

College of Fine and Applied Arts
School of Art+Design

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
HANDBOOK

Program in Art History



University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Revised 3/2020

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GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

About the Program in Art History

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has offered courses in the history and criticism of art since 1877. A specific curriculum with a specialty in art history appeared with the creation of a Master's program in 1949, and a specialized undergraduate program two years later. A doctoral degree program was initiated in 1969.

The Art History Program is one of the several that comprise the School of Art+Design, alongside programs in studio arts, design, and art education. The School of Art+Design is one of the 12 units within the College of Fine and Applied Arts. The Art History Program does not have separate administrative offices; all School and College official program administration is handled by the staff of the School of Art+Design in offices located in the Art+Design Building.

Two Colleges, Two Undergraduate Majors

Undergraduate students at UIUC may seek a degree in Art History through either the College of Fine and Applied Arts, or the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The B.F.A degree in Art & Art History, administered by the College of Fine and Applied Arts (FAA), is a combined studio Art & Art History degree and therefore requires more units of studio art course work. The B.A. degree in art history, administered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS), requires more humanities-based course work. Both afford a solid foundation in the field. Students with B.A. and B.F.A. degrees in art history from UIUC have pursued graduate studies, internships, and a range of positions in fields including, but not limited to, art history, arts conservation, arts administration, and fine arts.

University Library and Museums

With a catalogued collection of more than thirteen million volumes, the University Library is the largest among public universities and the second largest university library in the country. The art and architecture collections include more than 120,000 volumes divided between the main library and the Ricker Library of Art and Architecture. The Rare Book and Manuscript Library is one of the largest in the United States. The two university museums, Krannert Art Museum and the Spurlock Museum, display works from their permanent collections and present a rotating schedule of temporary exhibitions. Major museums in Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis are within two to three hours from Champaign-Urbana.

Faculty and Staff

The Art History Program faculty currently has seven full-time tenured or tenure-track professors with diverse research and teaching areas and interests. Faculty members are affiliated with many interdisciplinary programs that support the teaching of art history. These programs include African-American Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, Gender and Women's Studies Program, and Slavic Languages and Literatures. Several faculty members with primary appointments in other departments and programs also have affiliations with the Art History Program. For a more detailed description of Art History Program faculty and faculty in other departments who are affiliated with the Program, see the Art+Design website.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS IN BRIEF

Major in B.A. Degree in Art History (LAS)

To graduate from the university with a Bachelor of Arts in Art History through the College of Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) requires a total of **120 credit hours** of study, including at least **39 credit hours** of coursework towards the art history major, distributed as follows:

- 27 credit hours in art history courses;
- 9 credit hours in advanced supporting course work in the humanities;
- 3 credit hours in studio art or design courses.

See **Appendix A**, or visit <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/art-history/>

Major in B.F.A. Degree in Art & Art History (FAA)

To graduate from the university with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art & Art History through the College of Fine and Applied Arts (FAA) requires a total of **122 credit hours** of study, including at least **77 credit hours** of coursework towards the Art & Art History major, distributed as follows:

- 20 credit hours of first year curriculum courses;
- 24 credit hours in art history courses;
- 12 credit hours in studio and design electives courses (ARTD and ARTS);
- 21 credit hours in Art+Design elective courses (ARTE, ARTD, ARTH, ARTS).

See **Appendix B**, or visit <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/faa/art-art-history-bfa/>

Minor in Art History

The Minor in Art History, available to undergraduates of any major, across all colleges in the university, requires **18 credit hours** of study, distributed as follows:

- 3 credit hours in introductory art history (ARTH 110);
- 9 credit hours in art history courses at 200-400 level;
- 6 credit hours in art history courses at 300-400 level.

