

ART, ART HISTORY & VISUAL STUDIES

Undergraduate Programs in Art, Art History & Visual Studies 2023—2024

aahvs.duke.edu/undergraduate

The Department offers undergraduate degrees in Art History, Art History + Visual Arts, Visual Arts, Visual & Media Studies, and Computational Media; Concentrations in Architecture, Cinematic Arts, and Museum Theory & Practice; and Minors in Art History, Cinematic Arts, Photography, Visual Arts, and Visual & Media Studies.

Visual Arts courses offer directed experiences in the practice of the visual arts, enhancing the understanding of art both within the history of culture and as individual human achievement. Department offerings emphasize the analysis and articulation of visual concepts and processes as they relate to a broader education in the humanities and sciences. A Major or Minor in visual arts can provide the foundation for further study in various areas of the visual arts. It may prepare the student for further training as an artist, teacher, or architect, as well as in related fields such as advertising or design.

Art History is the study of works of art in the context of the broader social, political, and intellectual cultures of which they are a part. Studying art history develops the ability to evaluate and organize information, visual as well as verbal; it also enhances the faculties of creative imagination, precise observation, clear expression, and critical judgment. Students of art history acquire a sophisticated understanding of the theory and practice of artistic production and reception. Art history's emphasis on careful observation, the ordering of diverse sorts of information, expository writing, and scholarly research makes it a good general preparation for advanced study or any profession.

Visual & Media Studies concern all aspects of the production, circulation, and reception of visual images in culture, science, and society. Studies in visual culture engage students in the analysis of the rhetoric and semiotics of images, providing access to how visual meaning is socially, politically, and culturally constructed and received. Visual studies enable students to interpret the representations that shape the visual constructs of a particular society, to consider how systems of visual code differ from culture to culture, and to think through how the symbolic constructions of life organize how one sees, understands, and participates in natural and social environments.

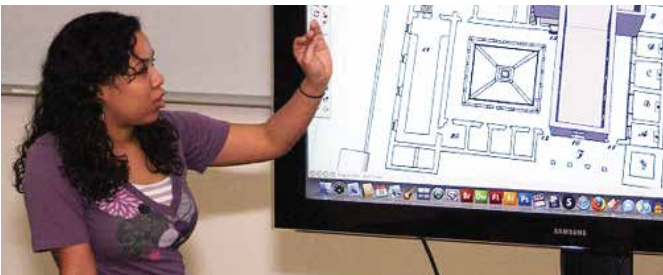
Why Study Art, Art History or Visual & Media Studies?

We live in an increasingly visual culture, awash with images in an expanding range of media – from painting and sculpture to photography, television, film, video and the Internet – and public and private settings – from the gallery and city street to the courtroom, the hospital, and the lecture hall. As visual forms are deployed to entertain, to enlighten, to seduce and persuade us, and as we ourselves increasingly become the objects of surveillance, visual competence and media literacy are central to critical thinking in the twenty-first century. The historical study of art, architecture, archaeology and visual and media culture provides a range of practical and intellectual skills, and helps to develop languages necessary to analyze objects, artifacts and the built environment, and to interpret their social impact. Making art enhances our ability to think visually and to resolve spatial problems, and at the same time develops within us the deep satisfactions of creativity. Visual studies enable understanding of the role of images in everything from the fine arts and the psychology of perception to popular culture and the media.



Art history offers students the opportunity to develop their ability to formulate ideas orally and in writing through the study of theory and criticism, as well as to learn how to refine their powers of observation. Art historical and visual training prepares students for a variety of careers in many different professions within and beyond art.

A passion for the visual artifact resides at the core of successful work in the history or practice of art, and both art historical and studio training provide practical experience in the development and creative resolution of new ideas and their visual expression. These disciplines offer compelling ways to think about and debate new perspectives on the past and present.



Because of its emphasis on precise observation, description, and clear expression, majoring in Art, Art History, and/or Visual & Media Studies will prepare you for a wide range of careers or advanced education: as architects, urban planners, or landscape architects; as legal advisors to museums, dealers, or private and corporate collectors; in arts management for private, local, or federal agencies; or further training for careers in restoration and conservation, as well as architectural preservation. Additionally, many graduates have gone on to work in medicine, law, and business.

Internships are available at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University and the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh. A number of students have also arranged for internships in galleries and museums during the summer.



