

Undergraduate Courses

Art

MAJORS, MINORS

PROFESSORS: Christina Salowey (classical studies)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS: Genevieve Hendricks, Elise Schweitzer
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Mary Zompetti
VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSORS: Andrea Martens, Kristin Strehle
FRANCES NIEDERER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE: Rita Maas (spring term)
VISITING LECTURERS: Josh Manning, Jennifer Shamy (art education)
STUDIO ART TECHNICIAN: Hona Knudsen

The art department offers majors and minors in art history and studio art. Note: students may not declare both a major and a minor within the art department.

Art History

The art history major offers students a knowledge of works of art in the context of the social, political, and intellectual cultures of which they are a part. Students learn to think, read, and write critically about art and to be astute interpreters of visual imagery. Art history majors progress through chronologically oriented survey courses into upper-level seminars and research projects. The program stresses individual student research and active leadership roles for students in small seminars. The art history major culminates in the senior seminar, an overview of the critical issues of the discipline, as well as in the writing of a senior paper and the public presentation of each senior's research.

The curriculum is enriched through lectures and seminars by distinguished visiting art historians as well as by the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum program. All majors are encouraged to travel. Art history majors are encouraged to pursue internships in fields such as museum work, art galleries and auction houses, arts administration, architecture, historic preservation, and interior design, fields in which many majors find employment after graduation. Hollins art history majors have a 100-percent success rate at gaining acceptance into graduate programs in these fields.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN ART HISTORY:

12 courses (44 credits)

- One studio art course (4)
- Three courses from:
 - ART 261: Ancient Art (4)
 - ART 262: Medieval Art (4)
 - ART 263: Renaissance and Baroque Art (4) **or**
 - ART 264: Modern Art (4)
- A minimum of three 300-level art history courses
- ART 420: Critical Methods of Art History (4)
- ART 471: Senior Art History Paper (2)
- ART 472: Senior Art History Symposium (2)
- Two additional courses must be chosen from 200- or 300-level art history courses, which may include ART 290/390 with prior approval from the department chair (8)
- Up to two courses from a Hollins Abroad program may be applied to the major/minor, with approval from the department chair
- A reading knowledge of French and German is strongly advised, as is the study of allied courses in history and literature

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN ART HISTORY:

5 courses (20 credits)

- Three courses at the 200 level in art history
- Two courses at the 300 level in art history

COURSES IN ART HISTORY:**ART 245: MYTH AND ANCIENT ART (4)****Salowey**

Also listed and described as CLAS 245. Open to first-year students. Offered Term 1. (*f, w, x, AES, PRE*)

ART 250: SPECIAL TOPICS: ART OF THE GLOBAL PRE-MODERN WORLD (4)**Strehle**

This course approaches visual culture from the Medieval period through the Renaissance, through the critical lenses of diasporas, transnational histories, migration, and the legacies of colonialism. In this class students will rethink Art History's canons, objects, and sites of inquiry. Offered Term 1.

ART 258: THE VISUAL ARTS IN CHINA (4)**Department**

This course surveys the visual arts in China from the Neolithic period (Han Dynasty) to the present. We will examine a range of media from tomb sculpture to calligraphy. Developments in painting and patronage, as well as the evolving social, intellectual, and political context, will receive special attention. No prerequisite. Not offered in 2021-22. (*w, AES*)

ART 259: ISLAMIC ART – MOSQUE, GARDEN, AND MINIATURE (4)**Department**

A survey of the visual cultures of the Islamic world, from the beginnings of Islam in the seventh century CE through the early modern period. The course focuses on architecture, paintings, ceramics, metalwork, textiles, and gardens, and the social forces that shaped their character. Lectures will alternate with class discussions and student presentations. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Not offered in 2021-22. (*AES, PRE*)

ART 261: ANCIENT ART (4)**Salowey**

This survey course examines the major styles and monuments of the civilizations of Egypt, the Near East, the Aegean, Greece, and Rome. The class explores the methodologies used to study a variety of media: architecture, sculpture, pottery, paintings, and jewelry. The readings in the course present the historical context for each period of ancient art studied. Also listed as CLAS 261. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Not offered in 2021-22. (*AES, PRE*)

