

Academic Area: Art History

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Please find the following subjects and associated programs related to Art History. (Please note: For exact program dates and subject offerings for programs with multiple sessions, please visit the specific program web pages).

July in Aix-en-Provence, France

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ARCHEOLOGY OF ANCIENT PROVENCE – ARC/ARH/FRE 331A – 3 credits

A survey of the different archaeological cultures and civilisations that flourished in the Western Mediterranean basin. Typically includes excursions to sites in Provence.

CROSSROADS IN EUROPEAN ART – ART324A – 3 credits

An in-depth study of the cross-cultural influences in European Art from ancient to the present.

July in Barcelona, Spain

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN: THE BARCELONA EXAMPLE - ARCH 301 - 3 Credits

Taught in English. This course takes an analytical look at the present-day cosmopolitan city of Barcelona politically, economically and socially and looks back through over 2000 years of history to see how it has taken shape. This course will reflect on the definitive events in the history of Barcelona and how they have shaped today's society. Special attention will be focused on its urban development and its reflection in how we interact with the city today. We will determine which historical events most impacted the transformation of this

Catalan capital city's physical, architectural and cultural heritage, and discuss the importance of its location in the Mediterranean.

GREAT 20TH CENTURY ARTISTS: PICASSO, DALI, MIRO - AH 340 – 3 Credits

Taught in English. The course is centered on surrealist theory and how these theories were manifested in artistic works. The theories and poetry of Andre Breton and Sigmund Freud form the basis for the analysis of visual works by a selection of painters and sculptors but focusing on the works of Miró, Dalí and Picasso primarily, and how Catalonia influenced their works. Students will study both Breton's Manifesto of Surrealism and Freud's The Interpretation of Dreams and how the artists conformed to or rejected, the artistic tradition where their background comes from. Other questions to be explored are:

- What level of interaction existed with international artists?
- What elements of their personal lives were portrayed in their works?
- What stories of Spanish and Catalan history are told through their art?
- What elements could we find in nowadays art?

The course will take advantage of the museums of Barcelona to use the city as a classroom by including some guided tours throughout the term.

July in Cusco, Peru

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ART AND DESIGN IN CUSCO – 3 Credits (48 hours)

Taught in English. This course offers students a unique opportunity to experience cultural immersion and develop their personal artistic creativity. Along with lectures on the art history of Cusco and a range of contemporary art forms, they will be invited to participate in a number of field trips to museums, churches, art studios, cultural institutions, galleries and fairs. By the end of the course, students will have completed their own individual or group art projects, based on their experiences in Cusco.

CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION – 3 Credits (48 hours)

Taught in English or Spanish. This course demonstrates to students the importance of cultural heritage in our contemporary world. They will study procedures and policies designed to conserve culturally significant buildings and landscapes. Topics addressed by the course include: heritage site registration and cataloguing, UNESCO Heritage Conservation Charters, and principal restoration and conservation techniques. In Cusco, once the capital of the Inca Empire, a number of conservation projects remain ongoing. Students will visit archaeological and historical sites, in order to see for themselves how such theoretical knowledge is applied in practice.

July in Florence, Italy

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY - LAAHAA355 - 3 Credits

This course explores the principal architects and artists, monuments, and themes from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in Italian art and architecture. Class time is divided equally between lectures and on-site visits in the city of Florence. Emphasis will be placed on Renaissance architecture in Florence and will also include architectural developments in other Italian towns. Special topics will include architectural theory, the Medici and papal patronage, urban planning, and church and palace design. Coursework will focus on important figures such as Brunelleschi, Alberti, Michelozzo, Michelangelo, and Leonardo, in addition to visits to key Renaissance buildings and urban spaces in Florence.

FLORENTINE ART WALKS – LAAHFW280 – 3 credits

This course examines the city of Florence with themed walks offering a comprehensive approach to the city as an open-air cultural, historical, and artistic research site from its Roman foundation to its contemporary Zeitgeist. Students will learn the history of the city through its art: they will understand how buildings, streets, squares and monuments can be mapped as living traces of multiple, overlapping layers of a complex past and how to encode them in their personal appropriation of the city. Starting from learning how to decode the artistic environment of the city to unveil its traces, both visible and invisible, the course aims at understanding the main social and cultural reasons underlying the existing shape of the city. The course explores traces and evidences from Roman times through Middle Ages, Renaissance, Mannerism and Baroque, up to Art Nouveau and contemporary Florence. Students will be provided with a consistent theoretical background related to relevant historic-artistic landmarks and their social and cultural context and main characters (Guelphs vs. Ghibellines, the Florentine Guilds, Dante, the Medici family, Botticelli, Michelangelo, Ghirlandaio, Ammannati, Pontormo, etc. Students will be encouraged to develop their own experiential tools and strategies to approach the city through guided field learning activities that assess research, on-site involvement, and academic outcome for each themed walk in Florence.