See **Appendix C** for complete details, or visit: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/faa/art-history-minor/>

Declaring the Art History Minor

Instructions for declaring a minor are available at the Provost's web site along with the necessary forms: <https://provost.illinois.edu/education/advising-resources/pursuing-undergraduate-minor/how-to-declare-a-minor/>

DEPARTMENTAL DISTINCTION IN ART HISTORY OR ART & ART HISTORY (Senior Honors)

Departmental Distinction in Art History, also known as Seniors Honors in Art History or in Art & Art History, affords majors in the Colleges of Fine and Applied Arts (FAA) and Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) the opportunity to crown their undergraduate careers with a Senior Honors Thesis, which is excellent preparation for graduate level work in the field. Working closely with a faculty advisor, thesis students develop and complete an extended research project in art history during their senior year. They typically enroll in 4 to 6 credit hours of independent study coursework carried out over two semesters, *in addition to* the hours of art history study required by the BA and BFA majors respectively (that is, thesis hours *do not* count as course credit toward the major).

Eligibility and Enrollment

The Honors Thesis is open to undergraduate art history majors with senior standing whose academic records through their junior year demonstrate the ability to perform advanced work. Art History majors for both LAS and FAA are required to have a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 and an Art History grade point average of 3.50.

The following guidelines are written on the assumption that the candidate for honors begins thesis research the fall semester of senior year. They can be adapted to accommodate students who attain senior status at mid-year. Students hoping to write an Honors Thesis should contact the faculty member who works in the area that the student wishes to research to confirm that that professor will be on campus the following year, and that he or she is willing to work with that student as the Thesis Supervisor.

Enrollment for the subsequent year should be as follows: For the fall term of the senior year, LAS candidates should enroll in ARTH 489 (Senior Honors in Art History –B.A.) and FAA candidates should enroll in ARTH 490 (Senior Honors in Art History – B.F.A.) for (usually) 3 credit hours the first semester. To do this, each student should fill out an online “Honors” form with a description of the research and writing the student will undertake for honors credit. Consult Mark Avery in Art+Design 140 or mavery@illinois.edu with any questions. Each student’s form will be sent to the supervising faculty member and to the appropriate advisor in FAA or LAS. The honors candidate **must re-register** for ARTH 489 or 490 for 2-3 hours at the beginning of the spring term. The project statement for spring-term registration should reflect any changes in the topic that have been made as a result of the fall term’s research.

Topic and Length of Paper

The primary responsibility for determining the subject of the Honors Thesis rests with the student in conjunction with the faculty Thesis Supervisor. That faculty member is the student’s instructor for the project. No set formula governs the kind of research problem to be undertaken or the length of the final written paper. In past years, Honors Theses have been between 25 to 50 pages long. The parameters and length of the project will be dependent upon the choice of topics/problems being studied, and be established in consultation with the Thesis Supervisor.

Timeline

A timeline should be developed at an early stage of writing to ensure a timely completion of the project (especially important for the spring semester). Due dates vary from year to year. Please check with your individual advisor if you are currently working on an Honors Thesis.

Grading

The Advisor will assign grades to the independent research project for each semester, whether ARTH 489 or 490. When completed, the honors paper will be evaluated by at least two members of the faculty: the Thesis Supervisor and a second reader with relevant expertise.

Thesis Submission

Students submit the completed thesis to LAS (for BA students) or to their advisor in Art+Design (for BFA students). For BA students, instructions for final formatting and submission are detailed on the LAS website:

https://las.illinois.edu/system/files/inline-files/LAS%20Thesis%20guidelines%202019_1.pdf. The process for BFA students is less formal and are worked out with the advisor.

Both BA and BFA students have the option of making their thesis available to current affiliates of the University of Illinois through the digital repository IDEALS (the Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship). There is also an option to embargo, in which case only metadata will be made available. Students maintain the right to change the status of their thesis in the database at any time by contacting ideals-gen@illinois.edu.

Departmental Distinction

Distinction is awarded on the basis of both the Honors Thesis and the student's other course work as an art history major. The level of honors [Distinction] awarded to the candidates will be determined by the Thesis Supervisor and second reader. On the basis of each candidate's overall record of achievement, the committee will award the candidate with distinction, with high distinction, and with highest distinction in Art History. (This is separate from College "Greek" honors). The candidate's LAS or FAA advisors will inform the candidate of the committee's decisions and report the decisions to the Admission Records Officers of the respective colleges.

