

## Welcome to Art History!

### Major Overview:

The curriculum in the history of art acquaints students with the visual culture of humankind through the ages; works of art as individual organizations of shape, space and color and as cultural artifacts with a history and function within their societies linked to other forms of cultural production.

The Art History Department offers two tracks: art history and architecture and urban studies. The art ***history*** track prepares undergraduate majors for scholarly and professional work and study in the art world, including advanced graduate study, professional museum and gallery work, and careers in arts administration.

The track in ***architecture and urban studies*** prepares departmental majors for graduate work in departments of the history of art and architecture or entry into professional graduate schools in architecture, design and urban planning, as well as for professional work in such areas as historic preservation.

### Courses:

Here's a list of sample courses students in the art history major might take to fulfill some of the major's requirements:

#### **ARTH 110: Introduction to Art History I**

An introduction to visual and material culture and built environments from the ancient ear East through 1650. We will trace developments in cultural production at the center and periphery of the great empires of the pre-modern world in Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas, with a consideration of political and religious institutions that regulated the production and use of images, objects, buildings and space.

We will also focus on the impact of technological innovation and cultural exchange on art and architecture, including changes brought about by commercial expansion, conquest, colonization, religious conversion and pilgrimage.

### **ARTH 227: Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Arts**

The early modern era witnessed the rise of the Ottoman Turks, the Safavids of Iran and the Mughals of India, three states that were in close communication and competition with each other, as well as European counterparts.

This course looks at the art, architecture and urban culture of these three dynasties from the fifteenth through the eighteenth centuries, with a focus on the formation of the early modern concept of a royal capital, the diplomatic and competitive relationships between the three societies, as well as the reception of Europeans and European art practices at all three courts.

### **ARTH 276: Modern Architecture and Urbanism**

This course surveys modernist developments in architecture and urbanism from approximately 1890 to the present. Global in scope, the course considers the built environment in terms of the technological, aesthetic and theoretical issues intrinsic to architecture.

It also examines the relationship of buildings and cities to broader forces, whether political, cultural, social or economic, to clarify just what was "modern" about modern architecture.

### **ARTH 325: Religion and Images in the Early Modern World**

Study of imagery in religious devotion, 1300 through present. Cross-cultural perspective (Italy, the Low Countries, England, France, Spain, Spanish colonial Americas, Africa, Asia).

Material includes miraculous images and representations of miraculous events (weeping statues, sightings of Mary, stigmata on the bodies of the faithful).

Prerequisite: any 100- or 200-level course in art history.

### **ARTH 360: Contemporary Art, 1989-Present**

This course examines the range of practices, forms and institutions that have come to characterize contemporary art since the end of the Cold War.

Global in scope, the course considers the extensive network that constitutes the contemporary art world and examines the nodes in that network where the complications and contradictions endemic to it are most intense.

**Prerequisite:** any 100- or 200-level course in art history.

### **Research Areas:**

Art history internships range from the national to the local level and focus on arts conservation, curation and arts management.

[art history internships.](#)

[<https://www.binghamton.edu/ccpd/students/undergraduate/internships-and-other-ways-to-gain-experience/internship-links.html#art>]

[Binghamton Art History blog](#)

[<https://binghamtonarthistory.wordpress.com>]

[Art History Facebook Page](#)

[<http://www.facebook.com/binghamtonarthistory>]

### **Post-Graduation:**

Binghamton's programs in the history of art and architecture prepare students not only for advanced graduate work in art and architectural history, but also for a broad range of professions and vocations in a variety of related fields.

In the past, students completing degrees in the program have enrolled in graduate programs in the history of art and architecture in most major universities across the country. But many others have chosen to enter fields closely related to art history, such as curatorial practice, museum administration, museum education, art conservation, visual resources management or work in commercial galleries, auction houses, archives and historic preservation.

### **Additional Resources:**

To learn more about art history visit the links below:

[Art History Department](http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/index.html) [http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/index.html]

[Faculty](http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/faculty/) [http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/faculty/]

[Degree tracks](http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/undergraduate/undergrad-tracks.html) [http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/undergraduate/undergrad-tracks.html]

[Department Activities](https://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/news/) [https://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/news/]

[Honors Program](http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/undergraduate/honors.html)

[http://www.binghamton.edu/art-history/undergraduate/honors.html]

**Thank you!**

For more information contact the Art History Department at:  
(607) 777-2112