realistic needs, also indicates the lack of a suitable atmosphere to complete the curriculum according to the preliminary pre-prepared planning.

#### Opportunities:

Continuous updating of the curricula by committees with specialized expertise and agreement between the Iraqi colleges of Fine Arts on them. As well as the realism of these curricula compared to the interaction of students and their artistic production.

#### Threats:

The weakness of e-learning means of automated requirements and sufficient material support in response to the increasing need for this in accordance with contemporary educational requirements.

The fourth criterion: faculty members

### Strengths:

The availability of technical workshops and ongoing scientific lectures by the Department's teachers in accordance with a vision intended to develop teaching capabilities and accomplish scientific and client projects. With the availability of an expanded staff, depending on the number of students. Also, creating a competitive path among the staff by changing the subjects taught by the members of the educational body in the department, taking into account their alignment with their general and specific specialties, and making that strategy one of the requirements of the annual performance assessment.

### Weaknesses:

The absence of elements of institutional motivation at the college or university level as a means of support and promotion of academic excellence. The absence of the actual role of the department in the selection of its members directly based on the need and the annual plan.

### Opportunities:

Specialized exhibitions and scientific conferences inside and outside Iraq provide a creative space for possible investment and employment to enhance the skills of teaching staff on a continuous basis.

### Threats:

The absence of direct material support in writing research and completing high-cost works and the difficulty of participating in foreign conferences and exhibitions.

The fifth criterion: scientific research

Strengths:

Continuous encouragement of the completion of specialized and general scientific research and participation with other disciplines and taking into account the applied benefit of the outputs of such research as much as possible. In addition, it is considered one of the requirements for evaluating the individual performance of teachers and motivating them to continuous achievement.

In addition, there is an annual scientific plan to be supplemented by research projects to be established each year.

Weaknesses:

The lack of institutional care that takes care of the results of such research, which prevents the opportunities for practical application in reality. The lack of proactive studies of the labor market and its needs in order to direct such research in accordance with changing requirements. The lack of appropriate research equipment to expand the research area and provide new results.

Opportunities:

Scientific research occupies an important area of annual teaching activities and the pursuit of choosing new theoretical or applied topics on

an ongoing basis due to the presence of an expanded staff and in order to ensure a permanent research momentum.

#### Threats:

The absence of government support before the completion of research or after its completion. The absence of research plans that clearly guide teachers towards the required research work area according to the need indicated by the survey studies.

The sixth criterion: governance and management

#### Strengths:

The location of the department is environmentally friendly and with all its branches, which makes it easy to reach through its location and clear design. As well as adopting an easy sequence for the arrival of all individuals, starting from the classrooms and the rest of the requirements for completing the teaching process. The Department's structure is designed according to the plan of the ministry, the University and the college. With the availability of various means of protection and constant monitoring in order to create an educational atmosphere according to the best possible standards.

#### Weaknesses:

The availability of a sufficient number of halls and accompanying facilities in order to increase the number of students annually. As well as the lack of material support for the restoration of what is existing or to build the constantly growing needs of the Department. In addition, there



is no clear plan that allows the creation of add-ons that suit contemporary requirements in e-learning.

#### Opportunities:

Clarity of the administrative requirements of the plastic arts department and knowledge of its requirements towards the success of the educational process. With the opportunity to develop through workshops and seminars to ensure this.

#### Threats :

The lack of an independent budget allocated for the requirements of the department: as well as the lack of a number of middle staff that would facilitate daily duties and make them more streamlined and easy. The lack of relevant courses for teaching and career staff.

#### Criterion VII: financial and material resources

#### Strengths:

The annual preparation of teaching staff and the preparation of study requirements is carried out to the extent that the necessary capabilities are available for this. Students are selected according to a pre-prepared plan that includes a set of tests supervised by a multidisciplinary staff, including practical and theoretical tests. As well as a direct interview to determine the eligibility of applicants and their general and specialized abilities. Inform them of the study requirements of the uniform, the start and end dates of the daily lectures and the nature of the exams for each stage.

### Weaknesses:

The obvious and indicative shortage in completing the study supplies from specialized halls and the rest of the other supplies. This prevents the establishment of an ambitious and feasible annual plan and the resulting process remains within the limits of what is actually available.

The absence of Comparative and twinning studies with the relevant Arab and international universities, which prevents the department from Keeping Up with the influential developments in the promotion of the educational process.

### Opportunities:

The presence of a diverse staff and the desire of students to compete with the rest of the corresponding departments in Iraqi universities. The possibility of accessing what is being offered globally through the digital medium, which establishes an understanding space for what is actually needed.

### Threats:

The lack of financial allocations, which affects the education and achievement space, achieving quality standards, keeping pace with international university education, and making the labor market outputs without the ambition of pre-set goals.

The eighth criterion: student affairs

### Strengths:

Each student has a special file in the Department of plastic arts and in the student affairs unit. As well as activating educational guidance to identify students ' behavior, needs and problems individually. This provides an opportunity to address academic failures at various levels. As well as addressing other problems that accompany the study process in the Department. With the formation of permanent and temporary committees of teachers to identify the reality of the educational process, evaluate it and provide remedies for all the obstacles that can be solved and modified.

Also, holding continuous and direct meetings with students individually or collectively in order to find out their needs, ideas and problems and solve them through direct intervention by the head of the department and the teaching staff.

With the adoption of external activities such as recreational and scientific trips, student workshops, internal and external exhibitions as a way to break the routine and motivate students to excel and learn.

#### Weaknesses:

Poor communication with students after graduation, which causes poor plans prepared for the labor market, knowledge of the results achieved, and addressing the stage problems that arise in a timely manner. And the interruption of communication between graduates of the Department's students with their counterparts in other Iraqi colleges. As well as Arab and international colleges. Hence the absence of their

perceptions and ideas about the extension of the scientific plan of the Department.

The lack of a student club prevents the opportunity for gathering and positive interaction between them under the roof of the college and its monitoring. Hence the dispersion of ideas and the lack of opportunity for constructive sharing among themselves.

Opportunities:

The presence of additional learning opportunities through parallel education and evening study in a way that gives students wishing additional opportunities to gain specialized experiences in a scientific academic format.

Students ' desire for individual and collective external participation in order to provide opportunities for intellectual/ aesthetic cross-fertilization, increase production and gain more experience.

Threats:

Permanent expansion of the admission plan for the morning primary and postgraduate studies without taking into account the number of teaching staff and the number of required supplies with any proposed expansion. This affects the teaching hours and the concentration of individual scientific instruction due to the increase in the number of students in one classroom.

Approval of the dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of  
Basra

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