

Art History

Department of Visual Studies

Art History
College of Arts and Sciences
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Overview

The department of visual studies unites several major aspects of art and visual culture: studio art, the history of art, and the theory of visual images.

Visual Studies offers degree programs in art([ART](#)), art history ([AHI](#)) as well as courses in visual studies ([VS](#)).

The department of visual studies art history program is committed to exploring the visual arts (painting, sculpture, performance art, graphic arts, architecture, photography, and decorative arts) and what they reveal about culture. The art history faculty uses a diverse range of methodological approaches, to help students attain the necessary tools and knowledge to understand our visual world. Courses encompass the world's major geographic areas, and specific interests in social history, gender and race, post-colonialism, problems of taste and patronage, and myth and narrative. An art history major is ideal for students who wish to pursue a career in the arts, but it is equally valuable for those seeking to develop visual, analytical, and communication skills. Recent graduates have gone on to work in museums and art galleries, enroll in a variety of humanities graduate programs, and pursue careers in law, government, and business.

About our Degrees

Acceptance Criteria - B.A.

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.
Minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses.
Completion of or registration in any two of three required introductory courses: [AHI 101](#), [AHI 102](#), [AHI 103](#).

Acceptance Criteria - Minor

Minimum GPA of 2.0 in [AHI 101](#) Survey of Art History: Egypt to Renaissance, [AHI 102](#) Survey of Art History: Italian Renaissance to Contemporary, or [AHI 103](#) Survey of Art History: Non-Western.

Current Applications Information

Deadlines: Rolling
Number of applicants (2008-2009): 20
Number of accepted majors (2008-2009): 20
Total number of majors currently enrolled: 40

Advisement

The Advisor for the Department of Visual Studies, Lisa Hewitt, in Center for the Arts 205, is available to help Undergraduate students in the Art History and Art Programs.

Degree Requirements

Please see [Degrees and Policies](#).

About our Courses

The typical class size for:

Freshman/introductory courses is: 24-5
Sophomore/intermediate courses is: 35-45
Upper level/advanced courses is: 20-45

Art History

In the art history program, what do teaching assistants (TAs) do?

TAs teach recitations for [AHI 101-AHI 102](#) (Art History survey courses), and [UGC 111](#) (World Civilization I). The recitation classes are smaller groups of students taught once a week to supplement the large lecture format of these courses.

For course descriptions, please see [Courses](#).

About our Faculty

The art history faculty has compiled a distinguished record of teaching, scholarship and grant acquisition.

Faculty specializes in: Ancient, Renaissance, Architecture, European, American and Modern art. Two faculty recently published books entitled *Architecture as Portraiture: Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House*; and *Plain as Phaistos: Cycles of Social Complexity in the Mesara Region of Crete*. Faculty have recently published books with the titles: *Van Gogh's Progress; Utopia, Modernity, and Late-Nineteenth Century Art*; *The Cave Sanctuary of Zeus at Psycho: A Study of Extra-Urban Sanctuaries in Minoan and Early Iron Age Crete*; *Portals, Pilgrimage and Crusade in Western Tuscany*; *Man Made: Thomas Eakins and the Construction of Gilded Age Manhood*; and *Images of Humanist Ideals in Italian Renaissance Art*.

Faculty opened exhibitions at the Bauhaus-Archiv in Berlin entitled: *Tempo, Tempo! The Bauhaus Photomontages of Marianne Brandt*; and Washington's New Museum of the American Indian entitled: *Our Peoples - Wall of Gold*. Other exhibitions entitled: *Re-imagining Iroquoia: A Cross-Disciplinary Examination of Indigenous Representation and Museum Practice*. Faculty have published books on subjects ranging from architecture to Renaissance and Romanesque sculpture.

Members of the department have recently received grants from The Smithsonian Institution, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NEA (National Endowment for the Arts), NEH (National Endowment for the Humanities), The Institute for Aegean Prehistory, ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies), the American Academy in Rome, NYSCA (N.Y.S. Council on the Arts), the Getty Center for the Study of the History of Art and the Humanities, and National Geographic for research and writing. In addition, Professor Quinan received the Distinguished Service Professor Award 2004/05 and Professor Watrous received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2002/03.

See a list of our [Undergraduate Faculty](#).

Acceptance Information

All students are urged to apply to the art history major in person as early as possible, preferably during the sophomore year.

