

Art and Art History

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Departmental Mission Statement: The Department of Art and Art History prepares students to understand historical and contemporary currents in visual literacy in terms of art production and its analysis. This includes knowledge of studio practices, methodologies, theories, and history. The department prepares students to enrich their communities by engagement with the visual arts on personal and professional levels.

Communicating Plus - Art and Art History: Students completing a major in art and art history develop skills in the four Communicating Plus areas as they progress through courses in the department — written communication, oral communication, critical thinking and problem solving. Students write and give formal and informal presentations in virtually all classes in the art department. Additionally, students develop skills in critical thinking and problem-solving as they learn to analyze critique, create, and support artistic thought.

Requirements for a major in studio art: Forty-eight credits.

ART 120 and ART 222.

Either the sequence ART 190 and 292 or ART 180 and 282. Students are encouraged to take these courses early in their career.

Either the sequence ART 130 and 240, or ART 153 and 254. At least two credits of the one-credit course ART 250 which can be taken any time after ART 120.

ART 171 and 172, plus either ART 274, ART 374, or another 200- or 300-level art history course, taken by consent of the chair.

ART 400, which can be repeated for credit, usually taken in the junior year in anticipation of the Senior Studio Project.

The senior capstone for studio art majors: comprises two courses:

- 1) ART 500 for four credits, where senior studio majors are required to produce and exhibit a body of high quality work which, in the opinion of the art faculty, is both significant and substantial; and
- 2) ART 570 for two credits, where seniors present a thesis paper based on research related to the student's art production.

Students are encouraged to participate in off-campus programs, but preferably in the junior year.

Requirements for a major in art history: Forty credits.

ART 171, 172. Four 200- or 300-level art history courses chosen from ART 270, 273, 274, 334, 335, 370, 372, 374, 375, 377; CLA 250/450; HIS 214; or other courses as approved by the department.

Studio courses are required, including one four-credit 2D course and one four-credit 3D course.

ART 570 a four-credit capstone experience which involves a thesis paper and oral presentation.

An internship for two to four credits is recommended but not required. Note: if you choose to not do a four-credit internship, then to reach the 40-credit minimum for this major, at least one elective course in the arts is needed. Art history majors are strongly advised, though not required, to enroll in two full years of college-level language study if they are considering graduate school, and to participate in an off campus program in the arts during their junior year.

Requirements for PK-12 licensure in art education: Students must complete general

education requirements for licensure; the requirements for a major in studio art (see notes on the major in the art section of the catalog); and the following: EDU 190, 242, 250, 260, and 270. Students must work with the art advisors to arrange to take teaching methods coursework (ART 354 and ART 356) and clinical experiences (Sec. Ed. 366) through the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. In addition, each student must qualify for and satisfactorily complete EDU 320 and a semester of student teaching (EDU 491* and 471) at Ripon College. Students seeking licensure in art may complete the Educational Studies minor by adding EDU 316 and EDU 344 to their programs. EDU 242: Arts Integration is recommended as a supporting course for the art education program.

Please note that DPI content standards for art educators includes the requirement that future teachers be exposed to specific forms of art not covered in all departmental offerings. Please see your art advisor for assistance in course selection to meet these requirements.

Languages and off-campus study: All majors are encouraged to participate in off-campus programs. Art history majors and minors are strongly encouraged to study a language to the 211-level and beyond.

Requirements for a minor in studio art: Twenty credits, including ART 171 and 172, one 200-level and one 400-level studio art course, and the rest a majority of studio art courses.

Requirements for a minor in art history: Twenty credits, including ART 171 and 172, the rest a majority of art history courses.

Note on majoring and minoring: Students who opt to both major and minor within the department must have their program approved by the chair of the department.

Note on First Year Seminars: A First Year Seminar offered by the Department of Art and Art History (ART 175) can count as an elective toward a departmental major.

120. Drawing I

Salas

Four credits.

