Art (Art History)

Also see: Art-Digital Arts; Art-Art Education; Art-Fine Arts; Art-Graphic Design

Faculty: Mackie, Chair; Rigby, Academic Advisor; Allyn, Brooks, Chak, Fichner-Rathus, Hutton, Kabbash, Kaplowitz, Miller, Miranda, Nyman, Riccardi, Taylor, van der Heijden

The Department of Art offers the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree with majors in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, and Digital Arts, and the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree with majors in Art Education and Art History. In addition, students may minor in Art History, Fine Arts, Digital Arts, Graphic Design, or Photography. Courses in art foundation studies and liberal learning are integral parts of the curriculum. The Art Department is committed to providing programs of study which develop a high level of conceptual and technical ability, resources beyond the studio for a broader education in the arts, exposure to and understanding of electronic media and methods of communication, and a balance between a demanding course of professional study and a liberal arts education.

The art facility features traditional studios as well as state-of-the-art computing and electronic media labs. The faculty of the Department of Art consists of scholars, exhibiting artists, and active professionals, and it is augmented by guest lecturers and adjunct professors who are practicing professionals in the New York-Philadelphia corridor. The department enjoys an enviable placement record in terms of graduate study and employment, and graduates of the program have attained positions of leadership in their respective fields. The College of New Jersey is located near the major art and design centers of New York and Philadelphia and students are encouraged and often required to visit museums, galleries, design studios, production houses, and other art facilities in these areas.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for art history. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the Art History major is based on the following performance standards in these "critical content courses": AAH 105 (B), AAH 106 (B), and AAH 215, AAH 216 or AAH 217 (B).
- Transfer into the Art History major from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards in these "foundation courses": AAH 105 (B) and AAH 106 (B).
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.0 in courses for the program and a minimum grade of C in all major courses.

Attendance Requirements

Participation and attendance are considered essential to the learning process. More than two unexcused absences per course may prove detrimental to the student's final grade.

The College Art Gallery

The Department of Art offers a program of diversified exhibitions throughout the academic year, including faculty and student work as well as exhibitions featuring the work of emerging and established artists from the United States and around the world. Students are encouraged to participate in the gallery program as gallery assistants.

Art Students' Organizations

The Department of Art sponsors the student organization, the Art Students Association (ASA). Students are invited to join and become active members.

Art History Program (ARTH)

Riccardi, Coordinator

The Art Department offers a BA in Art History to majors, and art history also serves as part of the foundation program for other Department of Art majors. Additionally, it provides a minor for students majoring in art or any other field. Art history is a scholarly, academic discipline, and its study sharpens critical thinking and strengthens both writing and analytical skills. The program offers varied and exciting courses that include both western and non-western art, topics such as Women Artists in History, and various geographical and chronological studies. Students in a wide variety of majors may also use approved art history courses to fulfill liberal learning requirements. Students in the Honors Program further have the opportunity to combine the history of art with other disciplines such as history or literature in dynamic courses such as Paris Between the Wars, Cities and Sanctuaries of Ancient Greece, and The Holocaust in Art and Literature.

Art History Major

The major provides students with both broad introductory courses and specialized geographical and chronological studies emphasizing theory, methodology, and historiography of the discipline through a curriculum designed to provide both a well-rounded foundation and advanced study. The program utilizes the varied resources of museums and collections in the area through field trips and specialized object research. In order to promote cross-cultural exchange and exposure to art outside the area, students enrolled in the Art History major are required to study abroad for at least a summer and preferably a semester. The curriculum culminates in a senior capstone experience that allows Art History majors to develop an original research project and to demonstrate their critical thinking skills.

