

School of Arts and Sciences

HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

www.haa.pitt.edu

The visual image has been an important vehicle for communication in many societies, and in today's culture it increasingly displaces words and texts. Art and architecture, like science or language, is an intrinsically human way of organizing our experience of the world. The study of the history of art and architecture is the history of cultural interconnectedness between the sacred and the secular, the elite and the popular, the dominant and the marginal.

The history of art and architecture (HA&A) program at the University of Pittsburgh trains students in the critical analysis of images and monuments—of what have come to be defined as the monumental arts of painting, sculpture, and architecture, and of those objects and monuments that have conventionally fallen outside this monumental arts tradition, e.g., photography, mass media, popular culture, and their equivalents in non-Western and premodern cultures and eras. You will be trained in the discipline-specific techniques of stylistic and iconographic analysis and introduced to the ways in which the arts and images of the past and present shape an individual sense of self and cultural identity. To achieve this end, literature, science, politics, and social and religious history come within art history's purview, not as background to the images and monuments, but as something these works articulate and shape.

The opportunities and resources available to an HA&A major in Pittsburgh are extensive. Pitt is home to the Frick Fine Arts Library, the University Art Gallery (which hosts visiting exhibitions as well as its own collection). The city itself is home to the Pittsburgh Ballet, operas, the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera and Symphony, the Pittsburgh Public Theater, the Mellon Jazz Festival, the Three Rivers Arts Festival, the Andy Warhol Museum (a museum dedicated to the work of famous Pittsburgh native Andy Warhol), the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the Carnegie Museum of Art (which hosts the world-renowned Carnegie International every three to four years, dedicated to the latest contemporary art from around the globe), the Mattress Factory (dedicated to contemporary installation art), the Frick Art Museum and Historical Center, and the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts (which features local visual arts).

Art history is a liberal arts discipline, one of a number of disciplines or majors that are valued because they develop communication skills and promote interdisciplinary thought. All of these are intellectual attributes that can be employed in a variety of professional areas. In recent years, HA&A majors have pursued double majors in the history of art and architecture and business, with an emphasis on marketing, advertising, or arts administration; others have combined an interest in art history and computing to pursue careers in library and information science. Students often also pair their studies in the History of Art and Architecture with second majors in studio arts, psychology, communications, English writing and literature, film studies, and numerous foreign languages. Our majors also pursue certificates offered through the University Center for International Studies. The development of the Internet and the rapid increase in the use of multimedia in business and in education at all levels suggest that programs of study that combine art history, computer technology, and studio arts will provide students with marketable skills in these areas in the future.

Required Courses for Majors

There are four possible majors within the HA&A program:

- The standard major, which provides students with intensive knowledge of the major periods of the history of art and with critical thinking and communication skills.
- The secondary major option which requires the completion of fewer credits than the standard major, en-



abling students to adopt a second major as an undergraduate if they so choose.

- The honors major—earned by students who completed a senior thesis with a grade of A- or higher and who maintain an overall and departmental grade point average of 3.5. Recommended for those who seek to go to graduate school.
- The architectural studies program, which is a cross-disciplinary pre-professional major, designed for students who plan to pursue a professional degree in architecture at the graduate level. (See the separate information sheet available for Architectural Studies Majors.)

The Standard Major

The standard major consists of a minimum of 36 credits in HA&A offerings. All majors take three core courses: Introduction to World Art (HAA 0010), Foundations in Art History (HAA 0101), and Research and Writing Seminar for majors (HAA 1010). Also students take one course from each of the following four core-subject areas: ancient art across the globe, Asian art, European art before 1750, and modern and contemporary art across the globe. Four upper-division HA&A courses numbered 1000 or above are required for this major, one of which must be in an Asian topic. Finally, students take one elective class in any topic, at any level to complete their major. HAA 1903: History of Art and Architecture Internship is particularly recommended to satisfy the elective requirement.

The Secondary Major Option

Students who will graduate with a second major in addition to HAA can opt to pursue this 27 credit secondary major option instead of the standard major program listed above. These students fulfill all the requirements listed above, but need only take two 1000-level intensive courses instead of four, in any topic. These students are also exempted from the elective requirement.

Because of the minimum number of courses required, the major is especially suitable as an area of concentration for students with strong interests in related fields or as a double major for the student concentrating in one such field (e.g., studio arts, French, psychology, or various pre-professional programs).

Architectural Studies

This is an interdisciplinary program administered in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture. For information, see the architectural studies information sheet or contact the University of Pittsburgh, Architectural Studies Program, 104 Frick Fine Arts Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, 412-648-2401.

Courses Offered by the Department

Introductory Courses

American Art	Medieval Architecture
Ancient Art	Medieval Artistic Patronage
Approaches to the Built Environment	Modern Architecture
Art of China	Northern Renaissance Art
Art of Japan	Photography and Art
Baroque Art	Pittsburgh Architecture and Urbanism
Chinese Landscape Painting	Renaissance Art
Contemporary Art	Twentieth-Century Architecture
European Visual Traditions:From Renaissance to the Present	Van Gogh
Experimental Cinema	Women Artists, 1550–present
Film Analysis	World Film History
Foundations in Art History†	World Religious Architecture
Frank Lloyd Wright	
Introduction to Asian Art	
Introduction to Contemporary Art	
Introduction to Medieval Art	
Introduction to Modern Architecture	
Introduction to Modern Art	
Introduction to Modern Art Writing Practicum	
Introduction to Paintings	
Introduction to Western Architecture	
Introduction to World Art*	
Introduction to World Art Writing Practicum	
Landscape Painting, 1500–1700	

* This course is required of all majors.

