



History of Art and Architecture Major

www.HAA.Pitt.edu

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The visual image has been an important vehicle for communication in many societies, and in today's culture it increasingly displaces words and texts. In the Department of the History of Art and Architecture, students receive training in the critical analysis of images and monuments that have come to be defined as the monumental arts of painting, sculpture, and architecture, and of those objects and monuments which have conventionally fallen outside this monumental arts tradition, e.g. photography, mass media, popular culture, and their equivalents in non-western and pre-modern cultures and eras. As students learn to look, read, and write critically, they are introduced to the ways in which the arts and images of the past and present shape an individual sense of self and cultural identity. The history of image and monument making is a history of cultural interconnectedness between sacred and secular, elite and popular, dominant and marginal.

The standard major will provide students with knowledge of the historical and geographic breadth of art's history and enable the development of critical skills central to the discipline. An intensive track is highly recommended for students who consider History of Art and Architecture their primary or only major. Majors are encouraged to gain professional experience through internships in local art museums and organizations. The department also offers minors in Museum Studies and Preservation and students are encouraged to consider these curricular options to develop more professionalized skills. The Museum Studies minor capitalizes on our partnerships with the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh and other local institutions and enables students to work directly on an exhibition in our University Art Gallery. The Preservation minor is offered to students who are interested in a more specialized focus on the preservation and documentation of historic architecture and the built environment.

Required courses for the History of Art and Architecture major

The HAA major requires the completion of 29 credits. An intensive major option (38 credits) also exists and is highly recommended for students whose only major is HAA and/or who seek to embark on arts-related careers.

Core courses

HAA 0010 Introduction to World Art or ARC 0150 Introduction to Western Architecture
HAA 0101 Foundations of Art History or ARC 0110 Approaches to the Built Environment
HAA 0102 Pro-seminar for Art History Majors*
HAA 1010 Research and Writing Seminar for Majors or ARC 1160 Architecture: Image, Text, and Theory

* This 1-credit class must be taken twice and is only offered in the fall. Students pursuing a second major should consult with the Department Advisor if completing 2 semesters of HAA 0102 is difficult due to study abroad or adding the major late.

Beyond the core curriculum

Students completing the standard major must take an additional six courses. Students following the intensive track must take nine courses. These courses must meet the following requirements.

Breadth requirements

At least one course in each of the following categories.

Ancient
Asian
Europe before 1750
Modern or Contemporary
Comparative / World

1000-level requirements

Standard majors must take two of the Breadth courses at the 1000-level. Students pursuing the intensive-track option should take four Breadth courses at the 1000-level.

Studio Arts

Students may elect to take one of the following courses toward completion of the HAA major.

SA 0110 Visual Thinking
SA 0120 Painting Studio 1
SA 0130 Drawing Studio 1
SA 0140 Sculpture Studio 1
SA 0180 Digital Studio: Photography

Note: Outside of the core curriculum, students can use a single class to overlap more than one requirement. (For example, a 1000-level course that satisfies a breadth requirement can be used for both.)

Grade requirements

A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option

No course required for the major can be taken on an S/NC basis except HAA 1901, HAA 1903, HAA 1904, HAA 1905, and HAA 1909. These experiential learning courses do not count toward the 1000-level requirements.

Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete at least one W-course in the major. HAA 1010 is the W course for the HAA major.

Honors major requirements

Honors in the history of art and architecture is granted if the student satisfies all requirements for the intensive major, and:

- maintains a GPA of 3.5 or above in HAA courses;
- maintains an overall GPA of 3.25 or above;
- completes HAA 1950 Honors Thesis with a minimum grade of A-, and;
- Completes HAA 1951 Honors Thesis Seminar.

HAA 1950 can be applied toward the 1000-level requirement for the major.

HAA Department Advising

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Checklist History of Art and Architecture major

Core courses

_____ HAA 0010 or ARC 0150
_____ HAA 0101 or ARC 0110
_____ HAA 0102 – first year
_____ HAA 0102 – second year
_____ HAA 1010 or ARC 1160

Beyond the core curriculum:

Six additional courses for students pursuing the standard major, nine for those completing the intensive major option. This requirement includes one in each of the following breadth areas, and a minimum number of courses at the 1000-level.

Breadth requirements

_____ Ancient _____ Asia
_____ Europe before 1750
_____ Modern/Contemporary
_____ Comparative/World

Two 1000-level courses for the standard major; four for the intensive major option.

_____ HAA 1 _____ HAA 1 _____
_____ HAA 1 _____ HAA 1 _____

Students may apply one of the following Studio Arts courses toward the HAA 'beyond the core' credit requirements. This option is not required.

_____ SA 0110 _____ SA 0140
_____ SA 0120 _____ SA 0180
_____ SA 0130

Note: Experiential learning courses HAA 1901, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1909 cannot be taken toward 1000-level course requirements. HAA 1950 Honors Thesis can be applied to 1000-level requirement.