Transfer Policy

All art history transfer courses must be evaluated and approved by the department. Forms may be obtained from the Office of Admissions, 15 Capen Hall. Generally, the following transfer courses will be accepted: the equivalent of [AHI 101](#) and [AHI 102](#) covering the history of art from ancient to modern, and any two of the area courses. Transcripts are required for all courses, and course descriptions are required for any of the area courses.

Academic Requirements

Majors begin by taking two survey courses ([AHI 101](#) and [AHI 102](#)) that introduce the issues and major monuments of art history. Building on this foundation, students complete six upper-level courses, distributed among six areas: ancient, architecture, renaissance/baroque, modern, contemporary and global. These advanced courses provide more focused examinations of the history and concerns of specific societies. Majors are additionally required to take a pro-seminar, which provides a basic introduction to the debates and methods of the field; a methods course; and four sequential semesters of language study, or the equivalent. While a senior honors thesis is not required, majors are encouraged to consider undertaking such a project during their final year.

These requirements apply to all majors admitted to the Art History, beginning in the fall 2011 semester. Majors accepted previously have the option of completing either the new or the older requirements.

Art History

Extracurricular Activities

The **Undergraduate Art History Club** is an active undergraduate club that meets regularly. Faculty participates with the club on trips to museums and exhibitions, cultural events, lectures and discussions of interest (e.g., career possibilities).

See the [UB Student Association](#).

Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

Opportunities for Undergraduate Research and Practical Experience

Independent Study

One 3-credit independent study may be undertaken with a faculty member. It must be an outgrowth of course studies already completed, and not a substitution for any of the required coursework. One (3 hour) course may be applied toward the degree.

Museum Internships

Internships may be available to art history majors and minors at such local museums and galleries as the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the Amherst Museum, the Buffalo Arts Commission, the Buffalo Historic Preservation Coalition, the Buffalo Museum of Science, the Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University, the CEPA Gallery, the University Galleries (at CFA and Anderson Gallery), Erie County Cultural Commission, and Hallwalls. Internships may not be used for distribution credit for the art history major or minor.

Junior Year Abroad

Overseas programs are available to art history majors and are encouraged by the department. Interested students should make inquiries to the Study Abroad Advisor, Office of International Education Services, 210 Talbert Hall (645-3912).

Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

Honors Program

Junior year art history majors who have a minimum GPA of 3.5 in AHI and a minimum GPA of 3.3 overall may be admitted to a senior honors program. By taking the [AHI 497](#) Honors Thesis Tutorial during the spring semester, accepted seniors may pursue specialized, independent study leading to an honors thesis with two faculty members who will be assigned to direct the student's program.

For majors who plan to attend graduate school in art history, or for those students who simply wish to immerse themselves in a focused art history project, the department encourages enrollment in the senior honors program. Under the guidance of faculty advisors, an honors student develops, researches, and writes a senior thesis over the course of the senior year. Majors who secure faculty support for their projects and who have a minimum departmental GPA of 3.5 and a minimum GPA of 3.3 overall may be admitted to a senior honors program. A special designation of University Honors Scholar appears on the final transcript of those who successfully complete the program.

Career Information and Further Study

Art history provides a student with a broad overview of world art history and draws upon history, art, archeology, anthropology, psychology, and other disciplines. It emphasizes visual skills and verbalization of the visual, both of which are increasingly important in an image-saturated world.

Art history majors gain an excellent liberal arts background and have pursued many different careers and many different work settings. Some pursue careers as curators or archivists at the many museums and galleries across the country. Others use the art history degree to hone their intellectual abilities in art for careers in media, advertising, publishing, fashion, or design. Another path for art historians is art therapy, working with people with disabilities. Others move into careers in business, government, and non-profit organizations. In recent years, some students have gone on to law, business training, library science, and other graduate degree programs at UB.

Skills gained in this program include:

Critical visual skills are obtained by evaluating works of art, oral and written proficiency gained through presentations and papers. Researching, managing cultural resources, appraising, designing, writing, promoting, selling, teaching, analyzing, interpreting policy, editing, advising, learning to think conceptually, organizing, problem solving, and developing attention to detail.

Career Choices

- Advertising specialist
- Appraiser
- Art director
- Art/music critic
- Curator
- Designer (display, fashion, set, stage)

Art History

- Editor/publisher
- Gallery manager
- Graphic designer
- Lawyer
- Librarian
- Photographer
- Printmaker
- Research assistant (document/records)
- Technical illustrator

What percentage of graduates goes on to find related employment?

