ARTH - Art History

ART HISTORY Courses

ARTH 121A. Introduction to the Visual Arts. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the various media, techniques, styles, content, and contexts in the visual arts as they are manifested in the world's cultures.

ARTH 127A. Honors: Introduction to the Visual Arts. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the various media, techniques, styles, content, and contexts in the visual arts as they are manifested in the world's cultures. Open only to students in the Honors College.

ARTH 150. Global Survey of Art History. 3 Credits.
This course provides an opportunity to discover, appreciate, and acquire broad knowledge of art history through the ages, from the Prehistoric era to contemporary times within a global perspective. Students will learn to examine and critically analyze major forms of artistic expression from diverse cultures and periods of art in order to understand their individual and collective contributions to the arts.

ARTH 195. Topics. 1-3 Credits.
Special topics in art history.

ARTH 203. Ancient Art. 3 Credits.
This course covers the art and architecture of the ancient world from its Paleolithic origins to the end of antiquity and the birth of Christian art. Ranging from drawings in caves to mosaics in churches, the material addressed in the course is situated in its social, political, and historical context. The objective of this course is to provide a visual and cultural literacy of ancient art and to familiarize students with the methods, theories, and traditions upon which ancient art history is grounded. Prerequisite: ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C or permission of instructor.

ARTH 204. Debunking Myths in Art. 3 Credits.
This course is an effort to confront conspiratorial thinking where art is concerned. The interpretation of human visual culture – particularly from ancient periods – is a particularly subjective endeavor, but in recent years social media have accelerated the proliferation of baseless theories about art, architecture, and material culture. From alien-builder theories to simple misconceptions about the polychromatic nature of Classical art, these pseudoarchaeologies can be found throughout the world, but they tend to harangue and ultimately undermine non-European peoples and cultures and their cultural heritage. Prerequisites: ARTH 150.

ARTH 210. Early Modern Art in Europe. 3 Credits.
"Early Modern" is a relatively new term applied to a broad period of artistic production in Europe that encompasses distinct, yet overlapping, style periods, which include the “Renaissance,” “Baroque,” “Rococo,” and “Neoclassicism.” This course will examine painting, sculpture, architecture, and graphic arts in Europe from 1400—1800 within the context of artistic creativity in relationship with intellectual, religious, economic, political, scientific, and cultural changes and developments in the Western world. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C or permission of instructor.

ARTH 230. Survey of Modern and Contemporary Art. 3 Credits.
A survey of modern and contemporary art with respect to its theoretical grounding and diverse practices. Students will encounter globally prominent artists of the last century as well as art of the immediate present on display in our area. Students will also receive instruction and experience in research and writing within the discipline of art history. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C or permission of instructor.

ARTH 295. Topics. 3 Credits.
Topics in art history.

ARTH 305. Egyptian Art. 3 Credits.
This course explores the art and architecture of ancient Egypt from the migrations of anatomically modern humans out of Africa to the persistence of Egyptian identity under Roman domination. Egypt looms large in the popular consciousness of modern society, with extraterrestrial or magical connotations. This course encourages critical thinking skills by stressing the importance of evidence and context in the interpretation of Egyptian monuments and iconography. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 310. Women in the Visual Arts. 3 Credits.
The contributions of women in the various fields in the visual arts—painting, graphics, sculpture, architecture, and the crafts. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 314. 15th and 16th Century Art in Northern Europe. 3 Credits.
The painting, sculpture, and graphics of the Netherlands, France and Germany from the fifteenth to the mid-sixteenth century with discussion of artists such as Jan van Eyck, Hieronymus Bosch, Pieter Bruegel, and Albrecht Durer. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 315. Early Renaissance Art in Italy. 3 Credits.
Painting, sculpture, and architecture in 14th- and 15th-century Italy from Giotto to Botticelli, among others. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 316. High Renaissance Art in Italy. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of High Renaissance Art in Italy (roughly 1473 to 1520), focusing primarily on the recognized major artists or ‘masters’ of the High Renaissance: Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 317. Mannerism and Late Renaissance Art in Italy. 3 Credits.
The works of Leonardo, Michelangelo, and Raphael brought the Renaissance to its height, but by 1520, two of these masters were dead. It is in this aftermath - post-1520 - that a new generation of artists arose revolutionizing the art world. This course is a survey of late sixteenth-century art in Italy. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 318. Baroque Art in Italy and Spain. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of Baroque Art in Italy and Spain. Material includes painting, sculpture, and architecture of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, with discussion of artists such as Caravaggio, Annibale Carracci, Gian Lorenzo Bernini, Francesco Borromini, Diego Velazquez, Jusepe de Ribera, and Francisco de Zurbaran, among others. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 319. Baroque Art in Northern Europe. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of Baroque Art in Northern Europe. Materials include painting, sculpture, and architecture of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, with discussion of artists such as Peter Paul Rubens, Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Poussin, among others. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTH 320W. History of Graphic Design. 3 Credits.
A critical study of the formal, cultural, and intellectual developments of the graphic design discipline, including related activity in fine art, illustration, and industrial design. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.

