



Major in Art History

Regardless of time and geography, art and architecture have been used to explore, express, and shape private selves and public lives. In an increasingly disposable world and even after centuries, some works of art have maintained their fascination. They continue to speak to us, although what they say may change. Understanding how visual and material choices create meaning, and how those meanings express and affect the world, is the pursuit of art history.

Enroll in the BA in Art History and learn what it means to really see, from the past to the present. Art History majors work with their faculty advisor to design a program of study that reflects their personal and professional interests and inclinations. They have the opportunity to work closely with faculty specializing in the fields of ancient Mediterranean culture; cultural heritage protection, and the archaeology of the contemporary world; Early Modern and Latin American visual and material culture; East Asian art; European and American modernism; Russian and Soviet art. After completing 18 credits of lower-division coursework, students select one course in each of four areas (Ancient, Early Modern, Modern, and Contemporary Art) as the basis for developing a cluster of upper-division courses. The degree's capstone course is the Senior Thesis, a self-directed research project that formulates an original thesis. Graduates may pursue a wide range of arts related professions or go on to further training at the graduate level.

Interdisciplinary study is an integral part of art historical practice and is highly encouraged in our program. Students may explore a range of topics, concerns and methodologies, from historical culture, formal analysis, and iconography to material culture, social history, and gender studies. Students are also encouraged to take advantage of such exciting opportunities as study abroad courses and internships at one of the many museums, galleries, and arts related businesses (auction houses and galleries, art appraisers, conservation studios) in the Los Angeles and Orange County region.

Please feel free to contact:

Dr. Wendy Salmond, Chair
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Dr. Justin Walsh
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Dr. Amy Buono
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If you do not have an Art History faculty advisor, please contact the Department of Art office at javonillo@chapman.edu.

TRACKING SHEET

Bachelor of Arts in Art History

2025–2026

FALL SEMESTER

INTERTERM

SPRING SEMESTER

SUMMER

FIRST YEAR

Any AH 200 level class

General Education

Art 195 Visual Thinking

Begin language classes

Any AH 200 level class

SOPHOMORE

Any AH 200 level class

General Education

Art Elective

Art Elective

*Continue language to
201 level*

Any AH 200 level class

JUNIOR

2 Upper-division Art History Courses

General Education

Upper-division Art History Course

Study Abroad - AH 399

*Continue language
studies to reading
knowledge level*

AH 398 Good Looking: Writing about
Art and Visual Culture
Avoid Study Abroad this Semester!

SENIOR

2 Upper-division Art History Courses

General Education

AH 498b Senior Thesis: Writing

AH 498a Senior Thesis: Research

Upper-division Art History Course

AH 429 Experimental Seminar
or
AH 400 Cultural Heritage
and the Art World



Please meet with an Art History full-time Faculty Advisor as soon as possible.



Students interested in a full semester study abroad program, should meet with an Art History full-time Faculty Advisor at the start of their 1st year to plan out academic requirements

Bachelor of Arts in Art History

2025-2026

The BA in Art History allows students to explore the arts within a broad historical and cultural context. It is an excellent preparation for graduate school and for art-related careers. A minimum of 21 credits must be in upper-division courses.

Classes in the major may not be taken pass/no pass.

Students should consult with their advisor on courses they plan to take abroad.

Required Courses

(24 credits)

ART 195 ■ Visual Thinking
Four of the following 200 level courses

- AH 200 ■■ Ancient to Medieval Art*
- AH 201 ■■ Renaissance to Modern Art*
- AH 203 ■■ Exchange and Evolution in the Arts of China and Japan
- AH 204 ■ Introduction to Museum Studies
- AH 205 ■■ Arts of the Ancient Americas
- AH 398 ■ Good Looking: Writing about Art and Visual Culture
- AH 498a,b ■ Senior Thesis in Art History

One of the following Courses

- AH 400 ■ Cultural Heritage and the Art World
- AH 429 ■ Experimental Seminar

*AP placement of four or five may waive AH 200 or AH 201

One from each of the following areas

(12 credits)

- Ancient: AH 300, 302 ■ 303 ■■, 304 ■■, 305 ■, 306 ■■, 379
- Early Modern: AH 310 ■, 320 ■, 321 ■■, 322, 323, 324 ■, 325, 351
- Modern: AH 330 ■■, 331 ■■, 332 ■■, 333 ■■, 334 ■■, 336 ■■, 350, GD 304
- Contemporary: ART 296, AH 335, 340 ■■, 341 ■■

Two of the following Courses

(6 credits)

Two courses from graphic design or studio art

Two of the following Courses

(6 credits)