40%

Alumni in Art History have found employment in the following fields:

- Advertising
- Art consultant
- Art gallery
- Art investment
- Art law
- Art therapist
- Artist representative
- Bookstore manager
- Corporate curator
- Cultural center manager
- Documentary filmmaker
- Fashion
- Fine arts appraiser
- Freelance writing
- Historic preservation
- Lawyer
- Librarian
- Magazine research manager
- Merchandise display
- Photographer
- Professor/educator
- Public defender
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Realty analyst
- Researcher
- Retail buyer
- Slide curator
- Teacher
- Textile designer
- University annual giving director
- Video producer

Work settings include:

Museums, historical societies, historic sites, galleries, U.S. and state governments, K-12 schools, corporations, colleges/universities, antique dealers, archives, parks, magazines/newspapers, publishing firms, non-profit organizations, and restored communities/estates.

Salary Information

Salaries range greatly from one occupation, position, and work setting to another. According to the April 1998 NACE national salary survey for bachelor's degree graduates, history graduates' salaries averaged \$25,896, and letters graduates' salaries averaged \$28,129.

Career Hints

Employers are looking for experience and development of skills from that experience. Internships, part-time jobs, and volunteer activities in areas related to a student's career goal offer excellent methods of gaining experience and developing skills.

Students should participate in leadership roles in extracurricular activities, take electives relating to their career goal, participate in a directed research project through the department, and volunteer at places like museums, galleries, or historic preservation organizations (depending on career goal).

Art History

What percentage of graduates goes on to graduate school?

15% to schools such as: Temple University, University of Texas/Austin, 15% to schools such as: Temple University, University of Texas/Austin, University of Virginia, Emory University, and University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.

Degrees Offered

Undergraduate: BA, Minor

Graduate: MA

Links to Further Information About this Program

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Undergraduate Admissions](#)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- [Department of Art History](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)

Art History - B.A.

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses.

Advising Notes

It is advantageous if the student has already taken both [UGC 111](#) World Civilizations I and [UGC 112](#) World Civilizations II as well as a course in literature, language, philosophy, or music history, though none is required.

Prerequisite Courses

Completion of or registration in any two of three required introductory courses: [AHI 101](#), [AHI 102](#), [AHI 103](#).

Required Courses

[AHI 101](#) Survey of Art History: Egypt to Renaissance

[AHI 102](#) Survey of Art History: Italian Renaissance to Contemporary

[AHI 103](#) Survey of Art History: non-Western

[AHI 494](#) Methods of Art History

Six 200/300-level electives in the designated areas

Foreign language courses (12 credit hours)*

**Proficiency in a foreign language through the second semester of the second year or its equivalent is required, to be demonstrated through classroom courses or through alternatives outlined in the [Foreign Language Placement](#) section of this catalog. American Sign Language cannot be used to fulfill this language requirement. S/U grading may not be selected for courses taken to fulfill this requirement.*

Summary

Total required credit hours for the major...31-47

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

FIRST YEAR

Fall [UGC 111](#), first semester of a language*

Spring [UGC 112](#), second semester of a language*

SECOND YEAR

Fall [AHI 101](#), third semester of a language*

Spring [AHI 102](#), fourth semester of a language*

Art History

THIRD YEAR

Fall 200/300-level Area AHI elective, 200/300-level Area AHI elective
Spring, [AHI 103](#), 200/300-level Area AHI elective

FOURTH YEAR

Fall [AHI 494](#), 200/300-level Area AHI elective
Spring 2 -200/300-level Area AHI electives

Art History Electives

Art history electives include six courses, one each in: Ancient, Architecture, Renaissance/Baroque, Modern, Contemporary and Global. Each area must be covered.

ANCIENT

[AHI 204](#) Mythology in Ancient Art
[AHI 301](#) Art & Archaeology of Egypt
[AHI 302](#) Art of Greece
[AHI 303](#) Greece, Egypt and the Holy Land
[AHI 304](#) Narration in Ancient Art
[AHI 307](#) Art of Early Greece
[AHI 325](#) Greek Art and Mythology
[AHI 353](#) Art of Islam

ARCHITECTURE

[AHI 352](#) Nineteenth Century Architecture
[AHI 360](#) Frank Lloyd Wright
[AHI 386](#) Modern Architecture
[AHI 390](#) American Architecture

