

# 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)  
[afineg2@uic.edu](mailto:afineg2@uic.edu) (Art History) [museinfo@uic.edu](mailto:museinfo@uic.edu) (Museum and Exhibition Studies)  
[artandarthistory.uic.edu](http://artandarthistory.uic.edu)

## Administration:

Chair, Department of Art History: Andrew Finegold  
Director of Art History Graduate Studies: Nina Dubin, [dubin@uic.edu](mailto:dubin@uic.edu)  
([omur@uic.edu](mailto:omur@uic.edu))

## 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 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, but not limited to, the History of Architecture, Design, and Urbanism; Global Art Histories; and the History of Modern and Contemporary Art. Students may also pursue topics that combine these areas of focus or expand beyond them.

Interdepartmental concentrations in Central and Eastern European Studies, Gender and Women's Studies, Museum and Exhibition Studies, and Violence Studies are available to students in the MA and PhD in Art History.

## Admission and Degree Requirements

- [MA in Art History](#)
- [PhD in Art History](#)

### 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 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 449. 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 449 and GWS 449. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Previously listed as AH 434. Recommended background: Any of ENGL 330, 344, 345, or 347. Junior standing or above.

**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 455. Topics in Early Modern Art. 3 or 4 hours.**

Selected topics in early modern art. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of the instructor. Recommended background: A 200-level and/or 300-level AH course or above is recommended.

**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 468. History of Mexican Painting: from Teotihuacan to Frida Kahlo. 3 or 4 hours.**

Overview of the history of Mexican painting from Mesoamerica to modern times. This class will answer a set of thematic questions regarding the exclusory practices of painting within and outside of the hegemonic artistic discourses. Course Information: 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 GLAS 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 483. Internship. 1-4 hours.**

Introduction to professional practice offering students the opportunity to couple academic learning with professional experience in an off-campus placement. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only. May be repeated. Field work required. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

**AH 484. Careers in the Arts. 3 or 4 hours.**

Through guest lectures by Chicago-area professionals and field trips to local institutions, this seminar will introduce a range of careers in the arts along with the skills and training required to undertake such jobs. Course information: Field trip required at a nominal fee.

**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.

**AH 510. Historiography of the Visual Arts, 1750 to 1960. 4 hours.**

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.

**AH 511. Toward New Histories of the Visual Arts, 1960 to the Present. 4 hours.**

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 531. Seminar in Asian Art. 4 hours.**

This graduate seminar examines topics in the art, architecture, and visual culture of Asia. Course Information:..

**AH 540. Topics in Medieval, Byzantine and Islamic 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 550. Seminar in Renaissance and Baroque Art and Architecture. 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.

**AH 563. Seminar in North American Architecture and Art. 4 hours.**

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 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 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.