ADVISING

Undergraduate Advisor

Bryan VanGinhoven
130 Art+Design Building, bvanginh@illinois.edu

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Professor Kristin Romberg
kromberg@illinois.edu

Art History Program Chair

Professor Terri Weissman
tweissma@illinois.edu

The Chair oversees, in conjunction with the art history faculty, the administrative functions of the Art History Program and acts as liaison and representative between art history faculty and the School of Art+Design's Director and various committees. Questions involving personnel disputes among undergraduate students and faculty, general or unresolved curricular difficulties that the Undergraduate Advisors cannot help with should be taken up with the Chair.

HELP WITH MY MAJOR IN FAA (B.F.A.):

Coordinator of Undergraduate Academic Affairs

Mark Avery
140 Art+Design
217-333-6632
mavery@illinois.edu

Director of School of Art & Design

Prof. Alan Mette
139C Art+Design
217-333-0855
amette@illinois.edu

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs–Academic

Zelda Gardner
217.333.9198
zgardner@illinois.edu

HELP WITH MY MAJOR IN LAS (B.A.):

LAS Student Academic Affairs Office

2002 Lincoln Hall
702 South Wright Street, MC-446
Urbana, IL 61801
217-333-1705
las-studentoffice@illinois.edu

Admissions/Records Officers (ARO)

AROs prepare the graduation list and the final audit of students' records for completion of degree requirements. They are available on a walk-in basis and should be consulted according to the ARO in charge of the letter of your last name. Check the LAS website for your particular Admissions Records Officers: <http://www.las.uiuc.edu/students/advising/college>

Barbara Hancin-Bhatt, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs

Robert Steltman, Executive Assistant Dean, 217-244-6877
Gretchen Pein Baloun, Assistant Dean for Student Services and Administrative Processes, 217-333-9836

College of LAS – Majors and Minors information

<http://www.las.uiuc.edu/students/programs/>

DARS Degree Audit page

<http://registrar.illinois.edu/dars-audit>

LAS General Education Requirements

<http://www.las.uiuc.edu/students/requirements/>

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES FOR BOTH MAJORS

Undergraduate Grievances Procedures

Art History and the School of Art+Design follow the University procedures for filing grievances. These are detailed in the following websites of the Office of Student Conflict Resolution: <http://www.conflictresolution.illinois.edu>

Office Administrator

Charmaine Edwards, room 143 at Art+Design; phone 217-333-0855; email ched@illinois.edu.
She will assist you in setting up appointments with Art+Design administration and provide guidance regarding whom to consult in other Art+Design departments.

ART HISTORY STUDENT RESOURCES AT UIUC

SAHFA

The Society for Art History and Fine Arts (SAHFA) promotes art history and the fine arts. Past projects have included organizing pop-up art exhibitions, amateur “Bob Ross” painting study breaks, and lecture series on careers in museums. Membership is free and open to any interested undergraduate students.

A+D Computer Lab Access

Rooms 225, 228, 229, 232, and 235 Art+Design Building; website:
<http://www.art.illinois.edu/index.php/prospective/resources/laboratories>

Students who have paid the Art+Design Facilities Fee have 24/7 access to the computer labs during the semester (closed for holidays and breaks). The Digital Output Lab Assistant in room 235 can help you find the equipment that you need. If you have any trouble accessing the facilities or would like to request access if you do not have it, please contact the facilities staff via the Art+Design website: <https://art.illinois.edu/index.php/contact-support>

University Library

1408 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana; 217-333-2291; website: <http://www.library.illinois.edu/>

The University Library is the second largest public university library in the U.S. The University Library is founded in 1867 in the charter establishing the school that became the University of Illinois. The Library opened with the school in 1868 with 1,039 volumes and grows slowly over the next decades. Today, the University Library holds more than thirteen million volumes and 24 million items and materials in all formats, languages, and subjects, including 9 million microforms, 120,000 serials, 148,000 audio-recordings, over 930,000 audiovisual materials, over 280,000 electronic books, 12,000 films, and 650,000 maps. The Library has strengths in many areas, ranging from hard sciences to the humanities. These collections form the bulk of I-Share, the statewide library online catalog. Currently there are 76 I-Share libraries and more than 30 million library items represented in the I-Share catalog. Users at these I-Share libraries may borrow books directly from the 76 I-Share library participants.