RENAISSANCE/BAROQUE

[AHI 310](#) Early Medieval Art
[AHI 312](#) Romanesque Art
[AHI 314](#) Gothic Art
[AHI 317](#) Art of the Middle Ages
[AHI 320](#) Northern Renaissance Art
[AHI 322](#) Italian Renaissance Art
[AHI 324](#) Italian Mannerist Art
[AHI 328](#) Renaissance Architecture
[AHI 330](#) Italian Baroque Art
[AHI 331](#) Michelangelo and His Era

MODERN

[ART 240](#) History of Graphic Design
[AHI 262](#) Art in America: An Introduction
[AHI 251](#) Introduction to Modern Art
[AHI 254](#) Art of 19th-Century
[AHI 275](#) Art and Revolution
[AHI 347](#) African American Art
[AHI 350](#) 18th-Century European Art and Ideas
[AHI 355](#) Painting and Sculpture: 1789-1850
[AHI 358](#) Impressionism and Postimpressionism
[AHI 372](#) Art Between World Wars I and II
[AHI 363](#) Eakins, Homer, and Turn-of-the-Century America
[AHI 364](#) American Realisms
[AHI 365](#) Art and Culture in Victorian America
[AHI 387](#) American Art

CONTEMPORARY

[AHI 380](#) Image and Gender
[AHI 395](#) Contemporary Art
[AHI 448](#) History of Photography
[VS 375](#) Science, Culture, and Emerging Media
[VS 449](#) Topics in Contemporary Photography

GLOBAL

[AHI 206](#) Introduction to Chinese Art
[AHI 311](#) Indigenous Arts: Past, Present
[AHI 341](#) East Asian Art
[AHI 345](#) Chinese Painting Premodern-Present

Art History

[AHI 346](#) Chinese Painting and Calligraphy
[AHI 383](#) Chinese Calligraphy
[AHI 311](#) Indigenous Arts: Past, Present
[AHI 334](#) Native American Art: Economic Renewal or Ruin
[AHI 342](#) Photography and the Colonial Gaze
[AHI 319](#) History of African Art
[AHI 354](#) Topics in Islamic Art

Art History - Minor

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 in [AHI 101](#) Survey of Art History: Egypt to Renaissance, [AHI 102](#) Survey of Art History: Italian Renaissance to Contemporary, or [AHI 103](#) Survey of Art History: Non-Western.

Required Courses

Any two of the three survey courses ([AHI 101](#), [AHI 102](#), [AHI 103](#))
Four courses above the 100 level; which must include a minimum of three art history areas.

Summary

Total required credit hours for the minor...18

AHI 101: Survey of Art History: Egypt to Northern Renaissance

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC/REC

Chronological survey of painting, architecture, and sculpture from the birth of civilization to the Northern Renaissance; stylistic analysis of works of art within social and historical contexts.

AHI 102: Survey of Art History: Italian Renaissance to Present

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC/REC

Chronological survey of painting, architecture, and sculpture from the Italian Renaissance to modern European and American art; stylistic analysis of works of art within social and historical contexts.

AHI 103: Survey of Art History III

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Surveys art and culture of the Third and Fourth Worlds and the Americas with reference to indigenous people globally. Examines multiple historical markers of visual expression from precontact to contemporary Native, African, and Spanish/Latino/Latina America. Thematically, addresses "art" through creation or emergence stories; significance of land, corn, and ceremony; and the construction of colonial representation to the present day.

AHI 155: Introduction to Contemporary Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Surveys contemporary art practices and the ideas that form them. Gives special attention to issues involved in the art featured in the University Art Gallery and other regional venues.

AHI 200: Sophomore Tutorial

Credits: 1
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

AHI 204: Mythology in Ancient Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Greek and Near Eastern mythologies in ancient art; mythological representations in the art of these cultures and the differences in the manner each represented similar myths; readings in mythology.

AHI 206: Introduction to Chinese Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Familiarizes students with the major and minor arts of China from Neolithic to the Modern periods. Requires no prior exposure to the arts and culture of China. The course considers the artistic history

Art History

of China in terms of its material culture, looking at techniques, materials, and processes, as well as stylistic influences and evolution.

AHI 210: Art of the Middle Ages

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Drawing upon examples of the made and built environment from ca. 300 to ca. 1400, the course considers a number of topics of current interest to medievalists: becoming Christian, the power of the image, who makes art, who sees art, such liminal experience as pilgrimage and crusade, the cult of relics, the construction of the ruler, imperial and papal programs, and civic and individual patronage.

AHI 212: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Examines a current topic of interest in Art History, i.e. architecture, medieval, non-Western, Asian, etc.