INTRODUCTION TO ART HISTORY - LAAHAH210 – 3 semester credits

This introductory art history course will take students through Italian and European art from the classical Greek and Roman periods up to and including the eighteenth century. Special emphasis will be given to Florentine and Italian art of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries and to the "Golden Age" of the Renaissance. The course is aimed at students who have not taken a history of western art course before. Lectures will alternate with on-site teaching in Florence including architectural walking tours and visits to relevant museums, churches, and palaces.

INTRODUCTION TO RENAISSANCE ART - LAAHIR220 – 3 Credits

This introductory course is intended for students who have little to no background in the history of Western Art. Before examining the beginnings of Renaissance art that took flourish in Florence in the fifteenth century, students will be given a broad overview of Greek and Roman art and architecture, whose emulation is fundamental to understanding the cultural revolution of the Renaissance. Through on-site visits to medieval churches and palaces in Florence, students will early on become familiar with the Romanesque and Gothic styles in which the first Renaissance painters, sculptors, and architects found their roots and from which they were to dramatically diverge. As site-visits are a significant part of this course, the focus will be on Florentine artists such as Masaccio, Donatello, Brunelleschi, Fra Angelico, Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo. By way of comparison, consideration will also be given to other important centres of art in Italy such as Venice, Siena, and Ferrara. In addition to analysing the style and subject matter of works of art, students will learn about the techniques of painting and sculpture and comparisons will be made with techniques in other countries during the same period, for example the use of oil paints in Flemish painting.

ITALIAN CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE: INTRODUCTION TO ART AND ARCHITECTURE – LAAHCC285- 6 credits

This field learning course engages the student in topics related to Italian civilization and culture through direct experience and on-going research. Places of historic, archaeological, artistic, architectural, religious, and culinary importance will be introduced on-site as students are guided by the instructor to contextualize an interdisciplinary understanding of Italy. The 3-week course focuses on three distinct areas of geographic interest in Italy: Northern Italy and its relationship to Europe; Southern Italy's proximity to Middle Eastern and Mediterranean cultures; and Central Italy's cultural dominance due to the Etruscan, Roman and Renaissance influence. Pre-course research is required through the analysis and study of designated resources and bibliographies. On-site fieldwork and assessment are conducted on a daily basis between the instructor and students. Discussion, recording and presentation are essential forms of re-elaborating the course topics. The course emphasizes both ancient and contemporary art through museums and site visits and architectural locations such as palaces, villas and gardens. This class includes field learning hours. Field learning is a method of educating through first-hand experience. Skills, knowledge and experience are acquired outside of the traditional academic classroom setting and may include field activities, field research and service learning projects. The field learning experience is cultural because it is intended to be wide-reaching. Field-related content is not limited to the course subject but seeks to supplement and enrich academic topics. Students will have the opportunity to integrate theory and practice while experiencing Italian culture, art and community within the Italian territory. Faculty will lead students in experiencing Italian culture through guided projects and field experiences as planned for the course. Field learning will be developed through classroom preparation, follow up projects, and guided learning outcomes. Field learning will provide students with the opportunity to develop skills and appreciate the multifold components of Italian Culture through direct experience. Field education will advance student learning as a relationship-centered process. + 150 field learning hours.

July in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

AN INTRODUCTION TO CONTEMPORARY VIETNAMESE FINE ART

Vietnam's relatively recent emergence onto the international art scene reflects its rapid cultural, economic and technological change. The intersection of its rich and turbulent history with new international influences and a globalised art market has provided inspiration for a number of challenging and provocative artists. This course will direct student's learning by identifying and investigating the cultural, historical and contemporary aspects and practice of contemporary Vietnamese art. Students will develop their knowledge and sensibility of art culture through site visits and ongoing reflection on personal experiences. Both will be important in helping inform student's own piece of creative work or visual diary, and further understanding and interest in contemporary fine art.