Basic drawing is an introduction to line, tone, and composition. This course is intended to strengthen drawing from observation as well as foster a deeper understanding of form and visual organization. Students are given traditional methods and materials that will be used in building formal skills which they will then use to create artworks of their own conception. Beyond copying appearances, students are also asked to consider the way things fit together, the way parts relate. They will be asked to enter into drawing situations that require not only close observation, but increasing selectivity, invention, and personal interpretation. In the process, they will acquire a basic understanding of some of the terms and issues unique to visual study. Field trips may be required.

130. Painting I

Salas

Four credits.

This course is an introduction to the oil painting medium using historical and contemporary approaches. Students will investigate technical and creative problems in paint and examine the nature of color as it relates to observation, science, and psychology. Field trips may be required.

132. Glassworking

Katahira

Two credits.

Instruction and practice in the elementary operations of glassblowing. An introduction to glass working techniques for the construction of art objects. Studio emphasis on the expressive use of glass. Lectures, demonstrations, field trips, and studio. See CHM 332.

Prerequisite: consent of the instructor.

153. Digital Art I

Staff

Four credits.

This course is an investigation into the possibilities of computer-generated art. Industry standard programs from the Adobe Creative Suite, including Photoshop and Illustrator, will be used to manipulate photos and create digital imagery. Students will gain facility with the technical aspects of computer imaging, and assignments will emphasize creativity. Field trips may be required. May be cross-listed with THE 202 as Digital Art I-Design and 3-D Printing.

171. Global Art History: Ancient to Medieval

Nygaard

Four credits.

This course covers art, architecture, and visual culture from ancient times until the fifteenth century CE. Major works of secular and sacred art from Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe are treated critically by placing them within their original cultural contexts. The enduring importance of these objects for later generations is also addressed. Topics discussed included Egyptian pyramids, Olmec heads, Spanish mosques, Greco-Roman statuary, Medieval churches, and Afghan goldwork. Foundational skills for analyzing art and thinking historically are provided. This course format includes interactive lectures, discussions, quizzes, and tests. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. The course can be taken before or after ART 172. Field trips may be required.

172. Global Art History: Renaissance to Today

Nygaard

Four credits.

This course continues ART 171 by covering art, architecture, and visual culture from the fifteenth century CE to the present. Major works of art from Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe are treated critically by placing them within their original cultural contexts. The enduring importance of these objects for later generations is also addressed. Topics discussed include African sculpture, Renaissance masterpieces, fiber arts, abstract imagery, and conceptual art. Foundational skills for analyzing art and thinking historically are provided. The course format includes interactive lectures, discussions, quizzes, and tests. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. The course can be taken before or after ART 171. Field trips may be required.

180. Ceramics I

Oblinger

Four credits.

An introduction to various hand building techniques for making sculptures in clay. Surface treatments and glaze application will be explored as emphasis is placed on both conceptual development of ideas and craft. Historical and contemporary ceramics are introduced in presentations. Field trips may be required.

190. Sculpture I

Oblinger

Four credits.

This course is an introduction to the various technical, aesthetic, and conceptual issues of sculpture. Traditional and contemporary processes will be explored in a wide range of media. Presentations and readings will address the history and recent development in the field of sculpture. Field trips may be required.

200. Topics

Staff

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

Special subjects in art not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses and possible prerequisites. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

222. Drawing II

Salas

Four credits.

This course is a further investigation into the techniques and possibilities of drawing. A primary focus will be the integration of conceptual concerns with technical skills. The possibilities of drawing will be explored through a variety of approaches: approximately half the class time will be spent working from the figure, and the rest on other assignments. Field trips may be required. *Prerequisite: ART 120 or consent of the instructor.*

240. Painting II

Salas

Four credits.

Painting II is a continuation of basic painting, with an emphasis on color theory, painting from life, and interpretation. Field trips may be required. *Prerequisite: ART 130 or consent of the instructor.*

250. Independent Investigation in Drawing

Staff

Variable credit course, 1-2 credits.