AHI 251: Introduction to Modern Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Major ideas defining the art of the modern world; painting, sculpture, architecture, and related arts; what these works mean and how they illustrate changing views of modernity.

AHI 254: Nineteenth-Century Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting and sculpture in France and its relationship to contemporary political, social, intellectual, and cultural developments; David, Ingres, G?ricault, Delacroix, Daumier, Courbet, Manet, Monet, Degas, Rodin, C?zanne, Seurat, Van Gogh, and Gauguin; the modern artist in a society characterized by an accelerating sense of change.

AHI 262: America in Art: an Introduction

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Offers a highly selective survey of U.S. painting, sculpture, architecture, photography, and popular culture from the Colonial era to the present. Focusing on five thematic units--gods, nature/culture, consumer culture, gender, and the body--the class provides an overview of U.S. art, suggesting how our material record both expresses and forms America's social, political, and cultural climate.

AHI 275: Art and Revolution

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Relationship between the artist and revolutionary society; uses revolutions of 1789, 1830, 1848, and 1917 to examine artists like David, Delacroix, Daumier, Courbet, and Malevich.

AHI 300: Junior Tutorial

Credits: 1-4
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

AHI 301: Art & Archaeology of Egypt

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Introduces the student to the sculpture, painting and architecture of Ancient Egypt, tracing its development stylistically and chronologically. Art will be presented in its historical and religious context.

AHI 302: Art of Greece

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Architecture, painting, and sculpture of ancient Greece; archaic and classical periods; subsequent rise of new forms during the Hellenistic era.

AHI 303: Greece, Egypt and the Holy Land

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Architecture, painting, and metal work of the Aegean area, 2200 B.C.E. to 1200 B.C.E., art forms of Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations and their indebtedness to eastern cultures.

AHI 304: Narration in Ancient Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Main themes in ancient art and on the manner in which they were narrated. These themes include mythological stories, historical events, political justifications, and propaganda. Media include wall painting, vase painting, and sculpture.

AHI 305: Greek Sculpture

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Significance of monumental bronze and marble sculptures of archaic and classical Greece; the development of sculptural style and content through the study of Greek literature and history.

AHI 307: Art of Early Greece

Art History

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Introduces the student to major monuments and issues of Aegean archaeology. We focus on the architecture, sculpture, and wall painting of the Greek Bronze Age. Archaeological sites to be visited include Lerna, Vasiliki, Knossos, Phaistos, Zakros, Mycenae, Pylos, Phylakopi, and Kea. We consider Aegean foreign relations and trade, cult, social organization, and literacy.

AHI 308: Art and Archaeology of Rome

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Ancient Roman art and archaeology; how the monuments of Rome reflect imperial propaganda; how the archaeological remains testify to the daily life of the citizens of the Roman Empire.

AHI 310: Early Medieval Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting, architecture, sculpture, and minor arts from the decline of the Roman Empire through the Ottonian era; the beginnings of Christian art.

AHI 311: Indigenous Arts: Past, Present

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Sees the art of North and South American natives, Canadian natives, and aboriginal people of Australia from both the native and the nonnative perspective; discussions focus on differing world views or ideologies, in conjunction with the impact of colonialization.

AHI 312: Romanesque Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting, sculpture, architecture, and minor arts in France, Spain, Italy, and England from A.D. 1050 to A.D. 1150; the course addresses the importance of crusades, pilgrimage, and monastic reform.

AHI 317: Art of the Middle Ages

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Drawing upon examples of the made and built environment from ca. 300 to ca. 1400, the course considers a number of topics of current interest to medievalists: becoming Christian, the power of the image, who makes art, who sees art, such liminal experience as pilgrimage and crusade, the cult of relics, the church as heavenly Jerusalem, imperial and papal programs, and civic and individual patronage. LEC

AHI 319: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Examines a current topic of interest in art history, i.e. architecture, medieval, non-Western, Asian, etc.

AHI 320: Northern Renaissance Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Examines the variety of artistic achievements during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in northern Europe, primarily in Flanders and Germany. The works discussed range from the intense mystical realism of Jan van Eyck and Roger van der Weyden to the classical idealism of Albrecht Durer and to the visionary imagery of Bosch and Bruegel. Emphasizes painting, but devotes some time also to the newly developing art of printmaking and the elaborate tradition of wooden figure sculpture. LEC

AHI 322: Italian Renaissance Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting and sculpture from early fifteenth-century Florentine art to the High Renaissance in Rome and Florence; covers the intellectual developments of fifteenth and sixteenth-century Italy, such as civic humanism and Neo-Platonism.