FACULTY

Stanley Abe, *Associate Professor of Art History* - Chinese Art, Theory and Criticism

Dore Bowen, *Research Professor of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Contemporary Art, Immersive and Installation Arts, History of Photography, Queer Feminist Art History

Franklin Cason, *Assistant Professor of the Practice of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Film Studies, African-American Cinema

Susanna Caviglia, *Associate Professor of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Visual Culture in the Long Eighteenth Century, Early Modern European Drawing, Cross-cultural Relationships in the Early Modern Mediterranean World

Jasmine Nichole Cobb, *Professor of African and African American Studies and of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Black Visual Culture, Black Film, African American Women

Sheila Dillon, *Anne Murnick Cogan Distinguished Professor of Art History and Professor of Classical Studies* - Greek and Roman Sculpture and Classical Archaeology, Historical and Cultural Visualization

William Fick, *Lecturing Fellow of Visual Arts* - Drawing, Art of the Comic Book and Zines, Printmaking

Maurizio Forte, *William and Sue Gross Professor of Classical Studies and Professor of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Digital Archaeology, Classical Archaeology, Historical and Cultural Visualization

Esther Gabara, *Professor of Romance Studies and of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Modern and Contemporary Latin American Art, Literature, and Theory

Sara Galletti, *Associate Professor of Art, Art History and Visual Studies* - Early Modern Architectural History and Theory, France 1500-1700, Historical and Cultural Visualization

Joshua Gibson, *Associate Professor of the Practice of Filmmaking* - Cinematography

Stephen Hayes, *Ebenshade Assistant Professor of the Practice of Visual Arts - Drawing, Sculpture*

Paul B. Jaskot, *Professor of Art, Art History and Visual Studies and Dept. Chair - Modern German Architecture and Art, Holocaust Studies, Historical and Cultural Visualization*

Shambhavi Kaul, *Associate Professor of the Practice of Filmmaking and Interim Director of Cinematic Arts - Cinematography*

Pedro Lasch, *Research Professor of Visual Arts - Painting, Social Practice, Visual Culture*

Madison Hill, *Post-MFA Instructor in Cinema*

Julia K. McHugh, *Adjunct Assistant Professor of Art History and Trent A. Carmichael Curator of Academic Initiatives, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University - Museum Studies, Ancient and Colonial Americas*

Jennifer Lion, *Assistant Professor of the Practice of Filmmaking - Cinematography*

Beverly McIver, *Professor of the Practice of Visual Arts - Painting and Drawing, Business and the Arts*

Mark J.V. Olson, *Associate Professor of the Practice of Art, Art History and Visual Studies and Director of Graduate Studies, M.A. Programs - Visual and Media Studies, Medicine and Visual Culture, Historical and Cultural Visualization*

Richard J. Powell, *John Spencer Bassett Distinguished Professor of Art and Art History - American, African American, and African Art*

Marshall N. Price, *Adjunct Assistant Professor of Art History and Chief Curator and Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University - Modern and Contemporary Art, Museum Studies*

Thomas S. Rankin, *Professor of the Practice of Visual Arts/Documentary Studies and Director, MFA in Experimental + Documentary Arts - Photography, Documentary Studies*

Raquel Salvatella de Prada, *Associate Professor of the Practice of Visual and Media Arts - Animation, Digital Media, Historical and Cultural Visualization*

William Seaman, *Professor of Visual Studies - Media Research, Media Art, and Media Theory*

Kristine Stiles, *France Family Distinguished Professor of Art, Art History and Visual Studies - Contemporary Art, Visual Studies, Trauma Theory, Destruction in Art*

Victoria E. Szabo, *Research Professor of Visual Studies and New Media and Director of Graduate Studies, Ph.D. Program in Computational Media, Arts & Cultures - Visual and Media Studies, Digital Humanities, Historical and Cultural Visualization*

Edward Triplett, *Assistant Professor of the Practice of Art, Art History and Visual Studies - Romanesque and Gothic Architecture, Medieval Iberian Castles and Fortifications, Historical and Cultural Visualization*

Hans J. Van Miegroet, *Professor of Art History and Visual Studies and Director of Undergraduate Studies - Social History of Early Modern Art and Economics, Art and Markets*

Juan L Velazquez, *Post-MFA Instructor in Visual Arts*

Gennifer Weisenfeld, *Professor of Art History and Visual Studies and Director of Graduate Studies, Ph.D. Program in Art History & Visual Culture - Japanese Art and Architecture, Visual Culture, Design History*

Augustus Wendell, *Assistant Professor of the Practice of Computational Media - Computational Aesthetics, Agent-based Modeling, 3D Spatial Simulation, Computational Performing Arts*

Annabel J. Wharton, *William B. Hamilton Distinguished Professor of Art and Art History - Late Ancient Culture, Modern Architecture, Theory and Criticism, Architectural Theory*