Art History

Mailing Address:
Department of Art History (MC 201)
929 West Harrison Street
Chicago, IL 60607

Contact Information:
Campus Location: 106 JH
(312) 996-3303 (Art History); (312) 413-2463 (Museum and Exhibition Studies)
susl@uic.edu (Art History) museinfo@uic.edu (Museum and Exhibition Studies)
artandarthistory.uic.edu

Administration:
Chair, Department of Art History: Hannah Higgins
Director of Art History Graduate Studies: Catherine Becker, cathbeck@uic.edu
Director of Museum and Exhibition Studies: Therese Quinn
Museum and Exhibition Studies Program Coordinator: Anthony Stepter

Program Codes:
20FS0250MA (MA in Art History)
20FS0250PHD (PhD in Art History)

The Department of Art History supports study and research leading to degrees at both the master’s and doctoral levels. The Master of Arts in Art History offers emphases in the history of architecture and art. The interdisciplinary Master of Arts in Museum and Exhibition Studies offers a synthesis of research and professional practice appropriate to professions in museums and exhibitions. The PhD in Art History is designed to promote intellectual inquiry and provide professional-level training in the discipline, in a program that provides both wide coverage and particular depth in areas of faculty strength, including the History of Art of the Americas, the History of Architecture, Design, and Urbanism, and Contemporary and Global Art Histories. Students may also pursue topics that combine these areas of focus or expand beyond them.

Interdepartmental concentrations in Gender and Women's Studies and Violence Studies are available to students in the MA and PhD in Art History.

Admission and Degree Requirements

- MA in Art History (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/architecture-design-arts/ah/ma)
- MA in Museum and Exhibition Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/architecture-design-arts/ah/ma-mus)
- PhD in Art History (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/architecture-design-arts/ah/phd)

Courses

AH 404. Topics in Architecture, Art and Design. 3 or 4 hours.
Selected topics in the history of European and North American architecture, art and design. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated up to 2 time(s) if topics vary. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours of art history at the 200 level or consent of the instructor.

AH 407. The Power of the Image: Roman Sculpture as Propaganda. 3 or 4 hours.
Historical and thematic examination of the use of Roman sculpture, by emperors and private individuals of all social classes, as an instrument of personal and political propaganda. Course Information: Same as CL 407 and HIST 407. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): one of the following courses: AH 204, AH 205, AH 110, CL 101, CL 103, CL 203, CL 204, CL 205, HIST 203, HIST 205; or consent of the instructor.

AH 420. History of Architecture I. 4 hours.
Introduction to architecture, urbanism, and architectural theory worldwide from antiquity to 1450. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

AH 421. History of Architecture II. 4 hours.
Introduction to architecture, urbanism and architectural theory worldwide from 1450 to the present. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and AH 420.

AH 422. Topics in the Literature of Architecture. 3 or 4 hours.
Discussion of selected readings in the theory and criticism of architecture. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours in the history of architecture or consent of the instructor.

AH 423. Topics in Modern and Contemporary Architecture. 4 hours.
Selected topics in modern and contemporary architecture. Course Information: May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing, and four hours in the history of architecture or consent of the instructor.

AH 424. Topics in Architecture and Urban Form in Chicago. 2-4 hours.
Topics on the development of the built environment of the Chicago and metropolitan area, and the effect on its architecture of social, political and economic forces.

AH 430. Contemporary Photography. 3 or 4 hours.
Developments in the history of photography since 1950. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours in the history of photography or consent of the instructor.

AH 431. Photographic Theory. 3 or 4 hours.
Developments in photographic theory from its prehistory in the camera obscura and linear perspective through its heyday in the machine age up to its place in our image world today. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Recommended Background: AH 150 or any photography studio course.

AH 432. Topics in Film and Video. 3 or 4 hours.
Selected studies in genres, schools, individual artists, critics, and theorists of film and video. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing or 3 hours in the history of film or consent of the instructor.

AH 434. Women and Film. 3 or 4 hours.
Roles and representations of women in classical Hollywood, European art and independent feminist cinemas. Course Information: Same as ENGL 472, and GWS 472. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): ENGL 302 or ENGL 342 or ENGL 361 or ENGL 362 or ENGL 363; and senior standing or above; or consent of instructor.
AH 435. Topics in Modern and Contemporary Design. 3 or 4 hours. 
Topics in modern and contemporary design. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours in the history of design or consent of the instructor.