AHI 324: Italian Mannerist Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Development of central Italian art in the early- and mid-sixteenth century; relationship of mannerism to Renaissance and High Renaissance; current definitions of mannerism.

AHI 325: Greek Art and Mythology

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Examines the mythological depictions in Greek vase painting, sculpture, and metalwork during 700-300 B.C.E. Emphasizes Archaic and Classical vase painting and sculpture and its artistic and historical context. Students read Greek mythology and discuss Greek art.

AHI 328: Renaissance Architecture

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Reviews major architectural developments of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in Italy. Includes major works of Brunelleschi, Alberti, Michelangelo, Leonardo, and many others. Emphasizes how architecture reflects Renaissance humanist ideas. Investigates key building projects, such as St. Peter's in Rome, to examine the confluence of ideas from several disciplines.

Art History

AHI 330: Italian Baroque Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Art of central Italy, particularly Rome, in the early seventeenth century; its influence on the rest of Italy; how the change in cultural ideology affected artistic change.

AHI 331: Michelangelo and His Era

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting, sculpture, and architecture of Michelangelo; the uniqueness and impact on the development of Renaissance concepts; major historical events of the sixteenth century affecting Italian art; the Reformation and Counter Reformation; historiography of Michelangelo and his image; his popularity from the sixteenth century until the present day.

AHI 332: Rembrandt and His Era

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Studies the art of Holland in the baroque period, concentrating on the life and work of Rembrandt. Also emphasizes the careers of Hals and Vermeer, and the so-called "little masters". Considers the distinct character of Dutch art and its relationship to that of the rest of baroque Europe.

AHI 334: Native American Art: Economic Renewal or Ruin

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Locates discussion at the crossroads of nineteenth- to twentieth-century indigenous North American and Euroamerican exchange. Enables students to understand the relationship among contact, trade, tourism, economics, and cultural confluence. Places art and native women at the center as ongoing strategies for survival. Demonstrates the conflation of Victorian aesthetics with Iroquoian, Algonquian, Cree, Micmac, and Ojibwa traditions in the art.

AHI 335: Northern Baroque Painting

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting in Holland and Flanders during the seventeenth century; investigates the rise of baroque painting from mannerism throughout Europe; dominant artists in each country.

AHI 342: Photography and the Colonial Gaze

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Critically explores the photographic representation of Native Americans and First Nation Canadians prior to the First World War

and the advent of modernism. This period, which also coincides with the early years of photographic practice, covers the attempted assimilation of the Native American and the so-called Indian Wars of the 1850s-1890s.

AHI 343: Japanese Architecture

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Explores the development of Buddhist art and architecture in Japan from the introduction of Buddhism to Japan in the sixteenth century. Examines paintings, sculpture, and ritual implements, as well as architecture, temple plans, and landscape gardens. Considers the function of art in Buddhist practice; the perception of Buddhist art by lay and clerical audiences; the role of art in Buddhist philosophy; the relationship between the Buddhist arts of Japan and art in China, Korea, and India; syncretic elements in Japanese Buddhist art, especially those arising from Shinto beliefs; and the different forms of religious and artistic expression to be seen in the centers of power and the rural areas of ancient Japan.

AHI 344: Japanese Painting and Prints

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Explores the major trends in Japanese pictorial art from the seventh century to the early twentieth century. Focuses on important developments in style and subject matter, particularly emphasizing the relationship between Japanese art and that of continental Asia.

AHI 345: Chinese Painting Premodern-Present

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Offers a general view of the development of modern and contemporary Chinese art by discussing the emergence of Chinese modernism in the pre-modern period, the new modern art movement in the 1930s, Mao's revolutionary art, and the avant-garde movement in the post-Mao period. Through lectures, readings and discussions, this course investigates the momentous changes--political, economic, and cultural--that have swept through modern Chinese history and have profoundly impacted the development of modern and contemporary Chinese art. Also examines how rapid modernization, changing political realities, and conflicting global, ethnic, and local identities are transforming centuries-old Chinese visual traditions and the cultural assumptions behind them.

AHI 346: Chinese Painting/Calligraphy

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Explores the representations of figures and landscapes from the dawn of Chinese painting in the pre-Han period through the Yuan dynasty. Particularly stresses important developments in style and subject matter. Supplements classroom study of visual images with readings from ancient Chinese critical and theoretical writings (in translation) and modern art historical readings. As appropriate, relates issues in style and subject matter to contemporary developments in philosophy, religion, government, society, and culture.