Ricker Art and Architecture Library

208 Architecture Building; 217-333-0224; website: <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/arx/>

The foundation for the Library's architecture and art collections was laid by the country's first college graduate of architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign professor Nathan Clifford Ricker (1843-1924), who in 1873 purchased several important architectural treatises and folios. Today, the collections of the Ricker Library of Architecture and Art include more than 120,000 volumes and 33,000 serials (some housed in the Library's main book stacks), 35,000 microforms, and a small but burgeoning collection of videos. The holdings cover the fields of architecture, architectural history, art, art history, museum studies, and art education.

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Third floor (Room 346) on the north side of the Main Library at 1408 W. Gregory Drive in Urbana; 217-333-3777; website: <http://www.library.illinois.edu/rbx/>

The Rare Book and Manuscript Library, also part of the University Library, is one of the largest repositories for rare books and manuscripts in the United States. The collections—nearly half a million volumes and three kilometers of manuscript material—include original illustrated books and rare artists' editions of books from the fifteenth through twentieth centuries, and are strong in the broad areas of literature, history, art, theology, philosophy, technology, and the natural sciences.

Krannert Art Museum

500 East Peabody Dr.

Champaign, IL 61820

Phone: 217-333-1861

<http://www.kam.uiuc.edu/>

Spurlock Museum

600 S. Gregory St.

Urbana, IL 61801

Phone: 217-333-2360

<http://www.spurlock.illinois.edu/>

COLLOQUIA AND CONTINUING SEMINARS

The Art History Program sponsors several named lectures each year. These include the Ziff Lecture in Modern art, the Rosemary Coffey Lecture on Medieval/Renaissance art and the Phillip Fehl Lecture on art and culture in the pre-modern world. Additionally, the School of Art+Design sponsors a vigorous program of presentations by visiting artists and designers. All undergraduate majors are warmly encouraged to attend.

Modern Art Colloquium

The Modern Art Colloquium founded in 1999 as a forum for discussing presentations by faculty and graduate students related to modern art, focuses on 20th century and contemporary art. Those who wish to drop in on an occasional basis are welcome as well as those who attend regularly. The participants have been from across campus, with papers or informal works in progress presented by graduate students and faculty in such fields as Communications, Comparative Literature, History, Landscape Architecture, Romance Languages, Urban Planning, and other programs in addition to Art History and Art Studio Practice. We have maintained an email notification list with the schedule of presentations. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome to come along to any or all meetings; if you wish to be on the listserv or to present work please contact Prof. Terri Weissman at tweissma@illinois.edu

SAHA Graduate Student – Faculty Colloquia

These are periodic informal colloquia that allow students and faculty to share aspects of their on-going research and publications, or simply to discuss critical issues. Dates and times are announced as events are scheduled.

A Word About Invited Speakers and Other Professional Colloquia

The Art History Program, along with the School of Art+Design, invites several speakers each year to present lectures on a broad range of topics. Undergraduate students are strongly encouraged to attend as many of these as their schedules and workloads will allow, including those lectures addressing topics immediately outside of the student's main interests. These opportunities to hear experts speak about their work are among the many advantages of attending a major research university.

FINANCIAL AID AND CAREER PLANNING

Internships and Career Counseling

Assistant Director of Career Services in FAA

Julie Rundell, 217.300.6244, jrundell@illinois.edu. She can assist both B.A. and B.F.A. students in searching for jobs and internships.

