

# Art History, B.A.

Art History is the study of works of art and other visual artifacts from all regions of the world and all periods of history. Consequently, the undergraduate curriculum in Art History, with its global perspective, is one of the most diverse disciplines in the humanities. Through Art History, students learn how to describe and interpret a range of objects including sculpture, painting, photography, architecture, and “new media” such as video and performance art. These skills, along with the program’s intense focus on writing and verbal expression, prepare students to think critically and to express themselves clearly at a time when visual communication is becoming ever more important.

Because works of art are always created within a larger cultural context, Art History courses are a good way to understand what other places or times were like. Students may explore, for example, ancient Greece, 19th century Japan, or even the 21st century United States. Majors in Art History are encouraged to take related courses in other fields in the humanities and to pursue the study of language beyond the minimum requirements. Because of its international perspective, Art History is a particularly good major for students interested in studying abroad. There are many study centers throughout the world associated with the University’s Education Abroad Program that offer widely varied selections of Art History courses.

**All students must meet the University Requirements.**

**All students must meet the School Requirements (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/schoolofhumanities/#schoolrequirementstext>).**

## Departmental Requirements for the Major

A. Select three of the following:	
ART HIS 30	Latin American Art and Architecture: 1492 to the Present
ART HIS 40A	Ancient Greek and Roman Art, and Architecture
ART HIS 40B	Arts of Europe: Medieval and Renaissance
ART HIS 40C	Early Modern and Modern Art in Europe and America
ART HIS 42A	History of Asian Art: Arts of India
ART HIS 42B	History of Asian Art: Arts of China
ART HIS 42C	History of Asian Art: Arts of Japan
ART HIS 42D	History of Asian Art: Arts of Islam
ART HIS 42E	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Persia, Egypt, and Mesopotamia
ART HIS 44	Image Collision: A Multicultural Approach to Images and Their Users
ART HIS 55	Disneyland
B. Select eight upper-division Art History courses, with at least one course in each of the following geographical regions: <sup>1</sup>	
Americas: Art History 140, 156, 163–167	
Europe: Art History 100–140	
Asia: Art History 150–163	
and at least one course in each of the following five historical periods: <sup>1</sup>	
Ancient:	
Art History 100–107	
ART HIS 155A	Ancient India
Medieval:	
ART HIS 110	Studies in Medieval Art
ART HIS 111B	Byzantine Art: 650-1450
ART HIS 114	Studies in Western Medieval Art
ART HIS 155B	Medieval India
Early Modern:	
Art History 120–128	
ART HIS 151B	Later Imperial China
ART HIS 165A	Early American Art
Modern:	
ART HIS 134C	Modern European Art: From Impressionism to the Fauves
ART HIS 134D	Modern European Art: From Cubism to Surrealism
ART HIS 134E	Topics in Modern European Art
ART HIS 145A	Studies in Modern Architecture
ART HIS 151C	Modern China

ART HIS 156	Art and Globalization, Modern
ART HIS 164A	Modern African American Art
ART HIS 164E	African Americans and Photography
ART HIS 165B	Nineteenth Century American Art
ART HIS 165C	Modern American Art
Contemporary:	
ART HIS 140A	History of Contemporary Art
ART HIS 140B	Topics in Contemporary Art
ART HIS 145B	Studies in Architecture after 1945
ART HIS 162C	Contemporary Japan
ART HIS 163	Asian American Art, Contemporary
ART HIS 164B	Contemporary African American Art
ART HIS 164D	African American Women in Art
C. Complete:	
ART HIS 190W	Art History Methods
D. Complete:	
1. Two quarters of:	
ART HIS 198	Advanced Seminar: Topics in Art History

<sup>1</sup> NOTE: A course may apply as both one Geographical Region *and* one Historical Period, but no course may be used to satisfy more than one Geographical Region or more than one Historical Period.

Students should enroll in ART HIS 190W (for upper-division writing) as early as possible in their junior year, after successfully completing UCI's lower-division writing requirement. It is strongly recommended that students complete ART HIS 190W before taking ART HIS 198.

**Residence Requirement for the Major:** Five upper-division courses required for the major must be completed successfully at UCI.

Following their graduation, students with a B.A. in Art History have found employment in art galleries, auction houses, and museums, and they have entered graduate programs with a view to careers in university teaching, curatorial work, and art conservation. Moreover, with its strong emphasis on developing critical skills in writing, speaking, and analysis, Art History also provides an excellent preparation for many other careers. UCI graduates have pursued professional paths ranging from medicine and law, to business and education, to information technologies and architecture. As in the case of arts administration or intellectual property law, some of these professional pursuits have depended on and continue to make use of training in the arts.

- Archaeology, Minor
- Art History, Minor