

## **Art (Art History)-1**

### **Art: Art History (ARTH)—BA degree**

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

The Art Department offers a BA in Art History , 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.

#### **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.

#### **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.

## Art (Art History)-2

### 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

#### 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

*\*Language study is required.*

#### 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

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### 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**

### 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

## **Art (Art History)-4**

### **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.

## Art (Art History)-5

### **AAH 232/Introduction to Medieval Art**

**1 course unit**

(occasionally)

This course, combining lectures, reading-based discussions, museum experiences, and out-of-class research, deals with major monuments of western architecture, painting, sculpture, and minor arts from Late Antiquity to the beginning of the Renaissance (i.e. the 4<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries). The emphasis will be on the impact of religious beliefs on the art and architecture produced in the dominant cultural centers of the time. Major themes will focus on the roles of art and architecture in both sacred and secular contexts; technical skills required to produce works of art, and the interpretation of works of art by examining purpose, meaning, and context. There will be an interdisciplinary focus on the religious, social, political, philosophical, and cultural context of the era.

### **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; 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/ American Art**

**1 course unit**

(occasionally)

This course will focus on artistic production in the American colonies and, later, the United States. The approach is historical and contextual, and all mediums are covered including photography and architecture. Principally, the course is organized chronologically, although the material for weekly classes may center on specific artists, genres, themes, or critical issues. The visual aspects of looking at art will also be emphasized. Throughout the course, students will be continuously learning and refining skills that will allow them to analyze and appreciate works of art in their proper context.

### **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.

## **Art (Art History)-6**

### **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.

## **Art (Art History)-7**

### **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. Pre-registration 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. Pre-registration 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**

**1-2 course units**

(every semester)

*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. Pre-registration 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 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Art (Art History)-8**

### **AAH 499/Art History Senior Seminar Capstone**

**1 course unit**

(spring)

This course serves as the Senior Capstone experience for Art History majors. It is writing intensive and is open only to senior art history majors. The course will focus on the history, methodology, and critical development of the discipline of art history and the history and contemporary implications of the museum. Students will develop their skills in writing and thinking like art historians. During the first half of the course, selected scholarly essays will be read and discussed. In the second half, students will research a museum (or museum collection) of their choice, producing a 20-25-page paper and an oral report which will be delivered in a public presentation to the art history faculty and students. A final exit exam will also be given. All of these learning activities require thinking at a sophisticated level, and the written parts of these activities will require students to demonstrate their skills in researching and reading scholarly works, thinking critically, developing theses, and refining arguments.