July in London, England

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ART AND SOCIETY - 4ELIT007X – Class Level 4

This module is an introduction to the visual culture of London, including painting, architecture, photography and contemporary media. Students will visit the major art galleries to examine how art works exhibitions and cultural organisations can be understood within wider social contexts. The sessions also include museums and historical sites, such as the British Museum and St Paul's Cathedral, as well as art galleries. The classes will explore how these institutions reveal the complex cultural identity and history of London. The module develops students' skills in visual analysis and critical thinking about culture.

July in Los Angeles, CA, USA

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT EGYPT, PREDYNASTIC PERIOD TO NEW KINGDOM - ART HIS M110A – 4 US Credits

Study of architecture, sculpture, painting, and minor arts during Predynastic period and Old Kingdom.

SELECTED TOPICS IN CONTEMPORARY ART - ART HIS 132 – 4 US Credits

Lecture, three hours. Requisite: course 23. Changing topics in contemporary art (post-1945) that reflect interests of individual regular and/or visiting faculty members. May be repeated once for credit.

ARCHITECTURE IN U.S – ART HIS 133D – 4 US Credits

Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Introduction to architecture built in U.S. over last 5,000 years. Architecture as vehicle for political and cultural authority, citizenship, ethnic and social identity; its role in defining place and our relationship to natural environment and as vehicle for asserting human control over natural world; its place in world of work and commerce; and its status as professional and aesthetic pursuit.

LATIN AMERICAN ART OF 20th CENTURY – ART HIS C142B – 4 US Credits

Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour (when scheduled). Mainstream modern and contemporary art and architecture of selected Latin American countries, including both modernist and postmodernist forms, considered in context of social and political concerns, both national and international. Concurrently scheduled with course C242B.

LATER ART OF INDIA – ART HIS 154B – 4 US Credits

Lecture, three hours. Not open to freshmen. Survey of Indian art from 10th to 19th century. Decline of Buddhist art, last efflorescence of Hindu architecture, Muslim painting and architecture, and Rajput painting.

July in San Jose, Costa Rica

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE AND ART - ARCH3112 – 3 Credits

A chronological overview of main inventions and other factors that influenced past and present architecture in Latin America, analysing the artistic manifestations.

ART FUNDAMENTALS: THEORY AND PRACTICE – ART2100 – 3 Credits

This course is designed for the beginner to help the student find personal meaning in works of art and develop a better understanding of the nature and validity of art as a visual and space language (line, shape, volume, light, space, time, motion, colour and texture). This means that you will learn about the essentials of art through experience and experimentation. Through determination and an open mind, you will increase your creativity and discover more interesting ways to understand and judge the visual arts. Emphasis is placed on the diversity of form and content in artwork. Upon completion, students should understand the basics of art materials used and have a basic overview of the history of art and how art represents its society, especially in Latin American culture.

July in Stirling, Scotland

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

PHOTOGRAPHING THE URBAN

This art history module draws inspiration from Scottish historical architecture and explores the representation of the built environment through various artistic genres including painting, media, optics and photography. Underpinning the module is an acquisition of skills in fine art digital photography. This module includes a one-day excursion relevant to local sites and a 19th century Scottish mansion, complementing what is learned in the classroom.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF ART WITH A TARTAN TWIST

The only requirement is interest in the Visual Arts and/or Psychology. Scotland has a rich visual art tradition from the prehistoric to the contemporary. Are there universal principles underlying Art reflecting the way the brain works? How did Art start? What can children's drawings tell us? How does the difference in looking by artists and non-artists affect drawing and aesthetic judgment? How does culture affect aesthetic preference? What makes particular Works of Art iconic? We will examine neuroscience, neuropsychology, cognitive science (including eye tracking), an ethnography of the Art world, and experiential learning to consider process (making art) and aesthetics (appreciating art). There will be an excursion to exhibitions at the renowned Edinburgh International Festival.

SCULPTING ART

This course provides a general introduction to contemporary art history, with examples and inspiration drawn from the University of Stirling's public art and sculpture collections. The course is especially designed for students to explore sculptural representation from figurative artworks at the end of the 20th century to the commencement of Modernism and its relationship to new technologies and different forms of art representation.