Art History

Course Requirements

Major core: (5 course units)
AAH 105/Art History I
AAH 106/Art History II

AAH 215/Arts of South Asia, AAH 216/Arts of East Asia, or AAH 217/Arts of the Islamic World One course exploring gender in art history

AAH 499/Art History Senior Seminar

Art (Art History)-3

Major Options/Concentrations (6 course units at 200 level or above, with at least 3 course units at the 300 level or above)

Ancient or Medieval Art Renaissance or Baroque Art Modern or American Art Non-Western Art Art History electives

Correlate Course (1 course)

Fine Arts course

Total: 12 course units

Recommended First-Year Program of Study

First Semester

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
AAH	105/Art History I: Caves to Cathedrals	1 course unit
Foreign Language* (German or French recommended)		1 course unit
Liberal Learning		1 course unit

Second Semester

AAH 106/Art History II:

Renaissance to Revolution 1 course unit WRI 102/Academic Writing (if not exempted) 1 course unit Foreign Language* (German or French recommended) 1 course unit Liberal Learning 1 course unit

Total for year 8 course units

Recommended Second - Year Program of Study

First Semester

AAH 215/Arts of South Asia, AAH 216/Arts of East Asia,	
or AAH 217/Arts of the Islamic World	1 course unit
Fine Arts Course	1 course unit
Foreign Language* (German or French recommended)	1 course unit
Liberal Learning	1 course unit

Second Semester

One course exploring gender in art history	1 course unit
Liberal Learning	1 course unit
Liberal Learning	1 course unit
Elective	1 course unit

^{*}Language study is required..

Total for year 8 course units

^{*}Language study is required.

Art History Minor

Admission to the minor requires permission of the department chair or academic advisor. The minor consists of 5 course units, and may count no more than one course also taken for the major.

Art History minor: program of study for Fine Arts, Digital Art, or Graphic Design majors: Required (3 course units):

AAH 105/Art History I: Caves to Cathedrals

AAH 106/Art History II: Renaissance to Revolution

One course exploring gender in art history

Options (2 course units from the following content areas -- at least one at the 200 level or above and at least one at the 300 level or above):

Ancient, Medieval, or Non-Western Art History

Renaissance, Baroque, 19th-Century Art, Art of the United States, or Contemporary Art History

Art History minor: program of study for art education majors Required (2 course units):

AAH 215/Arts of South Asia, AAH 216/Arts of East Asia, or AAH 217/Arts of the Islamic World One course exploring gender in art history

Options (3 course units from the following content areas--at least 2 at the 200 level or above and at least 1 at the 300 level or above)

Ancient, Medieval, or Renaissance Art

Baroque, 19th-Century Art, Art of the United States, or Contemporary Art History

Non-Western Art History

Art History minor: program of study for non-art majors

5 course units (2 at the 100 level or above; 2 at the 200 level or above; 1 at the 300-level or above). Courses must include at least one course unit in each of the following content areas:

Western art history Non-Western art history Exploring gender in art history

COURSES

AAH 105/Art History I: Caves to Cathedrals

1 course unit

(every semester)

An introduction to the history of art through the examination of major monuments of Western architecture, painting, sculpture, and minor arts from prehistoric times to the beginning of the Renaissance. Emphasis is placed on art created for or by the dominant cultural centers of civilizations falling within this timeframe.

AAH 106/Art History II: Renaissance to Revolution

1 course unit

(every semester)

An introduction to the history of art through the examination of major monuments of Western architecture, painting, sculpture, and minor arts from the beginning of the Renaissance to the 1848 French Revolution. Emphasis is placed on art created for or by the dominant cultural centers of civilizations falling within this timeframe.

AAH 215/Arts of South Asia

1 course unit

(every third semester)

An introduction to the visual arts of South and Southeast Asia, including architecture, sculpture, and painting, particularly as they relate to religious practices (Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, and Islam) and to the historical, political, and social contexts of the region. Emphasis will be on the Indian subcontinent from circa 3000 BC to the present. Key monuments in Cambodia, Indonesia, Tibet, and Nepal will also be included.

AAH 216/Arts of East Asia

1 course unit

(every third semester)

An introduction to the visual arts of East Asia, including architecture, sculpture, painting, and decorative arts, particularly as they relate to religious and philosophical practices (Buddhism, Shintoism, Daoism, and Confucianism) and to the historical, political, and social contexts of the region. Emphasis will be on China and Japan from the Bronze Age to the present. Key monuments in Korea will also be included.