In this course, students deepen their drawing skills through self-directed work. Their drawings will be reviewed and evaluated periodically during the course of the semester by art department faculty. This course does not count toward the Fine Arts graduation requirement. Field trip may be required. Grading is Pass-Fail. *Prerequisite: ART 120 or consent of the instructor.*

254. Digital Art II

Staff

Four credits.

A continuation of Digital Art I, with continuing emphasis on design and composition, and a further investigation of the conceptual possibilities inherent in the medium. Course uses Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and other software. Field trips may be required. *Prerequisite: ART 153.*

270. Department Studies - Art History

Staff

Four credits.

Special subjects in art history not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses and possible prerequisites. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

273. Great Discoveries of Ancient Art

Nygaard

Four credits.

This course covers major discoveries of ancient art across the world. We will look at the lives and motives of romantic explorers, academic archaeologists, and treasure hunters who found objects such as the Terra-cotta Army of Emperor Qin Shi Huang, the death mask of Pharaoh Tutankhamen, and the sarcophagus of King K'inich Janaab' Pakal. In doing so, we will critically examine the concepts, values and biases behind discovery and the making of history. Ultimately, you will learn the importance of ancient art in the past and present. The format includes interactive lectures, discussions, papers, projects, and presentations. Field trips may be required.

274. Modern Art

Nygaard

Four credits.

This course will address critical issues in modern art, architecture, and visual culture beginning with the industrial revolution of the nineteenth century. It will devote special attention to the work of Realists, Impressionists, Expressionists, Cubists, Surrealists, Abstract Expressionists, and Pop artists. Because this was an era of increasing globalization, the course will examine how art was used to exchange ideas world-wide. The course also provides students with strategies for thinking about art in terms of politics, gender, sexuality, class, race, and psychology. The course format includes interactive lectures, discussions, projects, presentations, and papers. Field trips may be required.

276. Arts of Asia

Nygaard

Four credits.

In this course students learn about the history, theory, and practices of art-making in Asia. Topics covered include the visual arts of painting, sculpture, architecture, calligraphy, printmaking, decorative objects, and popular art, set within a cultural context that includes cultural history and performing arts of music, theater, and film. The course includes interactive lectures, discussions, videos, and readings, and students will complete papers, presentations, and projects. No prior understanding of art history is required to succeed in this course. No prerequisites.

277. History and Theory of Design: From Architecture to Fashion to Graphics

Nygaard

Four credits.

Artists can be problem solvers. Whether making a poster, a shoe, or a skyscraper, they think through myriad possibilities, both good and bad, before arriving at a solution that best meets the needs of people at a historically-specific moment in time. In this course we will focus on three areas of creative design—the making of architecture, clothing, and graphics—as a way to understand the history and theory of how artists resolve creative dilemmas. Ultimately, this course focuses on how functional art changes our world. The course format will include lectures, discussions, and readings, and assignments will include papers, projects, and presentations. Field trips may be required. No prerequisites.

278. Indigenous Art of the Americas

Nygaard

Four credits.

This course focuses on the art, architecture, and visual culture of Native peoples from North, South, and Central America. It includes case studies of creative expression that span ancient times to today. Some art studied will be traditional in form and subject matter, and some will be produced by artists who experiment with new techniques and ideas. The format includes interactive lectures, discussions, papers, projects, and presentations. Field trips may be required. No prerequisites.

282. Ceramics II

Oblinger

Four credits.

Further development of the skills and methods of ART 180. The course continues the focus of creating ceramic sculpture, but also introduces wheel throwing. Field trips may be required. *Prerequisite: ART 180 or consent of the instructor.*

292. Sculpture II

Oblinger

Four credits.

Continuation of concepts and methods of ART 190 which may include welding sculpture, bronze-casting, or wood construction. A wider range of personal experimentation with form and content will be encouraged. Visual presentations, demonstrations, and readings. Field trips may be required. *Prerequisite: ART 190 or consent of the instructor.*

334. Topics in Western Spirituality

Mockridge

Four credits.

