

ART HISTORY/THEORY/CRITICISM MAJOR



Major Code: VA26

The major in art history, theory, and criticism is designed both for students who desire a broadly-based education in the humanities and for those who plan to pursue a career in an art-related profession. In both cases, the foundation for study is proficiency in the languages of artistic expression. Through the study of art history, students learn to treat works of art as manifestations of human belief, thought, and experience in Western and non-Western societies from prehistory to the present day. Courses in criticism review the theoretical approaches which are used to understand artistic achievement. By combining art historical and critical study, the program promotes in the student an awareness of the cultural traditions which have shaped his or her intellectual outlook and provides a framework for informed judgment on the crucial issues of meaning and expression in contemporary society.

Majors are encouraged to take relevant courses in allied disciplines such as History, Communication, Anthropology, and Literature, and in such area programs as Classics and Italian Studies. In addition, students who plan to apply to graduate schools are strongly advised to develop proficiency in one or more foreign languages, as is dictated by their area of specialization.

LOWER DIVISION	5
UPPER DIVISION	13
TOTAL COURSES REQUIRED	18

ALL COURSES TAKEN FOR MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MUST BE TAKEN FOR A **LETTER GRADE**, AND ONLY GRADES OF **C- OR BETTER** WILL BE ACCEPTED. REFER TO COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR ENFORCED PREREQUISITES.

* Indicates Seminar

LOWER DIVISION

FOUNDATION LEVEL

(5 Courses Required)

VIS 20	Introduction to Art History
VIS 22	Formations of Modern Art
VIS 23*	Information Technologies in Art History

Choose one from:

VIS 21A	Introduction to the Art of the Americas of Africa and Oceania
VIS 21B	Introduction to Asian Art

Choose one from:

VIS 1, 2 OR 3	Introduction to Art-Making
VIS 60	Introduction to Digital Photography
VIS 70N	Introduction to Media

NOTE: Students should attempt to complete VIS 23 by the end of sophomore year or the first time it is offered after declaring as a junior or transferring into the program.

UPPER DIVISION

GROUP I: Required Courses

(2 Courses Required)

The following two courses are required of all art history and criticism majors:

VIS 111	Structure of Art
VIS 112*	Art Historical Methods

NOTE: Majors should complete VIS 112 by the end of their junior year and are strongly advised to do so as soon as possible.

GROUP II: Distributional Requirement

(6 Courses Required)

NOTE: Students must complete one from each area, A – F.

A. European Pre-Modern: Ancient and Medieval

VIS 120A	Greek Art
VIS 120B	Roman Art
VIS 120C	Late Antique Art
VIS 120D	Prehistoric Art
VIS 121AN	The Idea of Medieval Art
VIS 121B	Castles, Cathedrals and Cities
VIS 121D*	The Illuminated Manuscript in the Middle Ages
VIS 128A	Topics in Pre-Modern Art History
VIS 129A*	Seminar in Pre-Modern Art History

B. European Early Modern: Renaissance and Baroque

VIS 122AN	Renaissance Art
VIS 122CN	Defining High Renaissance Art
VIS 122D	Michelangelo
VIS 122F*	Leonardo's <i>La Gioconda</i>
VIS 123AN	Between Spirit and Flesh: Northern Art of the Early Renaissance
VIS 123BN*	Jan van Eyck
VIS 124AN	Baroque Art
VIS 128B	Topics in Early Modern Art History
VIS 129B*	Seminar in Early Modern Art History

C. Modern and Contemporary

VIS 124BN	Art and the Enlightenment
VIS 124CN	Nineteenth Century Art
VIS 125A	Twentieth Century Art
VIS 125BN	Contemporary Art
VIS 125DN*	Marcel Duchamp
VIS 125F	Latin American Film
VIS 128C	Topics in Modern Art History
VIS 129C*	Seminar in Modern Art History
VIS 158	Histories of Photography
VIS 159	History of Art and Technology (also ICAM 150)

ART HISTORY/THEORY/CRITICISM MAJOR



D. Arts of the Americas

- VIS 126AN Pre-Columbian Art of Ancient Mexico and Central America
- VIS 126BN The Art and Civilization of the Ancient Maya
- VIS 126C* Problems in Mesoamerican Art History
- VIS 126D* Problems in Ancient Maya Iconography and Inscriptions
- VIS 126HN Pacific Coast American Indian Art
- VIS 126I Southwest American Indian Art
- VIS 126J African and Afro-American Art
- VIS 126K Oceanic Art
- VIS 126P Latin American Art: Modern to Postmodern (1890-1950)
- VIS 126Q Latin American Art: Modern to Postmodern (1950-Present)
- VIS 126R Latin American Photography
- VIS 128D Topics in Art History of the Americas
- VIS 129D* Seminar in Art History of the Americas