AAH 217/Arts of Islamic World

1 course unit

(every third semester)

An introduction to the visual arts of the Islamic world, including architecture, painting, ceramics, textiles, metalwork, photography, and prints. Emphasis will be placed on understanding individual works of art within their historical, social, and religious contexts. The course will provide a firm understanding of both the Islamic faith and the development of Islamic cultures around the world. Issues to be addressed include regionalism vs. universalism in Islamic art, the use of art to express political power, and Western views of Islam.

AAH 220/Women, Art, and Society

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An introduction to the history, theory, and criticism of works by women artists. Open to students of any major. *Women, Art, and Society* covers representations of women in art, works by women artists, and feminist criticism. The approach is historical and contextual. Principally, this course is organized thematically, rather than chronologically, examining works by women artists in specific mediums and genres. Works of art by male artists and women artists on common subjects are also examined, as are feminist revisions of popular subjects in the history of art. The visual aspects of looking at art are also emphasized.

AAH 242/Intro to Art of the Renaissance

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Art of the Renaissance, combining lectures and discussions, is intended for students who may have no prior experience in the study of art history. The course will be concerned with the major monuments of architecture, painting and sculpture in Italy and Northern Europe from the fourteenth through the mid-sixteenth centuries. Major areas of study will include the training and intellectual life of artists;

Art (Art History)-6

contemporary texts relating to the nature of the arts and society; the impact of religious beliefs on the art and architecture of the dominant cultural centers; distinctions and mutual influence between Italy and the North; formal analysis of works of art; patronage; gender and sexuality; and the interpretation of works of art through the investigation of purpose, meaning, and context. Although the course is text-based, scholarly articles will also be assigned, as this course is intended to introduce students to the varied methodologies of art historians as well as to the monuments themselves.

AAH 248/Art of the United States

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An historical survey of the development of an American style in the visual arts, including painting, sculpture, and architecture from colonial times to the present. Field trips may be required at student expense.

AAH 250/Contemporary Art

1 course unit

(every semester)

The history, criticism, and theory of contemporary art from the 1940s to the present. Course coverage begins with the shift of the center of the art world from Paris and Berlin to New York City in the post-war era. All major movements of the latter 20th Century will be examined, including Abstract Expressionism, Pop, Minimalism, Conceptual Art, Postmodernism, Feminism, Neo-Expressionism, and developments in digital art. Field trips required. For art studio majors.

AAH 280/Histories of Photography

1 course unit

(spring semester)

An introduction to the multiple investigations of the history of photography. Emphasis will be given to the diverse cultural uses of photography from its invention to the present day. Such uses include: ethnography; political and social propaganda; educational and documentary photography; amateur photography; studio, advertising, and fashion photography; and photography as a medium of artistic expression. Field trips are required.

AAH 302/Art of Rome 1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course will deal with major monuments of Roman architecture, painting, sculpture, and minor arts. The emphasis will be on developments in Rome, Pompeii, and central Italy.

AAH 315/Arts of Iran 1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course explores the visual arts of Iran and Central Asia (the greater Persian realm), including architecture, sculpture, painting, decorative arts, and film, from the earliest archaeological evidence up to the present day. In addition to covering the historical development of the art, the course also explores whether or not there is such a thing as a specifically "Persian" culture manifest in the arts, the use of art as political propaganda, the role of religion in the creation and reception of art, the relationship between literature and the visual arts in Iran, and finally, the impact of modernity and global culture in Iran.

AAH 343/Looking at Women: Representation, Feminisms, and Film 1 course unit (annually-spring)

(same as WGS 305 and COM 343)

An exploration of the impact of feminism on film theory, criticism, and production. Emphasis is placed on issues of representation, spectatorship, questions of ethnicity, and hybrid sexualities. Hollywood, independent films, and new media forms will be investigated through screenings and readings.