Art History

AHI 347: African American Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Investigates the different forms of African American visual artistic traditions in relation to their historical origins and sociocultural context from the early days of slavery to the present time. Starts with an overview of African art, the experiences of the middle passage, and slavery in relation to African American traditions in the decorative arts, including pottery, architecture, ironwork, quiltmaking, and basketry. This is followed by a fine-art survey starting with the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, continuing through early twentieth-century Harlem Renaissance up to the present. Also explores certain issues related to African American arts and creativity, such as improvisation, Black aesthetic, Pan Africanism, and gender. Slides, films, and videos are used extensively to illustrate topics discussed in class.

AHI 348: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Examines a current topic of interest in art history, i.e. architecture, medieval, non-Western, Asian, etc.

AHI 349: Junior Seminar

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Topics course; the format is largely discussion but also includes classroom presentation and collaborative research. The specific topic varies with the instructor's area of expertise and involves some faculty-undergraduate research, with a general presentation at the end of the term. The course also takes advantage of current exhibition projects, visiting faculty, and regional events.

AHI 350: Eighteenth-Century European Art and Ideas

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

European rococo and neoclassical painting of the eighteenth century, including Tiepolo, David, Hogarth, and Gainsborough; sources in baroque and Renaissance art; effects on romantic painting.

AHI 352: Nineteenth Century Architecture

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The ascendancy of American Architecture. Modernism is traced from the Enlightenment through a sequence of historical revivals from which the two dichotomous aspects of 19th century architecture, art and utility, emerge. The European Art Nouveau style is viewed as a thematic counterpart to the achievements of Richardson, Sullivan and the Chicago School in America.

AHI 353: Art of Islam

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Introduces Islamic culture and its art and architecture. Uses both a chronological and geographical approach, beginning with the establishment of Islam in Arabia in the seventh century, following the course of its spread throughout Europe, Asian and Africa, and ending with contemporary Islamic art and architecture.

AHI 354: Topics in Islamic Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Familiarizes students with Islamic culture and its art and architecture by focusing on specific topics and issues, such as architecture, painting, patronage, or a geographic region. Concentrates on a different theme each time, such as Art of Islamic Iran, Art of the Ottoman Empire, History of Istanbul, Women and Islamic Art, and Islamic Painting.

AHI 355: Painting and Sculpture: 1789-1850

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Painting and sculpture produced in the new European democracies for a widening, critical public. Focus on neoclassicism, romanticism, and realism. Considers these styles in light of the Industrial Revolution in England, political revolution in France, and the intellectual currents of the Enlightenment.

AHI 358: Impressionism and Postimpressionism

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

French art from 1860-1900; Manet, Monet, Renoir, Degas, Seurat, Gauguin, Van Gogh, Toulouse-Lautrec, and Cezanne; the aesthetic nature of their works and the connection to contemporary literary, political, philosophical, and scientific developments. Impact of impressionism and postimpressionism on the art of the twentieth century.

AHI 360: Frank Lloyd Wright

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Wright's sources, innovations, major works, and his position between the nineteenth century and current modernism; visits to some of Wright's houses in Buffalo.

AHI 363: Eakins and Homer

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Art History

Undergraduate seminar; begins with a description of the artistic and cultural climate in which Eakins and Homer worked. Each following week addresses a specific theme of central importance to the artists' work. Such themes include realism, the artist in society, the nature/culture divide, masculinity, femininity, whiteness and blackness, and class. In addition to asking students to think about the multiple ways in which the form of art held meaning for different audiences, the seminar exposes students to a range of scholarly studies, encouraging them to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of particular methodological approaches.

AHI 364: American Realisms: the Evolution of the Real in American Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Begins with an introduction to European realism and a discussion of its adaptation to an American context during the final quarter of the nineteenth century. The course then denaturalizes Realism's ties with objectivity, explaining the movement as one in a series of subjective strategies for ordering one's relation to the world. Focusing then on several discrete artistic movements, the course considers the changing cultural functions of "the real", ranging from the early nineteenth through the late twentieth centuries. Movements to be addressed include romanticism, sentimentality, naturalism, impressionism, urban realism, regionalism, abstract expressionism, neo-realism, and photorealism.