- AH 300 ■ Art of Ancient Egypt
- AH 303 ■■ The Ancient Greek City
- AH 304 ■■ Etruscan and Roman Art
- GD 304 ■■ History of Graphic Design
- AH 305 ■ Early Greek Art
- AH 306 ■■ Later Greek Art
- AH 310 ■ Medieval Art
- AH 323 ■ Arts of Tenochtitlán-Mexico City
- AH 324 ■ The Visual & Material Culture of the Early Modern World (1450-1650)
- AH 325 ■ Topics in Early Modern Art
- AH 330 ■ Nineteenth Century Art
- AH 331 ■ History of Photography
- AH 332 ■■ Modern Art
- AH 333 ■■ Modern Russian Art
- AH 334 ■■ Soviet and Post-Soviet Art
- AH 335 ■ Theories of Modernism
- AH 336 ■ The Art of Fashion
- AH 337 ■ Cultures of Outer Space
- AH 340 ■ Contemporary Art: 1945 to 1970
- AH 341 ■■ Contemporary Art: 1970 to the Present
- AH 350 ■ Chromophobia-Chromophilia: Color and the Making of the Atlantic World
- AH 351 ■ Brazilian Art: 1500-2000
- AH 379 ■ Rome: The Development of the City
- AH 490 ■ Independent Internship

(6 credits)

Total

48 credit

ONLY 9 CREDITS
 (THREE CLASSES)
 MAY DOUBLE COUNT

■ double counts for AI credit
 ■ double counts for SI credit
 ■ double counts for VI credit

■ double counts for GC credit
 ■ double counts for CC credit

General Education Program Themed Inquiry

Students complete a total of 12 units in a course cluster outside their designated degree program or major. Students who complete a second major or a minor fulfill this part of the GE program.

Themed Inquiry programs provide students an opportunity to explore an area of interest from an inter/multidisciplinary focus: four related courses outside the student's designated degree program or major. At least two courses in the cluster must be upper division.

Arts and Humanities

Religion and the Arts
 Histories and Religions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam
 Comparative World Religions
 Global Ethics and Communication
 Ethics
 Philosophy, Knowledge, and Reality
 Culture of the Classical World
 Medieval Culture
 Medieval and Renaissance Studies
 The Renaissance in Europe
 19th Century Studies
 Design and History Fundamentals in Cinematography
 Theatre Arts and Technology
 Production Design
 Narrative and Dramatic Literature
 Digital Arts
 The Modern Experience

Social and Cultural Studies

Business and Economics Cluster
 Cross Cultural Studies
 Education, Culture and Society
 Globalism, Transnationalism, Diaspora, and Culture
 The Holocaust and Comparative Genocide
 Law and Public Policy
 Law and Social Control
 Leadership, Organizations and Society
 Living for the Common Good
 Media, Culture, and Society
 Multicultural Histories and Identities in the United States
 Race and Ethnicity
 Social Entrepreneurship and Leadership
 Social Service

Science, Mathematics, and Technology

Computing Sciences
 Earth and Its Environment
 Game Development
 Informatics
 Information Systems
 Mathematics
 Physics
 Technology, Science, and Society

Area Studies

Africa and the Middle East
 African Studies
 American Society and Culture
 Asian Studies
 Disability Studies
 Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Studies
 The Holocaust in European History
 Latinx and Latin American Studies
 ROTC Cluster
 Women's and Gender Studies

Historical Studies

American History
 Central and Eastern European
 Comparative Colonial Experience
 European History
 History and Media
 Histories and Religions of the East
 History of the World
 The Holocaust and Comparative Genocide
 The Holocaust in Modern
 European History
 Modern History
 Pre-Modern History
 Race, Class, and Identity in History
 Social History
 War and Society

Language and Communication

Arabic Studies
 The French/Francophone Studies
 Japanese Studies
 Germanic Studies
 Italian Studies
 Leadership and Communications Studies
 Linguistics and Bilingualism
 The Spanish Speaking World
 The Practice of Language

Health, Nutrition, and the Body

Holistic Wellness
 Leadership in Athletic Performance
 Nutrition and Performance

Suggested Minors

Advertising **Requires departmental approval*
African-American Studies
Anthropology
Asian American Studies
Broadcast Journalism **Requires Departmental Approval*
Business Administration
Chemistry
Computer Science
Creative and Cultural Industries (CCI)
Dance **Requires Departmental Approval*
Economics
English
Environmental Science
Film Studies
French
Game Development Programming
Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Studies
German Studies
History
History and Media
Holocaust History
Human Biology
Integrated Educational Studies
Japanese Studies
Latinx and Latin American Studies
Leadership & Organization Studies **Requires Departmental Approval*
Mathematics
Music **Requires Departmental Approval*
Nutrition
Organismal Biology
Peace Studies
Physical Education and Coaching
Philosophy
Physics
Political Science
Public Relations **Requires Departmental Approval*
Psychology (Applied Track)
Psychology (General Track)
Religious Studies
Sociology
Spanish
Television **Requires Departmental Approval*
University Honors Program **Requires Departmental Approval*
Women's Studies

Possible Careers

Antiques Dealer, Artist Representative, Auctioneer, Art Handler, Estate and Art Appraiser, Preservation and Conservation, Art Law and Law Enforcement, Freelance Collection Manager, Publishing, Architectural Conservation, Art Librarian, Teaching, Art Criticism, Art Adviser, Governmental Agencies, Visual Resource Curator, Corporate Curator, Art Gallery, Curatorial Consultant, Museum Work.

This tracking sheet, and previous years' editions, can be found at www.chapman.edu/art.