Humanities Professional Resource Center in LAS

105 Gregory Hall, 217.300.4305, humanitiesprc@illinois.edu
<https://humanitiesprc.web.illinois.edu>

University of Illinois Career Center Office

715 S. Wright St.

Champaign, IL, 61820

Hours: 8:30-5:00 M-F

Phone: (217) 333-0820

<http://www.careercenter.illinois.edu/>

A Word about Graduate School Applications

Students considering pursuing graduate study in art history or related fields at UIUC or elsewhere are warmly encouraged to consult with their Advisor or the Director of Undergraduate Studies no later than junior year. They will be glad to answer questions about the nature and purpose of graduate study, help you plan your application campaign, and advise you on the materials needed. Students who would like to begin graduate school the fall semester following their graduation will typically need to apply for admission in the fall term of their senior year.

WORKSHEET FOR BA IN ART HISTORY

(for students entering UIUC in fall 2019 or afterwards)

1. ARTH 110 (3 credits): _____
2. 6 courses at the 200-400 level (18 credits): _____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____
3. Two art history seminars (400S, 6 credits): _____, _____

Included in the 8 200-400-level art-history courses above there must be one course treating material from **three** of the following four geographic areas:

- a. Africa and the Middle East _____
- b. Asia _____
- c. The Americas _____
- d. Europe _____

And, one course covering material primarily before 1700: _____

And, one course covering material primarily after 1700: _____

Notes:

- With an advisor's approval, up to 6 credit hours of courses in the history of architecture or landscape architecture at the 200-400 level may be taken towards the fulfillment of these required hours.
- Though students must take a total of 6 courses, some courses may count toward the fulfillment of more than one area and period requirement. For instance, a course in 20th century African art could count as a class covering both Africa and the Middle East and material after 1700.

4. One course in studio art, graphic design, or industrial design (3 credits): _____
5. 3 supporting courses in the humanities in LAS (9 credits, must be approved by an advisor):
_____, _____, _____

Among all courses listed above, there must be twelve hours at the 300- and 400-level in the major (taken on this campus. This will include the 2 seminars and two more courses already listed above:

_____, _____, _____, _____

6. 4th-level language requirement: _____

University requirements: 120 total credit hours, including all Gen Ed requirements and 40 hours of upper-division coursework (these hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree).

Departmental distinction: To be eligible for distinction, a student must earn a high grade-point average and complete at least 4 hours of independent research to write a senior research paper. See the undergraduate adviser for details.

WORKSHEET FOR BFA IN ART HISTORY

(for students entering UIUC in fall 2019 or afterwards)

1. First Year Curriculum (20 credits total): _____
2. 4 studio or design electives (any level, 12 credits): _____, _____,
_____, _____
3. 6 art-history courses at the 200-400 level (21 credits): _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____, _____
4. Two art-history seminars (400S, 6 credits): _____, _____

Included in the 8 200-400-level art-history courses above there must be one course treating material from **three** of the following four geographic areas:

- e. Africa and the Middle East _____
- f. Asia _____
- g. The Americas _____
- h. Europe _____

And, one course covering material primarily before 1700: _____

And, one course covering material primarily after 1700: _____

Notes:

- With an advisor's approval, up to 6 credit hours of courses in the history of architecture or landscape architecture at the 200-400 level may be taken towards the fulfillment of these required hours.
- Though students must take a total of 6 courses, some courses may count toward the fulfillment of more than one area and period requirement. For instance, a course in 20th century African art could count as a class covering both Africa and the Middle East and material after 1700.

5. 3 supporting courses in the humanities in LAS (9 credits, must be approved by an advisor):

_____, _____, _____

Among all courses listed above, there must be twelve hours at the 300- and 400-level in the major taken on this campus. This will include the 2 seminars and two more courses already listed above:

_____, _____, _____, _____

University requirements: 122 total credit hours, including all Gen Ed requirements and 40 hours of upper-division coursework (these hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree).