AHI 365: Art and Culture in Victorian America

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Examines how American writers and artists negotiated the complexities of U.S. society during the final third of the nineteenth century. Emphasizing issues ranging from women's rights to laissez-faire capitalism, and from Reconstruction to manifest destiny, we consider how the era's cultural products provided artists, patrons, and audiences with metaphoric coping strategies to counteract what Victorians perceived to be the period's overwhelming social and political changes.

AHI 372: Art Between World Wars I and II

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Art produced between 1920 and 1940 in France, Germany, Russia, and the United States; impact of social and political events on culture.

AHI 380: Image and Gender

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Considers the representation of gender (femininity and masculinity) in pictures, and the impact of gender on making and looking at art and media. Discusses works from several historical periods, concentrating on nineteenth- and twentieth-century art and media. Topics and issues considered are the professionalization of the artist and myths of genius; artists and models; the problems of a "feminine" aesthetic; the nude; and the gendered spectator.

AHI 386: Modern Architecture

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

German expressionism, Frank Lloyd Wright, and the architects of the international style as initiators of contemporary architectural trends; the city as a twentieth-century problem.

AHI 387: American Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Surveys the development of twentieth-century U.S. art, emphasizing art since 1945. Through a close examination of a diverse range of visual arts, including painting, film, video, photography, sculpture, earth works, and performance art, we explore what contemporary art reveals about American culture. While offering students exposure to many issues that are of critical concern to contemporary society, the course pays particular attention to questions surrounding sexuality, gender, race, and consumer culture.

AHI 390: American Architecture

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

This course is an American pluralism cognate

Native American building, colonial, neoclassical, and eclectic styles, and the rise of industrialism, the impact of builders' guides, and the development of the architectural profession highlight this survey of American architecture to the Civil War.

AHI 391: American Architecture: a History of Style

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

American Architecture is as vast and varied as the country itself. This course will explore the forces that have shaped American architecture from pre-contact Native America to the Prairie period of Frank Lloyd Wright through such themes as the vernacular/ high style dichotomy, racial, ethnic and religious influences, expressions of power, industrialism and innovation, and building technologies. At least one field trip will be part of the course.

AHI 395: Contemporary Art

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Art of contemporary life; art criticism; art and politics; art in the media; pop and minimal art; conceptual art, earthworks, realism, feminist art, and performance. Requires attendance at events and exhibitions at local galleries.

AHI 400: Senior Tutorial

Credits: 1-4

Art History

Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

A written proposal outlining and justifying the work must be presented to and approved by the faculty member with whom the work is to be done.

AHI 411: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Examines a current topic of interest in art history, i.e. architecture, medieval, non-Western, Asian, modern, etc.

AHI 448: History of Photography

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Reviews photography's contribution to the visual arts of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Studies individual photographers, the nature and development of various styles, photography's relationship to other art media, and the effect of photographic imagery on our culture.

AHI 461: Architectural Preservation: History, Theory, and Practice

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Introduces students to the history, theory, and practice of historic building preservation, a field that began in the nineteenth century and has continued to expand its scope and develop and refine its approaches and techniques throughout the twentieth century. Following a grounding in historic styles and the history and development of approaches to historic preservation, the course culminates with site visits and student presentations on specific local preservation projects and issues. Buffalo and Western New York function as a laboratory for case studies of individual preservation projects.

AHI 480: Museum Studies

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Provides an understanding of the purpose, function, and organization of art museums and introduces managerial and curatorial skills and techniques essential to museum work. Writing assignments are intended to have students carefully examine works of art, compile information about works of art, describe works of art and express opinions and ideas about works of art.

AHI 494: Aims and Methods of Art History

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Looks closely at the ways in which influential art historians have analyzed and discussed works of art, and at the significance of the strategies that these art historians developed. The first half of the semester covers subjects like iconography, connoisseurship, formal and structural analysis, and psychoanalytical approaches.

AHI 496: Museum Internship

Credits: 1-5
Type: TUT

Museum and gallery internships are available at such institutions as the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the CFA Art Gallery, the University Art Gallery, the Amherst Museum, and the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University. The opportunity is by permission only. Students are encouraged to take [AHI 480](#) Museum Studies, before applying for an internship.

AHI 497: Honors Thesis Tutorial

Credits: 3
Type: TUT

Accepted senior pursue a specialized, independent study leading to an honors thesis. For further information, please contact the director of undergraduate studies

AHI 499: Independent Study

Credits: 1-4
Type: TUT

Three credit hours of independent study may be undertaken with a faculty member. It must be an outgrowth of course study already completed, and not a substitution for any of the required coursework. Only three credit hours may be applied toward the degree.