To complement an understanding of this transformational period in art history, we have also designed the course to provide students with a practical approach. In particular, students will be provided with an opportunity to gain knowledge of basic sculptural construction and critique methods. Students will undertake research and create their own art portfolios based on the class excursion, lecture material and assignments. Portfolio assignments will include the creation of sculptural drawings and/or small models (maquettes) to support student learning of basic sculptural design and concepts.

Over the duration of the course, students will be able to develop a new understanding of the sculptural arts, and will have the opportunity to apply research and critical thinking, photographic and drawing skills and social media in their assignments. This module includes a one-day excursion to the Dean Art Gallery in Edinburgh. The artworks by sculptor, Eduardo Paolozzi, will be a particular focus. Note: Students will be asked to bring a digital camera for some of their assignments. Phone or notebook cameras are acceptable.

January in Florence, Italy

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

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January in France, Italy and Greece

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

- **Art History 385:** Ancient and Medieval Classical Art and Architecture
- **History 385:** Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean Cultural History
- **Archaeology 385:** Greek and Roman Archaeology
- **Cross Cultural Studies 385:** Muslims and Christians in Europe
- **Religious Studies 385:** From Polytheism to Monotheism, The Early Christian Period in Italy, Greece & France

The Mediterranean Basin: This course builds visual literacy in the history of art and archaeology as well as philosophical literature from the Mediterranean Basin from Antiquity to the Middle Ages. It cultivates strong research and critical thinking skills and develops students' abilities to synthesise cultural, historical, political and social information as it relates to the visual arts. The academic component consists of a series of site visits and on-site studies made by academic experts from IAU in addition to local guides and experts in the field of history, art history and archaeology. Students in the various sections of the course will attend the same meetings but will have different syllabi for readings, papers, discussions and examinations.

January in Italy, France, the Netherlands and Czech Republic

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

THEMATIC STUDIES: THE EUROPEAN CITY IN LITERATURE AND VISUAL ARTS

- **European Studies 303:** Europe and the Urban Space
- **Anthropology 301:** The Artist and the City
- **Literature 375:** The European City in Literature
- **Communications 375:** The European City in the Visual Arts

- **Geography 201: Europe and its Cities**

The Great Cities: Exploration of the rise and the establishment of the urban setting as the nexus of contemporary European culture and civilisation through cinema, the novel, poetry, music and paintings. The course will explore the rise and the establishment of the urban setting as the nexus of contemporary European culture and civilisation. The main genres will be the novel and cinema but will not exclude poetry, music or painting. Students in the various sections of the course will attend the same meetings but will have different syllabi for readings, papers, discussions and examinations.

January in London, England

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

LONDON: HISTORY, ART AND SOCIETY

This module provides an opportunity for students to develop an initial understanding of the history of London and of some of its most celebrated monuments, heritage and art-historical sites. It will introduce students to various types of historical artefacts – architecture, sculpture, painting and archaeological objects – and to various types of historical sources and approaches to them. You will develop a meaningful awareness of the particular character and challenges of London history through these visual and material sources as well as texts, both factual and fictional – and different approaches to them. The syllabus will include visits to London’s museums and heritage sites such as Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London and less well-known sites, off the 'tourist trail'.

January in Morocco, Spain and France

[\(Click to view course and program details\)](#)

- **Art History 395:** Classical Islam and the European Renaissance
- **Cross Cultural Studies 395:** Jews, Muslims and Christians in Europe and the Islamic World
- **French 395:** Cultural History of France and the Islamic World
- **History 395:** Cultural History of Europe and the Islamic World
- **Political Science 395:** European Politics and the Islamic World
- **Religious Studies 395:** Jews, Muslims and Christians in Europe and the Islamic World
- **Spanish 395:** Cultural History of Spain and the Islamic World

Europe & the Islamic World: This course features an academic, governmental and cultural tour of key cities in Europe, including Paris, Granada, Marrakech and Rabat among others, and will involve a series of briefings from leading European academic, military, literary and political personalities and experts on the European relationship with the Islamic world. Participants will attend daily lectures and meetings with distinguished scholars from IAU in addition to local guides and experts in the field of politics, art history, history and culture.

Students in the various sections of the course will attend the same meetings but will have different syllabi for readings, papers, discussions and examinations.

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Intern Abroad Programs:

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Additional Academic Areas:

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