**ARTS MAJOR: ART HISTORY OPTION (B.A.)**

https://cola.unh.edu/art-art-history/program/ba/arts-major-art-history-option

**Description**

The art history curriculum provides a comprehensive, in-depth study of Western art from the ancient world to the present as well as some exposure to non-Western cultures and artistic traditions. All courses in the program teach basic skills of interpretation and critical analysis within the framework of broad cultural perspectives that connect the visual arts to larger historical developments. They also teach good writing and research skills. In addition, art history majors typically branch out into other fields, such as history, literature and foreign languages. By the time they graduate, most majors are well equipped to pursue such traditional careers in the field as museum and gallery work, teaching, publishing or librarianship. But because art historical education is so broad, it also prepares students for a variety of other, more flexible options, such as law, business or architecture.

**Requirements**

Students must complete a minimum of 10 courses (40 credits). The following courses are required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 480</td>
<td>Introduction to Art History</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTS 532</td>
<td>Introductory Drawing</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 795</td>
<td>Understanding Art History: An In-Depth Overview (Capstone)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 799</td>
<td>Seminar in Art History</td>
<td>4</td>
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**Art History Courses:** Select six, 600/700-level courses from the areas below (one 500-level may be used):

- **Pre-Renaissance Courses (Select one)**
  - ARTH 674 Greek Art and Architecture
  - ARTH 675 Roman Art and Architecture
  - ARTH 677 Early Medieval Art
  - ARTH 678 Romanesque and Gothic Art

- **Renaissance/Baroque Courses (Select one)**
  - ARTH 583 Baroque Art: Realism, Caricature, Shock
  - ARTH 679 Northern Renaissance Art
  - ARTH 680 Iconoclasm and Collecting: The Art of Early Modern Northern Europe
  - ARTH 681 Early Renaissance
  - ARTH 682 The High Renaissance
  - ARTH 684 Baroque Art in Northern Europe
  - ARTH 685 Graphic Art of the Renaissance and Baroque Periods

- **Modern Art Courses (Select one)**
  - ARTH 587 Art in an Age of Revolutions, c. 1715-1900
  - ARTH 664 17th and 18th Century American Architecture
  - ARTH 665 Nineteenth-Century Architecture: The Architecture of Empire
  - ARTH 686 Sex and Sensuality in 18th-Century Art
  - ARTH 688 Histories of Late 19th & 20th Century European Modernism
  - ARTH 689 Contemporary Art and Theory: 1945-2000
  - ARTH 693 American Art
  - ARTH 694 Vision and Modernity: From Panorama to Early Film

**Electives:** Pre-Renaissance, Baroque or Modern Art (select three additional courses) 12

- ARTH 583 Baroque Art: Realism, Caricature, Shock
- ARTH 587 Art in an Age of Revolutions, c. 1715-1900
- ARTH 664 17th and 18th Century American Architecture
- ARTH 665 Nineteenth-Century Architecture: The Architecture of Empire
- ARTH 666 Twentieth-Century Architecture: Modern and Contemporary

These courses must be completed with a minimum grade of C-. Art history students receive preferential placement in ARTS 532 Introductory Drawing. Students contemplating graduate school should learn German, and, if possible, either French, Italian, or another language relevant to their areas of interest.

The Discovery Program capstone requirement may be fulfilled by completing ARTH 795 Understanding Art History: An In-Depth Overview.

The required minimum overall GPA in major coursework is 2.0.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. Bachelor of arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Art history majors may use two major-required courses to satisfy two Discovery category requirements.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

- We expect our art history majors to become conversant with some of the major conventions artists and architects have subscribed to over the millenia, and with how these have been bent or broken and why.
- We expect them to learn to write cogently and clearly, and to be able to analyze orally on the spot what they see in a work of art or architecture, often by comparison and contrast with works they know well.