Departmental distinction: To be eligible for distinction, a student must earn a high grade-point average and complete at least 4 semester hours of independent research to write a senior research paper. See the undergraduate adviser for details.

WORKSHEET FOR MINOR IN ART HISTORY

Students must complete a total of 18 hours as follows:

1. ARTH 110: Introduction to Art History and Visual Culture (3 hours) _____
2. One course at the 200-400 level primarily concerned with a subject outside of Europe and the modern Americas:

3. 2 Art History courses at the 200 level or higher (9 credits): _____, _____
4. 1 Art History course at the 300 or 400 level (3 credits) _____
5. 1 Art History 400 level designated seminar course (4xxS) (3 credits) _____

APPENDIX D

LINKS TO UNDERGRADUATE ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES

College General Education Requirements

<http://www.las.illinois.edu/students/requirements/gened/>

Office of Admissions

<http://www.admissions.illinois.edu>

Office of the Registrar

<http://www.registrar.illinois.edu>

(add/ drop deadlines, transcripts, grade/ registration information, etc.)

Illini Union – Services and Events

<http://www.union.illinois.edu/index.aspx>

College of Fine and Applied Arts

<http://www.faa.illinois.edu/>

School of Art+Design

<http://www.art.illinois.edu>

APPENDIX E

USEFUL CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

Campus Visits and Tours

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions offers information sessions and campus tours throughout the year to prospective students and their families. For more information, see <https://admissions.illinois.edu/Visit/Campus-Visits/programs>

University Telephone Directory Assistance:

Phone: 217-333-1000

Campus Life and Student Welfare:

Office of the Dean of Students, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,
300 Turner Student Services Bldg, 610 East John Street, Champaign, IL 61820
Phone: 217-333-0050
<https://odos.illinois.edu>

Office of Undergraduate Admissions:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,
901 West Illinois Street, Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: 217-333-0302
<http://www.admissions.illinois.edu>

Office of the Registrar

Office of the Registrar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,
Suite 140, 901 West Illinois Street, Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: 217-333-0210, 800-531-2531
E-mail: registrar@illinois.edu
<http://www.registrar.illinois.edu>

Technology Services

1211 Digital Computer Lab
Office Hours: M-F 8:30 to 5:00 PM
Phone: 217-244-7000
<https://techservices.illinois.edu>

Financial Aid

Office of Student Financial Aid, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
620 E. John Street, MC-303 Champaign, IL 61820
Office hours: M-F. 9 am to 5 pm.
Phone: 217-333-0100 Fax: 217-265-5516
E-mail: fnaid@illinois.edu Federal School Code: 001775 ,
<http://www.osfa.illinois.edu/>

Child Care Resource Services

314 Bevier, 905 S Goodwin, Urbana IL 61801
Office hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8:30am to 4:30pm
Tues. 11:00am to 4:30pm
Phone: 217-333-3252, 1-800-325-5516; Fax: 217-333-2147
<http://ccrs.illinois.edu/>

Minority Student Affairs:

Office of Minority Student Affairs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
130 Student Services Building, MC- 306, 610 East John Street, Champaign, IL 61820
Phone: 217- 333-0054
E-mail: omsa@illinois.edu
<http://www.omsa.illinois.edu/>

Motor Vehicle and Bicycle Registration:

Campus Parking and Transportation, Public Safety Building University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1201 W. University Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: 217-333-3530
E-mail: parkingcomments@illinois.edu
<http://www.parking.illinois.edu/about-us/motorist-assistance>

Motorist Assistance (Free) Program, (car won't start; keys locked in; flat tire, etc):
call 217-244-HELP

Personal Safety

Campus Police: emergency 911 (9-911 from a campus phone); Non-emergency 217-333-1216
Campus safety webpage, with the latest information on campus safety.

Saferides: special late-night bus transportation in designated area on and near campus
Phone: 217-265-7433.

Safewalks: company walking on and near campus at night
Phone: 217-333-1216 or press an emergency phone button and wait for the dispatcher.
<http://www.police.illinois.edu/universitypolice/campussafety.html>