E. Arts of Asia

- VIS 127B Arts of China
- VIS 127C Arts of Modern China
- VIS 127D* Early Chinese Painting
- VIS 127E* Later Chinese Painting
- VIS 127F* Japanese Buddhist Art
- VIS 127G* 20th Century Chinese Art
- VIS 127N 20th Century Art in China and Japan
- VIS 127P Arts of Japan
- VIS 127Q* Japanese Painting and Prints
- VIS 128E Topics in Art History of Asia
- VIS 129E* Seminar in Art History of Asia

F. Theory

- VIS 113BN* History of Criticism II: Early Twentieth Century (1900-1950)
- VIS 113CN* History of Criticism III: Contemporary (1950-Present)
- VIS 117A* Narrative Structures
- VIS 117B* Theories of Representation
- VIS 117E* Problems in Ethnoaesthetics
- VIS 117F* Theorizing the Americas
- VIS 117G* Visual Theory and Practice since 1980
- VIS 117H Constructing Gender in 5th Century BC Athens and 18th Century France
- VIS 117I* Western and Non-Western Rituals and Ceremonies
- VIS 128F Topics in Art Theory and Criticism
- VIS 129F* Seminar in Art Theory and Criticism

Students must take at least three upper-division seminars in addition to VIS 112. These three additional seminars may come from any area and be taken in fulfillment of the distribution requirements or as open electives.

In accordance with standard university policy, the department requires that students take 2/3 of the upper-division courses in their major at UCSD. **The distribution requirement must be fulfilled with courses taken at UCSD.** Courses taken abroad or at other US institutions do not count towards, and will not be substituted for, the 6 course distribution requirement.

Art history majors cannot enroll in more than one upper-division seminar without having completed Information Technologies in Art History (**VIS 23**) and Art Historical Methods (**VIS 112**).

GROUP III: Electives (5 Upper-Division Courses Required)

At least three of these must be courses in Art History or Theory. For the remaining two courses, choose from the following:

- Any upper-division art history course(s) in history or theory
- Any upper-division course(s) in media history and criticism
- Upper-division courses in studio or media production
- Two, 2-unit Curatorial Practices Workshop courses (**VIS128P**) count as one course towards the fulfillment of an elective
- One upper-division course in a related department or program such as Anthropology, History, Literature, Critical Gender Studies (*with permission of art history faculty advisor*).

Honors Program in Art History

- VIS 129G* Art History Honors Seminar
- VIS 129H* Art History Honors Directed Group Study

The completion of both the Art History Honors Seminar and the Art History Honors Directed Group Study counts as one course towards the fulfillment of the Group III: Elective Requirement.

Students who meet the criteria may, with permission of the art history faculty advisor or the Art History Honors Seminar instructor, enroll in the Art History Honors Program during the last quarter of their junior year or as a senior. This program is open to juniors and seniors who meet eligibility requirements. Please consult with the departmental advisor for these requirements

Art History, Theory and Criticism Major Worksheet (VA26)



Name: _____

PID: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: _____

FOUNDATION LEVEL (5 courses required)

Quarter

VIS 20	Introduction to Art History	_____
VIS 22	Formations of Modern Art	_____
VIS 23	Information Technologies in Art History	_____
VIS 21A or 21B	Intro to Art of the America or Intro to Asian Art	_____
VIS _____	Lower Division Choice: 1, 2, 3, 60 or 70N	_____

UPPER DIVISION: Required & Distribution (8 courses required)

VIS 111	Structure of Art	_____
VIS 112	Art Historical Methods	_____
VIS _____	A. European Pre-Modern: Ancient & Medieval	_____
VIS _____	B. European Early Modern: Renaissance & Baroque	_____
VIS _____	C. Modern and Contemporary	_____
VIS _____	D. Arts of the Americas	_____
VIS _____	E. Arts of Asia	_____
VIS _____	F. Theory	_____

ELECTIVES (5 upper-division courses required)

VIS _____	Art History or Theory	_____
VIS _____	Art History or Theory	_____
VIS _____	Art History or Theory	_____
VIS _____	Elective Choice	_____
VIS _____	Elective Choice	_____

ALL Distribution Courses must be taken @ UCSD
Students must take three upper-division seminars in addition to VIS 112.