† This course is required of all majors. Majors in other college departments must receive special permission from the department to enroll in this course.

Upper-Level Courses

15th–16th Century Japanese Art and Painting
16th-Century Italian Painting
18th-Century Art
20th-Century Chinese Art
20th-Century Russian Art
American Independent Film
Ancient Chinese Art
Ancient East Asian Visual Traditions
Architecture in the 18th Century
Architecture Since 1945
Art in the Weimar Republic
Art Since 1945
Chinese Archaeology
Dada and Surrealism
Documentary Film
Early American Architecture
Early Chinese Painting
Early Renaissance Architecture
Experimental Video
Expressionism
Greek Art
Gothic Architecture
Gothic Art
High Renaissance Architecture
History of Architecture Theory
History of Art and Architecture Internship

History of Chinese Architecture
Honors Thesis
Independent Study
Issues of Authority in Japanese Art and Architecture
Italian 17th-Century Painting
Italian Renaissance Portraiture
Japanese Art of the Heian
Japanese Woodblock Prints
Language of Japanese Aesthetics
Later Chinese Painting
Medieval Iconography
Medieval Manuscript Illumination
Modern American Architecture
Modern Sculpture
Modernism
Painting in 17th-Century Holland
Photography Since WWII
Pre-Columbian Art
Realism and Impressionism
Research and Writing Seminar for Majors†
Roman Architecture
Roman Art
Roman Sculpture
World Cities
The World of Japan

† *This course is required of all majors. Majors in other college departments must receive special permission from the department to enroll in this course.*

Note: In addition, special topics classes at both the introductory and upper levels are offered regularly by the faculty in their area of specialization.

The Departmental Honors Program

If you elect to pursue the intensive program and have at least a 3.5 overall quality point average (QPA) and a 3.5 QPA in HA&A, you can qualify for departmental honors by completing an honors thesis, written under the direction of a faculty member. Normally, students pursuing this option will register for honors thesis: HA&A 1950. This option will allow you to develop a research paper suitable for application to MA and PhD programs or to professional schools.

Research and Writing Seminar for Majors (HA&A 1010)

Research seminars are limited to 15 students who have already had course work in art history at the 0100–0999 level, and who are taking or have taken the prerequisite courses: Introduction to World Art and Foundations in Art History. Seminars take a critical approach to the art historical material presented in the broader prerequisite course(s), and help you develop critical reading and writing skills by introducing more advanced readings than in the prerequisite course and by providing experience with different forms of presentation (research papers, grant proposals, and oral presentations).

For more information on the history of art and architecture program, contact:

University of Pittsburgh
Department of History of Art and Architecture
Kirk Savage, chair, or
Gretchen Bender, undergraduate advisor
104 Frick Fine Arts Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412-648-2400
www.haa.pitt.edu

For more information on other majors, contact:

University of Pittsburgh
Office of Admissions and Financial Aid
Alumni Hall, 4227 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6601
412-624-PITT
E-mail: oafa@pitt.edu
www.oafa.pitt.edu

Special Programs and Opportunities

Undergraduate Awards and Scholarships

The Henry Clay Frick Department of the History of Art bestows three undergraduate awards annually:

The John Haskins Undergraduate Student Award is given to one graduating senior in art history or architectural studies who has demonstrated academic excellence.

The Friends of Frick Fine Arts Undergraduate Writing Award is intended to recognize and promote exceptional writing in art history. This competition takes place every fall semester.

The Special Commendation Award from the faculty of the Department of History of Art and Architecture is granted to those students whose academic achievement and community spirit are noteworthy upon graduation.

Undergraduate Research

A number of HA&A undergraduates have worked on projects with individual faculty, most frequently on the senior papers or projects undertaken as part of a graduate seminar. Occasionally, they have helped with actual faculty research. Some faculty involve students in the creation of Web or other digital projects.

University Honors College (UHC)

UHC offers many resources for talented, active students—unique courses, special degrees, opportunities to perform independent research or teach, supplemental advising, and a social and academic community of similarly motivated students. UHC courses offer a more in-depth treatment of the material covered in a non-honors course. Students work more problems, write more, read more, and discuss topics in greater depth. Although UHC does not have a formal membership and does invite all students to participate in honors courses, there are certain qualifications that must be met to be eligible to take UHC courses. Entering freshmen are automatically considered for UHC participation on the basis of their admissions applications. A minimum QPA of 3.25 is required for current Pitt students.

HA&A Club

The HA&A Club offers several opportunities throughout the academic year for students who are interested in art to meet socially, attend lectures and movies, take trips to other cities and venues, and attend workshops on career development. To become a member of the club or learn about its offerings, see its regularly published newsletter.

Study Abroad

Studying abroad is an exciting way to add an international perspective to your undergraduate education and strengthen your credentials as a graduate. Since only about eight percent of American students have studied abroad, this experience distinguishes you when you enter the job market or pursue graduate study. The time allows you to broaden your personal experience and gain an appreciation of other cultures while earning credits toward your degree. Scholarships are available, and financial aid is applicable.