ART 262: MEDIEVAL ART (4)**Strehle**

A survey of Western art from the end of the Roman Empire until the Renaissance. We will think about catacombs, monasteries, Vikings, the book arts, portal sculpture, Gothic Cathedrals and their stained glass, as reflections of the values of the society that produced them. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 2. (*AES, PRE*)

ART 263: RENAISSANCE AND BAROQUE ART (4)**Strehle**

An introduction to the art of western Europe from the 14th to the 18th centuries in its social and cultural context. We will focus on the glorious painting, sculpture and architecture of the Renaissance in Italy and northern Europe. We will meet dozens of artists and architects, some of whom are women! Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1. (*AES, PRE*)

ART 264: MODERN ART (4)**Hendricks**

An overview of the major styles and monuments in Europe and North America from the 18th through the 20th centuries. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1. (*AES, MOD*)

ART 266: HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY (4)**Hendricks**

A survey of 19th- and 20th-century photography from its beginning to the present. Bodies of work by significant photographers are examined to determine how photographic artists combine aesthetic choices with subject matter to produce meaning in their work. The course covers the major movements of art photography and is offered in a slide/lecture format. Open to first-year students. Not offered in 2021-22. (*AES, MOD*)

ART 269: GREEN BY DESIGN: SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT (4)**Hendricks**

Sustainability denotes one of the main future challenges of societies and the global community. Issues of sustainability range from energy and natural resources to biodiversity loss and global climate change. Properly dealing with these issues will be crucial to future societal and economic development. By examining the progressive development of green architecture in the 20th century, this course will illustrate how it is ever evolving and ameliorated through alterations in form, technology, materials and use, examining different places worldwide that represent a diversity of cultural and climatic contexts. Also listed as ES 269. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1. (*MOD, GLO*).

ART 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)**Department**

Independent study conducted below the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

ART 314: WOMEN AND ART (4)**Department**

A seminar that examines the role that women have played in art, as subjects, patrons, artists, and critics from the Middle Ages through the 19th century. Special attention is given to professional artists like Artemisia Gentileschi and Mary Cassatt, as well as to the impact of feminism on the discipline of art history. Also listed as GWS 314. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (w, x, AES)

ART 317: DRESS, GENDER, AND SOCIAL IDENTITY (4)**Department**

This student-led seminar explores the role of dress in creating gender and social identities. The course is global in scope and broad in chronological span. Topics include the veil in Muslim society, Gandhi's khadi, and the beginnings of the "fashion system" in 19th-century Paris. Readings will come from diverse disciplines, sociology and anthropology as well as art history. Also listed as GWS 317. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (AES, GLO)

ART 323: ART AND IDEAS – MODERN TO CONTEMPORARY (4)**Department**

This course examines art in the context of recent theory, focusing on the interplay between art and ideas from 1912-2012. Readings in art history and critical theory form the backbone of our discussions. Assignments include oral presentations on the readings and critiques of artworks from the collection of the Taubman or the Wilson Museum from a selected methodological standpoint. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: one 200-level art history course or permission. Not offered in 2021-22.

ART 324: FEMINISM AND CONTEMPORARY ART (4)**Hendricks**

This seminar explores the impact of feminism on the production, reception, and display of works of art from 1965 to the present. Topics include race, class, gender and sexual identity in feminist art, the ground-breaking efforts of feminist artists and theorists in the 1970s, and methods used by feminist artists to address key issues in women's lives. Also listed as GWS 324. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (DIV, MOD)

ART 328: PARIS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY – STUDIOS AND STYLES (4)**Hendricks**

From the Revolution of 1789 to the Universal Exposition of 1900, this virtual tour of 19th-century Paris explores the firestorm of art movements that originated in the French capital. Academies and salons, cafés, cabarets and civic buildings will receive special attention as spaces of cultural production. Writings by novelists, poets and biographers of the time will enliven our discussions. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (AES, MOD)

ART 332: ROMANESQUE ART (4)**Department**

A seminar that explores the dramatic expansion of church architecture, sculpture, and book art in the late 11th and early 12th centuries. Topics include pilgrimage, crusades, the renewal of monastic life and the cloister, and the role of women's spirituality. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22.

