We train art historians, museum professionals, future practitioners of the arts and architecture, as well as students who go on to a wide range of careers that draw on the rapidly growing importance of visual communication and global cultural understanding for the brave new world we find ourselves in today. As a department we help students develop their innate capacities for intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, historical understanding, and eloquent written communication. At the center of the training we offer to students is the capacity to translate visual experience into language, a skill evermore necessary for personal and professional success and for a fully human experience of our increasingly image-saturated and image-dominated daily life.

BA in Art History

The BA program introduces undergraduate students to the study of the visual arts and the built environment across time and space: architecture, painting, sculpture, design, photography, film, and media arts as well as museum and exhibition studies. The art and architecture of Chicago and the many local museums and galleries are a living part of the general curriculum and are specific components in specialized courses. While some of our majors pursue graduate education and scholarly careers in teaching and museum work, others have established careers in arts advocacy, galleries, cultural foundations, and in architectural and art publishing. The Art History degree is also useful in a wide variety of fields where visual literacy and cross-cultural sensitivity provide graduates with a professional advantage, such as business, politics, public service, work in journalism, media, and broadcasting, law, library science, and urban planning.

Minor in Art History

The Minor in Art History program introduces undergraduate students to the study of the visual arts and the built environment across time and space: architecture, painting, sculpture, design, photography, film, and media arts as well as museum and exhibition studies. The art and architecture of Chicago and the many local museums and galleries are a living part of the general curriculum and are specific components in specialized courses. The minor is especially useful as a complement to other majors where visual literacy is an asset. These include all of the humanities disciplines, most of the social sciences, areas that rely in visual communication, such as Business and Communications, as well as areas that rely on close visual analysis, such as the medical fields.

Minor in Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE)

The Minor in Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE) program introduces undergraduate students to the study of the visual arts and the built environment across time and space: architecture, painting, sculpture, design, photography, film, and media arts as well as museum and exhibition studies. The art and architecture of Chicago and the many local museums and galleries are a living part of the general curriculum and are specific components in specialized courses. The minor is especially useful as a complement to other majors where visual literacy is an asset. These include all of the humanities disciplines, most of the social sciences, areas that rely in visual communication, such as Business and Communications, as well as areas that rely on close visual analysis, such as the medical fields.

Degree Programs

- BFA in Art
- BFA in Art Education
- BA in Art History
- BA in Interdisciplinary Education in the Arts

Minors

- Minor in Art
- Minor in Art History
- Minor in Museum and Exhibition Studies