

History of Art and Architecture Major

www.haa.pitt.edu

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The visual image has been an important vehicle for communication in many societies, and in today's culture it increasingly displaces words and texts. In the Department of the History of Art and Architecture, students receive training in the critical analysis of images and monuments that have come to be defined as the monumental arts of painting, sculpture, and architecture, and of those objects and monuments which have conventionally fallen outside this monumental arts tradition, e.g. photography, mass media, popular culture, and their equivalents in non-western and pre-modern cultures and eras. As students learn to look, read, and write critically, they are introduced to the ways in which the arts and images of the past and present shape an individual sense of self and cultural identity. The history of image and monument making is a history of cultural interconnectedness between sacred and secular, elite and popular, dominant and marginal.

The standard major will provide students with knowledge of the major periods of the history of art and with critical skills appropriate to an undergraduate major in the history of art and architecture. Because of the minimum number of courses required, the secondary major option is especially suitable for students who wish to combine a major in HAA with a major in another academic department of program. History of art and architecture majors are encouraged to gain professional experience through internships in local art museums and organizations.

Required courses for the History of Art and Architecture major

Standard program

The standard major requires the completion of 36 credits in HAA offerings.

Core courses

HAA 0010 Introduction to World Art
HAA 0101 Foundations of Art History
HAA 1010 Research and Writing Seminar for Majors

Breadth requirement; one course in each category

Ancient art across the globe
Asian art
European art before 1750
Modern and Contemporary art across the globe

Intensive requirement; four courses at the 1000 level or above, one of which must be an Asian topic

One elective at any level, in any topic

The department recommends that students take HAA 1903 History of Art and Architecture Internship to satisfy the elective requirement for the major.

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. These students fulfill all of the requirements listed above, but they only need to take two 1000-level courses instead of four, in any topic. These students are exempted from the elective requirement.

Grade requirements: A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: No course required for the major can be taken on an S/NC basis except HAA 1010, HAA 1901, and HAA 1903.

Writing (W) requirement: Students must complete at least one W-course in the major. HAA 1010 is the W course for the HAA major.

Related area: A minimum of 12 credits is required in any one Arts and Sciences department chosen in consultation with the major advisor. The completion of an official Arts and Sciences minor or an Arts and Sciences or UCIS certificate also satisfies this requirement.

Honors major requirements: Honors in the history of art and architecture is granted if the student satisfies all requirements for the standard major, and:

- maintains GPA of 3.5 or above in HAA courses;
- maintains an overall GPA of 3.5 or above; and
- completes HAA 1950 Senior Thesis with a minimum grade of A-; this course can count toward one of the 1000-level course requirements.

Internships: Students are encouraged to explore the possibility of an internship with the art history advisor before the senior year, so adjustments in the academic program can result from the internship experience. Undergraduate majors with 15 credits of completed coursework in HAA are invited to apply to specific faculty for research internships, which involve assisting the faculty member with their research, or to apply to work with faculty on projects involving materials for a course.

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Checklist for the History of Art and Architecture standard major

Core courses

_____ HAA 0010
_____ HAA 0101
_____ HAA 1010

Breadth requirement; one course in each category

_____ Ancient art across the globe
_____ Asian art
_____ European art before 1750
_____ Modern and Contemporary art across the globe

Intensive requirement; four courses at the 1000 level, one of which must be an Asian topic

_____ HAA 1 _____
_____ HAA 1 _____
_____ HAA 1 _____
_____ HAA 16 _____ (Asian topic)

One elective at any level, in any topic

_____ HAA _____

Note: HAA 1903 is recommended to fulfill this requirement.

Checklist for the History of Art and Architecture secondary major

Core courses

_____ HAA 0010
_____ HAA 0101
_____ HAA 1010

Breadth requirement; one course in each category

_____ Ancient art across the globe
_____ Asian art
_____ European art before 1750
_____ Modern and Contemporary art across the globe

Intensive requirement; two courses at the 1000 level in any topic

_____ HAA 1 _____
_____ HAA 1 _____

Checklist for the History of Art and Architecture major for students matriculated in the School of Arts and Sciences prior to the fall of 2008

Distribution requirements

Take three classes in three of the following categories

_____ Ancient
_____ Nonwestern
_____ Medieval
_____ Renaissance/Baroque
_____ Modern/Contemporary

_____ HAA 1010 Research and Writing Seminar for Majors
(formerly: Approaches to Art History)

One HAA 1000-level course in any topic *

_____ HAA 1 _____

* Two additional 1000-level courses are recommended for those students who are not seeking another major in a second discipline.

Three HAA electives at any level, in any topic

_____ HAA _____
_____ HAA _____
_____ HAA _____