AH 441. Topics in Medieval Art and Architecture. 3 or 4 hours. 
Selected topics in European art and architecture of the Middle Ages. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours of medieval art and architecture or consent of the instructor.

AH 450. Topics in Renaissance Art. 3 or 4 hours. 
Selected topics in Early Renaissance, High Renaissance, or Mannerist Art and Architecture. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours in art history at the 200 level or above, or consent of the instructor.

AH 460. Topics in Modern and Contemporary Art. 3 or 4 hours. 
Selected topics in nineteenth- and twentieth-century modern and contemporary art. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours of modern art and architecture or consent of the instructor.

AH 463. Topics in North American Art and Architecture. 3 or 4 hours. 
Selected topics in North American art and architecture from colonial times to 1945. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours of North American art and architecture or consent of the instructor.

AH 464. Topics on Art in Chicago. 2-4 hours. 
Topics on the survey of art in Chicago, from the nineteenth century to the present, with an emphasis on contemporary Chicago art expressions.

AH 465. Arts of the Black Atlantic. 3 or 4 hours. 
Interdisciplinary and discursive explorations of the visual and artistic expressions of artists of African descent in the New World. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

AH 466. Material Worlds: Topics in Material Culture Studies. 3 or 4 hours. 
Examines current theories of material culture, drawn from art history, archaeology and anthropology to reflect on technologies of production and social life of things. Case studies will be drawn from ancient, medieval and modern historical context. Course Information: Same as ANTH 466 and CL 466. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

AH 470. Topics in Indigenous American Art, Architecture, and Visual Culture. 3 or 4 hours. 
Selected topics in the art, architecture and visual culture of the indigenous Americas. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Students may register for more than one section per term. Recommended Background: 3 hours of Art History (undergraduates); Graduate standing (graduates).

AH 471. Topics in Asian Art and Architecture. 3 or 4 hours. 
Selected topics in the art and architecture of Asia. Course Information: Same as ASST 471. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours of Asian art and/or architecture or consent of the instructor.

AH 480. Collecting Art and Building the Art Museum. 3 or 4 hours. 
The history of art collections and of art museums: public, academic, and private collections of art, and the architectural development of art museums. Formation of the earliest collections of art, and history of American collectors. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): AH 110 and AH 111 or consent of the instructor.

AH 481. Museum Practices. 3 or 4 hours. 
Administration of visual arts organizations, their budgets, staffing, structures, accreditation, and long-range planning. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): AH 480 or consent of the instructor.

AH 482. Museology Internship. 6 or 8 hours. 
Practical supervised experience in institutions serving the visual arts. Placements in museums, community art centers, college, commercial, or non-traditional galleries, and public agencies. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): AH 481 or consent of the instructor.

AH 485. Introduction to Historic Preservation. 3 or 4 hours. 
Preservation planning, historic building restoration, and the political and economic factors affecting the conservation of historic resources. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): 3 hours of art history at the 200 level or consent of the instructor.

AH 490. Honors Thesis. 3 hours. 
Individual study on a project selected with the approval of the adviser. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): Open only to seniors.

AH 491. Study Abroad in Art History. 0-12 hours. 
Study abroad within an approved foreign exchange program or department-sponsored program. Course Information: May be repeated with approval. Approval to repeat course granted by the department. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the department.

AH 492. Readings in Art and Architecture History. 1-4 hours. 
Individually planned readings on selected topics under the supervision of a faculty member. Course Information: 1 to 3 undergraduate hours. 2 to 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 9 hours for undergraduate students or 12 hours for graduate students. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Junior standing and 3 hours of Art History above the 100 level and consent of the instructor. Enrollment priority will be given to majors and graduate students in Art History.

Examines some of the intellectual underpinnings of art history, theory and criticism and explores ways of doing research and making arguments in art history. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in art history or consent of the instructor.

Examines the transformation of Art History, theory, and criticism since 1960 with regard to issues of gender, class, ethnicity, popular culture, post-colonialism and contemporary aesthetics. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in art history or consent of the instructor.

AH 512. Art History Teaching Seminar. 0 hours. 
Theoretical and practical aspects of teaching in undergraduate courses in the history of the visual arts. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated up to 1 time(s). Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in the art history program and appointment as a teaching assistant in the department.

AH 513. PhD Proseminar. 4 hours. 
Historical, theoretical, and critical issues in art history. Course Information: May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite(s): Open only to Ph.D. degree students; or consent of the instructor.
AH 522. Issues in Architecture, Design and Urbanism. 4 hours.
Theories and contemporary critical issues relating to the history of
the environment created and modified by people. Readings and
presentations on historic and regional variations.

