



Concentration in Art History: Learn from Your Past to Prepare for Your Future

In addition to the Art Fundamental coursework required for all BA in Art Concentrations, students focusing in the History of Art will complete the Core ARH coursework listed below. The ARH Core coursework offers students a chronological, global, and interdisciplinary foundational knowledge to prepare them to pursue supervised research and writing in a capstone experience during the senior year in ARH 480WR.

ARH 250	Survey of Art History I: Prehistoric - Late Medieval
ARH 251	Survey of Art History II: Renaissance - Modern
ARH 300	Visual Literacy & Methods
ARH 325	Art Beyond the West
ARH 350	Global 20 th c. - Contemporary Art
ARH 480WR	Advanced Methods of Research in Art History

To complete the ARH concentration, students will choose three additional Art History courses at the 300/400 level from ARH electives offered on a rotating basis, internships, or study abroad opportunities.

Students can further personalize their program of study through a variety of elective coursework to reach the required 120 credit hours for graduation. The wide range of interdisciplinary coursework in History, International Studies, Humanities, Philosophy, English, and World Language offers students the opportunity to customize their program of study.

Art History Course Listings

ARH-250 Survey of Art History I: Prehistoric–Late Medieval (3 Credits) Fall, Odd

The history of western art from its prehistoric origins to the Gothic Age. The course provides a survey of the major historic and stylistic developments in Europe, the Mediterranean, and Middle East that situates the creation and interpretation of these works within their cultural context.

ARH-251 Survey of Art History II: Renaissance–Modern (3 Credits) Spring, Even

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

A survey of western art from the Early Renaissance to Modernism (ca. 1300-1900). The course will introduce students to the major historic and social events, as well as cultural and intellectual shifts that shaped the production and reception of the visual arts during this period.

ARH 300 Visual Literacy & Methods (3 Credits) Spring

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

Visual Literacy will introduce students to a wide range of methods or approaches and visual media, including the fine arts, graphic design, photography, and film that emphasizes visual theory and interdisciplinary methods of interpretation. The course is intended to strengthen visual literacy and cultivate student's ability to interpret images from multiple perspectives encouraging them to be critical and engaged viewers.

ARH-310 Philosophy of Art (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course. Cross-listed with PHIL-221. A study of both historical and contemporary philosophical theories about art, beauty, the criteria of aesthetic judgment. The course also will examine attempts to describe the nature of the creative process. Examples will be drawn from a variety of art forms.

ARH-306 History of Photography (3 Credits) Fall, Even

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

Survey of the history of western photography and its evolution as a creative art. Analysis of the work of pioneering photographers, through the end of the 20th century.

ARH-320 American Art (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

A history of the visual arts of North America from colonial contact to the present.

ARH-325 Art Beyond the West (3 Credits) Spring, Odd

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

This course provides a survey of non-western visual culture including the arts of Africa, Ancient Americas, China, India, and Japan. Students will be asked to evaluate and interpret works through postcolonial perspectives to encourage an understanding and appreciation for aesthetic systems, technologies, and techniques outside western tradition and values.

ARH-350 Global 20th century–Contemporary Art (3 Credits) Fall, Even

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

An introduction to the art and criticism of the early twentieth century to the present with an emphasis on cultural connections facilitated through colonialism and now globalization. Students will be presented with a variety of theoretical perspectives to understand the major movements and artists, in addition to the role influential critics, scholars, and major exhibitions had in shaping Modern and Postmodern art.

ARH-380 Art & Architecture of the Ancient Mediterranean (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

Selected topics that examine the art and architecture of ancient Egypt, the Levant, Greece and/or Rome.

ARH-376 Special Topics in Art History (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

Selected topics or themes in art history. Course may be repeated for credit as content changes.

ARH-387/388 Independent Study (var. 1-6 Credits)

Prerequisites: Nine hours of ARH coursework

ARH-410 Gender & Representation in the Visual Arts (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course. Cross-listed with WGS-425. This course critically examines the representation of gender, sexuality, and “otherness” in the western history of art and visual culture. Students will explore gendered social-cultural constructions that appear in a variety of media and historical periods to reveal how these constructs reflect ideals of beauty, health, race, class, and sexuality. The authorship and spectatorship of images will be considered, with special attention granted to works of art made by women, and how these artists negotiated their complex role as both the subject and object of representation.

ARH-415 Islamic Art & Visual Culture (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

A survey of the history, achievements, and evolution of Islamic visual culture from its emergence in the seventh century to the present. The course will provide an overview of the diverse people and places that produced and engaged with Islamic art and architecture throughout history while also introducing and discussing major themes, issues, and critiques associated with Islamic visual arts.

ARH-460 Art in the Age of Exploration: Renaissance & Baroque Art (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

This course will examine Renaissance and Baroque art (ca. 1300-1700) emphasizing the various social, religious, and political contexts of this era, and the role of patronage in the creative process. Works will be situated within the cultural and intellectual history of Humanism and approached from a transatlantic perspective, revealing how the visual arts of cultures on both sides of the Atlantic were influenced by exploration, colonization, and trade.

ARH 465 Art in the Age of Revolution (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

This course will explore how the arts and visual culture of Europe both expressed and contributed to the socio-political, economic, scientific, and gendered revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries. Students will be presented with various and competing perspectives of the social and political movements in Europe, America, and related colonies, and how these movements were entwined with the Rococo, Neoclassicism, the Juste Milieu, Realism, and Impressionism, as well as the history of print arts, caricature, and invention of photography.

ARH-476 Special Topics in Art History (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: ENGL-103 - Must be completed prior to taking this course.

Selected topics or themes in art history. Course may be repeated for credit as content changes.

ARH-480WR Methods of Research in Art History (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: Fifteen hours of ARH coursework and permission of instructor.

Advanced research in art history, theory, and criticism. This course satisfies Core Curriculum Writing Intensive course requirements and Experiential Learning requirement.

ARH-481 Seminar in Art History (3 Credits)

Special topics in art history, theory, and criticism.

ARH-487/488 Independent Study, (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: Nine hours of ARH coursework and permission of instructor.

ARH-490 Art History Internship (var. 1 to 6 Credits)

Prerequisites: Nine hours of ARH coursework. Internship sponsor and submission of required paperwork.