ARTH 321. History of Decorative Arts. 3 Credits.
Examines the major historical developments in the decorative and applied arts, landscape design, and material culture from the Renaissance to the Modern period. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.
ARTh 322. American Art and Architecture, 1600 to the Present. 3 Credits.
Through the study of form, content, and context of selected works of painting, architecture and sculpture made in colonial North America and the US from the 17th to the 20th century, this course will probe changing American social and cultural values embodied in art. Students will study individual artists as well as themes, with particular attention to the production and reception of art in a developing nation, the transformation of European architectural styles into a new environment, the construction of race in ante- and post-bellum America, and the identification of an abstract style of art with the political ascendancy of the US after World War II. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 323. Nineteenth-Century European Art. 3 Credits.
Survey of the mainstreams of European art during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, including discussion of architecture, sculpture, painting, and the graphic arts. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 327. History of Photography. 3 Credits.
An examination of the development of photography as a scientific curiosity, a tool for artists, and as a fine art in itself from the early nineteenth century to the present day. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 339. Surrealism and other Utopias. 3 Credits.
A study of the international movements in visual arts and design in the interwar years from Dada to the New World’s Fair. Prerequisite: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 340. Abstract Expressionism and its Discontents. 3 Credits.
An intensive study of the two decades when modernist styles and theories in art, design, and architecture were codified and challenged internationally. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 350W. Art Criticism. 3 Credits.
A study of the analysis, theoretical approaches, methodologies, and effects of the practice of art criticism. This is a writing-intensive course. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor; grade of C or better in ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.

ARTh 351W. Research Methods in Art History. 3 Credits.
An investigation of past and present approaches to scholarship in art history. Students participate in a series of writing assignments designed to strengthen their research and writing skills, culminating with the presentation of original research in oral and written form. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor; grade of C or better in ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.

ARTh 360. Asian Art. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the architecture, sculpture, calligraphy, pottery, ink painting, miniature painting, and gardens of India, China, and Japan. Emphasis will be placed on the connections among the cultures: Buddhism and pilgrimage, the importance of the scholar painters, the role of trade routes and the emergence of native writing. Cross-listed with ASIA 360. Prerequisite: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 365. Problems in Postmodernism. 3 Credits.
Lectures and critical discussion of the development and configurations of the various styles emergent since 1980, both in America and Europe. Prerequisite: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 368. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
A structured work experience in a museum, gallery, archive, or related environment, either with or without remuneration. Criteria for evaluation will be determined by work supervisor and cooperating faculty advisor. May be repeated for credit. Available for pass/fail grading only. Prerequisites: Approval of the program director and Career Development Services.

ARTh 369. Practicum. 1-3 Credits.
A specialized field activity outside of the classroom. Qualifies as a CAP experience. Prerequisites: Approval of the program director.

ARTh 377. Extracurricular Studies. 1-6 Credits.
An extracurricular activity approved for credit based on objectives, criteria, and evaluative procedures as formally determined by the department and the student prior to the semester in which the activity is to take place. Such credit is subject to review by the provost. Prerequisites: Approval of the program director.

ARTh 378. Extracurricular Studies. 1-6 Credits.
An extracurricular activity approved for credit based on objectives, criteria, and evaluative procedures as formally determined by the department and the student prior to the semester in which the activity is to take place. Such credit is subject to review by the provost. Prerequisites: Approval of the program director.

ARTh 395. Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics in art history to be specified in the class schedule each semester. May be repeated for credit as topics vary. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 396. Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics in art history to be specified in the class schedule each semester. May be repeated for credit as topics vary. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 410/510. Michelangelo. 3 Credits.
This course examines the life, sculptures, paintings, and architecture of one of the greatest Italian Renaissance artists, Michelangelo Buonarroti. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 411/511. Caravaggio. 3 Credits.
This course examines the life and revolutionary paintings of the Italian Baroque painter Caravaggio. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 420/520. Pompeii. 3 Credits.
This seminar is an exploration of the visual and material culture of Pompeii, incorporating a broad spectrum of evidence, ranging from the city’s temples to the wall paintings in the city’s brothels. The goal of the class is to instill an awareness of the impact of art on society, as well as an appreciation of the cultural and historical significance of the city.