ART 333: GOTHIC ART – AMBITION AND FAITH (4)**Department**

What drove people in 12th- and 13th-century Europe to build churches that soared above their towns and pushed technology to its limits? This seminar looks at the relationship of Gothic architecture to urban society, at the stories told in sculpture, stained glass, and manuscripts, and at the role of women as patrons, audience, and subjects in Gothic art. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (o, AES, PRE)

ART 341: NORTHERN RENAISSANCE ART (4)**Department**

A seminar that explores the luminous paintings of northern European artists from the Limbourg Brothers through Albrecht Dürer. In addition to thinking about symbolism and devotional function, we also consider the impact of gender, patronage, market, and workshop practice. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22.

ART 345: PORTRAITURE – FACES AND PLACES (4)**Department**

What do people's faces tell us about them and the times they lived in? This seminar on portraiture and social identity begins with ancient Egypt and Rome, but emphasizes the wealth of Renaissance and Baroque portraiture. Topics include marriage and family portraits, ruler imagery, gender of artist and subject, self-portraits, children's portraits, and the psychology of the portrait. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (w, x, AES, MOD)

ART 354: MARRIAGE, CHILDBIRTH, AND DEATH IN THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE (4) Department

This lecture/seminar course examines works of art that commemorated important transitions in the lives of wealthy people in the ritualistic society of 15th-century Italy. Topics include representations of marriage, childbirth, and death in painting, sculpture, and decorative art, as well as specialized objects such as marriage chests and birth trays. Also listed as GWS 354. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (AES, PRE)

ART 355: ADVANCED TOPICS IN ANCIENT ART (4)**Salowey**

Also listed as CLAS 355. Prerequisite: ART/CLAS 261 or permission. Offered Term 2. (AES, PRE)

ART 360: POST-IMPRESSIONISM FROM CÉZANNE TO VAN GOGH (4)**Hendricks**

Post-Impressionists rejected academic guidelines and embraced personal symbolism and expression. This course examines their challenge to tradition and defenses of their own work. Other topics to be considered include the impact of mass media on the movement, the erosion of boundaries between low and high art, and representations of the exotic "Other" in the work of Gauguin and Van Gogh. Prerequisite: one art history or history course, or permission of the instructor. Not offered in 2021-22. (AES, MOD)

ART 365: AMERICAN ART (4)**Hendricks**

An in-depth study of American painting and sculpture from the pre-Colonial period to the mid-20th century, with emphasis placed on socio-historical analysis of works of art and the work of Native American, African American, and women artists. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Not offered in 2021-22. (AES, DIV)

ART 371: BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM (4)**Culligan, Strehle**

Ever wondered what it might be like to work in a museum? A thematically integrated approach to the study of museums and exhibition curation, this course offers intellectual and practical preparation for entry into the museum profession. Practicum study within the Wilson Museum, site visits to other museums and visits by guest speakers afford insight into today's art world. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Offered Term 2. (o, AES)

ART 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)**Department**

Independent study conducted at the advanced level. Application for independent study must be made with a member of the art history faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

ART 399: INTERNSHIP (4)**Department**

May be proposed in any term. Application must be made with faculty member prior to registration.

ART 420: CRITICAL METHODS OF ART HISTORY (4)**Department**

A student-led seminar for senior majors that examines the methodology of and critical approaches to the history of art. Prerequisite: at least six art history courses. Offered Term 1.

ART 471: SENIOR ART HISTORY PAPER (2)**Hendricks**

Students write an original research paper that demonstrates understanding of art historical research and critical methods. Weekly class meeting used to discuss topic development, research progress, and critique student work. Required for all art history majors. Prerequisite: art history major. Offered Term 1.

ART 472: SENIOR ART HISTORY SYMPOSIUM (2)**Strehle**

The senior symposium is the culminating experience for all art history majors. Students will transform senior papers into a professional oral presentation through draft revision, class critiques, preparation of audiovisual aids, and rehearsal. This paper is then formally presented at the senior symposium. Required for all art history majors. Prerequisites: art history major and ART 471. Offered Term 2.