AH 530. Seminar in The History of Photography. 4 hours.
Selected topics in the history of photography with emphasis on primary
source materials for research purposes. Course Information: May be
repeated if topics vary.

AH 532. Museum Collections. 4 hours.
Practical, theoretical and institutional settings of the museum and
exhibition professions. Students meet in seminar environments, read
and discuss core texts and ideas; travel to representative exhibition
and cultural heritage sites. Course Information: Extensive computer use
required. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

AH 540. Seminar in Renaissance and Baroque Art and
Architecture. 4 hours.
Selected topics in the art, architecture and archaeology of the Medieval
west, Byzantium and Islam. Course Information: May be repeated if
topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

AH 542. Exhibition Practices. 4 hours.
Core course in exhibition making history and practices. Exposure to the
mechanics of preparing exhibitions in physical and virtual environments;
exhibition planning, design, management, and marketing. Course
Information: Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

AH 543. Writing for Exhibitions. 4 hours.
Practicum in producing texts for sites across physical and virtual museum
and exhibition environments, from labels to exhibition catalogs. Includes
digital and virtual exhibition venues. Course Information: Prerequisite(s):
Approval of the Department.

AH 544. Public Engagement in Museums. 4 hours.
Development of methods of audience and public interaction with
exhibiting institutions and forms. Includes practicum in publicity,
promotion, audience-development assessment. Course Information:
Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

AH 545. Museum Genres, Practices and Institutions. 4 hours.
History of museums, cultural heritage sites, other sites of preservation
and exhibition; includes discussion of contemporary sites of virtual
display. Course Information: Field trips to multiple cultural sites in the
Chicago area. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

AH 546. Seminar in Museum and Exhibition Studies. 4 hours.
Investigation of a problem, topic or issue relevant to the interdisciplinary
field of Museum and Exhibition Studies. Content varies. Course
Information: Field trips required at a nominal fee. Prerequisite(s):
Approval of the Department and Program Director. Recommended
background: AH 532 and AH 543 and AH 545.

4 hours.
European art and architecture of the Renaissance. Course Information:
May be repeated if topics vary.

AH 560. Seminar in Modern Architecture, Art, and Design. 4 hours.
North American and European art, architecture and design between 1780
and 1945. Course Information: May be repeated if topics vary. Students
may register in more than one section per term.

AH 561. Seminar in Contemporary Architecture and Art. 4 hours.
Selected topics in recent North American or European art, architecture
and design. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the
instructor.

AH 562. Issues in the Art of the Americas. 4 hours.
Historical, theoretical and critical issues in the art of the Americas and
the Caribbean; indigenous, imported, and diasporan cultures and the
interaction between them.

North American art and architecture from the colonial period to 1945.
Course Information: May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s):
Consent of the instructor.

AH 570. Seminar in Non-Western Art and Architecture. 4 hours.
Selected topics in Pre-Columbian, North American Indian, African, and
Oceanic art.

AH 582. Supervised Internship in Museum and Exhibition Studies. 4
hours.
Practical supervised experience in institutions serving the visual arts.
Placements in museums; community arts centers; college, commercial,
or non-traditional galleries; public agencies, and commercial and not-for-
profit sites. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only.
Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

AH 590. MA Paper Research. 0-4 hours.
Student will work with advisors on two qualifying papers. Course
Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to
a maximum of 4 hours. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

AH 592. Preliminary Examination Research. 0-16 hours.
Supervised research and reading in preparation for the preliminary
examinations. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading
only. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours. Prerequisite(s):
Open only to Ph.D. degree students. Only by consent of the Director of
Graduate Studies and after all other coursework has been completed.

AH 596. Readings in Art and Architecture. 1-4 hours.
Individually planned readings on selected topics under the supervision
of a faculty member. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the
instructor.

AH 597. Project Research. 0-8 hours.
Capstone project appropriate to area of study, developed in consultation
with graduate advisor. Projects may cover areas of visual exhibition or
professional practice that fall outside traditional boundaries of scholarly
research. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only.
May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Extensive computer use
required. Prerequisite(s): Approval of the Department.

AH 598. Master's Thesis Research. 0-8 hours.
Individual research under faculty direction. Course Information:
Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum
of 8 hours. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

AH 599. Ph.D. Dissertation Research. 0-16 hours.
Supervised research on the part of the student. Course Information:
Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum
of 24 hours. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor and satisfactory
completion of the preliminary examination.