AAH 344/Art of the Italian Renaissance

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An investigation of the major monuments of the Italian Renaissance, from the early fourteenth century to the late sixteenth century. This period produced a concentration of artistic personalities who worked in an atmosphere that encouraged the production of art and architecture for religious, political, and personal enhancement. Field trips may be required at student expense.

AAH 347/19th-Century Art

1 course unit

(occasionally)

An historical survey of the art of the 19th century from the rise of Neoclassicism through Romanticism and Realism to Postimpressionism and Art Nouveau. Field trips may be required at student expense.

AAH 348/Baroque and Rococo Art

1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course surveys the art and architecture of seventeenth-century Europe, with particular attention paid to the visual culture of Italy, Spain, and the Northern and Southern Netherlands. Artists to be covered include Caravaggio, Bernini, Velazquez, Poussin, Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Rubens. While developments in form and style will be discussed, the class will examine art in context, particularly focusing on the historical, religious, political, geographical, and theoretical basis for these works. Themes covered will include the emergence of the art market, the creation of new genres, the academy, visionary art, and exploration.

AAH 370/Topics in Art History

1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course may be offered as a lecture and/or seminar. Topics in Art History focuses on a different topic with each offering (e.g., current trends in art history, special offerings). May be repeated as topic changes.

AAH 391/Independent Study in Art History

1-2 course units

(every semester)

(May not be taken as a substitute for any other course)

Prerequisites: Enrollment as an upper division art history major or minor; student must have taken a minimum of three courses in art history. These courses must be completed with a 3.33 average. Preregistration with signed approval of an art history faculty sponsor and of department chair required. Independent study is for students engaged in advanced work only, and is an opportunity to develop personal interests and strengths within the major field. Emphasis is on individual, self-guided work under the supervision of a faculty adviser and/or committee. May be repeated.

AAH 393/Independent Research in Art History

1-2 course units

(every semester)

(May not be taken as a substitute for any other course)

Prerequisites: Enrollment as an upper-division art history major or minor; student must have taken a minimum of three courses in art history. These courses must be completed with a 3.33 average in the area of study. Preregistration with signed approval of an art faculty sponsor and of department chair required. Independent research is for students engaged in advanced work only, and is an opportunity to develop personal interests and strengths within the major field. Emphasis is on individual, self-guided work under the supervision of a faculty adviser and/or committee. May be repeated.

AAH 399/Internship

(every semester)

1-2 course units

Prerequisites: Enrollment is limited to upper-division program majors or minors with at least a 3.0 GPA in that program. See Internship Application Form for individual program requirements and details. Preregistration with Internship Application Form and signed approval of the program coordinator, the department chair, and an art faculty sponsor.

The primary purpose of the college-level internship experience is the development of occupational or professional competence in the actual occupation setting after the student's education has been completed. Other purposes (income, career exploration, learning-by-doing, on-the-job training, etc.) cannot be the primary purpose, although they may occur as a secondary result of the internship experience.

AAH 415/Collecting the "Orient"

1 course unit

(occasionally)

This seminar examines the beginnings of collecting and studying of Asian and Islamic art in the West. The course combines theoretical discussions relating to collecting, Orientalism, and colonial expansion, with an in-depth exploration of the historical contexts in which several specific museum collections were built up during the 19th and 20th centuries. Practical and ethical issues surrounding the collection of objects from non-Western cultures also are discussed. Students undertake semester-long research projects that they present at the conclusion of the seminar.

AAH 499/Art History Senior Seminar

1 course unit

(spring)

During the first half of the semester, students read and discuss scholarly essays dealing with the historical and theoretical foundations of the discipline of art history as well as the history and contemporary implications of museum display. In the second half of the term, students undertake a research project of their choice (in consultation with the faculty member teaching the course). Each student will produce a 20-page paper and an oral report that will be presented at the end of the term to the art history faculty and majors.

Also see: Art-Digital Arts; Art-Art Education; Art-Fine Arts; Art-Graphic Design