ARTh 434/534. Romantic Architecture. 3 Credits.
A survey of the aesthetic, technological, and social forces that transformed international architecture in the 18th and 19th centuries. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 435W/535. Modern Architecture. 3 Credits.
An examination of the architecture, planning, and related design of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries around the globe. Special emphasis is placed on the formation of the international style between the world wars and its disintegration in the recent past. This is a writing intensive course; the course also satisfies the general education requirement. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor; grade of C or better required in ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.
ARTh 450/550. Public Art. 3 Credits.
This course is a collaborative exploration of the problems and opportunities of national and international public art that combines the practical with the theoretical, and the studio with the art-historical. Prerequisite: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 480. Senior Thesis. 3 Credits.
The research and writing of a thesis on an advanced topic in art history to be determined by the student in concert with a faculty advisor. The thesis option is intended for students preparing for graduate study in the field, and it may be taken in place of another upper-level art history elective within the major. Prerequisites: Senior standing; 12 hours of art history electives at the 300 and 400 levels.

ARTh 481. Capstone. 3 Credits.
A seminar in advanced practices in art history that includes topical and theoretical readings. Students will refine and present a paper to the class according to professional standards. Prerequisites: Approval of the instructor.

ARTh 495/595. Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics in art history to be specified in the class schedule each semester. May be repeated for credit as topics vary. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 496/596. Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics in art history to be specified in the class schedule each semester. May be repeated for credit as topics vary. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 497/597. Tutorial Work in Art History. 3 Credits.
Independent research on a topic to be selected under the guidance of the instructor. Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor.

ARTh 498/598. Tutorial Work in Art History. 3 Credits.
Independent research on a topic to be selected under the guidance of the instructor. Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor.

ARTh 510. Michelangelo. 3 Credits.
This course examines the life, sculptures, paintings, and architecture of one of the greatest Italian Renaissance artists, Michelangelo Buonarroti. Prerequisites: Graduate standing.

ARTh 511. Caravaggio. 3 Credits.
This course examines the life and revolutionary paintings of the Italian Baroque painter Caravaggio. Prerequisites: Graduate standing.

ARTh 520. Pompeii. 3 Credits.
This seminar is an exploration of the visual and material culture of Pompeii, incorporating a broad spectrum of evidence, ranging from the city’s temples to the wall paintings in the city’s brothels. The goal of the class is to instill a working knowledge of the most recent scholarship on the ancient city and to contextualize Pompeii’s art and architecture in the historical narrative of the city and the broader body of scholarship on Roman cultural history. Prerequisites: ARTH 121A or ARTH 150 or ARTH 203 or ARTH 204 or ARTH 210 or ARTH 230 or permission of the instructor.

ARTh 534. Romantic Architecture. 3 Credits.
A survey of the aesthetic, technological and social forces that transformed international architecture in the 18th and 19th centuries.

ARTh 535. Modern Architecture. 3 Credits.
An examination of the architecture, planning, and related design of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries around the globe. Special emphasis is placed on the formation of the international style between the world wars and its disintegration in the recent past.

ARTh 550. Public Art. 3 Credits.
This course is a collaborative exploration of the problems and opportunities of national and international public art that combines the practical with the theoretical, and the studio with the art-historical. (This course also satisfies the Arts and Society requirement for the Institute of Humanities Arts & Entrepreneurship certificate.).

ARTh 595. Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics in art history to be specified in the class schedule each semester. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

ARTh 596. Topics in Art History. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics in art history to be specified in the class schedule each semester. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

ARTh 597. Tutorial Work in Art History. 3 Credits.
Independent research on a topic to be selected under the guidance of the instructor.

ARTh 598. Tutorial Work in Art History. 3 Credits.
Independent research on a topic to be selected under the guidance of the instructor.

ARTh 600. Graduate Seminar: Art Criticism. 3 Credits.
An examination of critical methodologies as they relate to the visual arts, with readings drawn from the contemporary scene and the recent past.

ARTh 610. Visual Arts Across Media and Time. 3 Credits.
This course is an introduction to emerging creative, curricular, and research activities in contemporary art, design, art education, and art history. Through lectures, readings, discussion, critical analysis, and creative work, students will engage with ideas and artwork across the broad spectrum of contemporary practice.

ARTh 668. Internship. 3 Credits.
A structured work experience in a museum, gallery, archive, or related environment, either with or without remuneration. Criteria for evaluation will be determined by work supervisor and cooperating faculty advisor. May be repeated for credit. Available for pass/fail grading only.

ARTh 695. Topics in Art History. 1-3 Credits.
Topics to be specified in the class schedule. Intensive critical investigations of specialized areas in art history. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

ARTh 697. Tutorial in Art History. 1-3 Credits.
Independent research on a topic to be selected under the guidance of the instructor.