Focusing on Christianity from its early days through the early modern era, this course will explore various topics in western spirituality. Topics include various beliefs and practices, including Gnosticism, mysticism, asceticism, monasticism, pilgrimage, and eucharistic devotion. The lives of various men and women will also be explored, including saints, anchorites and mendicants. Also central to the course is an examination of the use of material objects and artistic images in religious devotion. The course has no prerequisites, but students will find it helpful to have had some background in medieval history and/or Christianity. Same as HIS 334 and REL 334.

335. Renaissance Florence: Politics, Art and Intellectual Life

Mockridge

Four credits.

An in-depth study of the Italian Renaissance, focusing on the political, intellectual, and artistic achievements of the city that witnessed the flowering of the Renaissance: Florence, Italy. Among the topics examined will be the political power of the Medici family, key thinkers such as Dante, Petrarch, and Machiavelli, and important works of art such as the Michelangelo's David. Central to this course is the idea that intellectual endeavors and artistic works are a product of the times and reflect the issues and concerns of their political milieu. In exploring these issues, this course will examine both the documents of the time (primary sources) as well as recent historical interpretations (secondary sources) of the period. Same as HIS 335.

370. Advanced Departmental Studies - Art History

Staff

Variable credit course, 3-4 credits.

Special subjects in advanced art history not covered by regular courses. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses and possible prerequisites. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

374. Art Now

Nygaard

Four credits.

Artists working today have variously adopted new technologies, embraced identity politics, questioned what counts as art, struggled with censorship, and established themselves as cultural commentators. Their subject matter ranges from the deeply personal to the highly political. In this course you will learn about this generation of creative people and the institutions that support them. You will think critically about the production, display, and reception of art, and you will become familiar with approaches to art criticism. The format includes interactive lectures, discussions, papers, and oral presentations. Field trips may be required.

376. Visual Studies

Nygaard

Four credits.

Are our emotions, beliefs, and actions manipulated by the pictures that we look at? Many artists and art historians believe so. In this course you will learn how vision shapes human experience by examining imagery, the properties of light, the anatomy of eyes, and the experience of seeing. You will be exposed to the disciplines of art history, anthropology, biology, communication, film, psychology, philosophy, and physics. Case studies will include "high" arts of painting and sculpture, "low" arts of pop culture, and non-art such as diagrams and illusions. The format includes interactive lectures, discussions, papers, projects, and presentations. Field trips may be required.

377. Arts Management

Oblinger

Four credits.

This course is designed for students considering a career working in an art gallery or museum. Students have hands-on experience preparing art department exhibitions in areas of exhibit design, preparation, curation, and publicity. *Prerequisite: consent of the instructor.*

379. Art Fakes, Frauds, and Heists

Nygaard

Four credits.

Making forgeries, misrepresenting art, and stealing masterpieces are three of the greatest taboos in the art world. This course will include case studies of the notorious people who have done these things, along with analysis of works of art. We will discuss how experts scrutinize art using visual analysis, microscopy, ultraviolet fluorescence, x-rays, carbon dating, and dendrochronology to reveal the true histories of objects. Ultimately, by focusing on instances of deviance, in this class you will learn how art is produced, controlled, and valued. The format includes interactive lectures, discussions, papers, projects, and presentations. Field trips may be required.

400. Departmental Studies - Studio Art

Oblinger/Salas

Four credits.

This course is designed to explore aspects of art not covered in other courses. It is also an opportunity for advanced students to participate in special projects and workshops with faculty and guest artists. Seniors are strongly urged to use this course as a means of concentrated preparation for ART 500. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses and possible prerequisites. This course can be repeated for credit as topics change. Field trips may be required. *Prerequisite: a 100-level studio art course or consent of the instructor.*

500. Senior Studio Project

Salas/Oblinger

Four credits.

This course is taken the semester before the student plans to graduate. Students work in the area and medium of their expertise and pursue a concentrated, narrow studio research activity which is meaningfully related to their major area of interest in art. Students meet on a regular basis, receive critiques from the staff, and are expected to produce a significant body of work for the senior show. Field trips may be required.

541, 542. Independent Study in Art

Staff

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

Exceptional majors may propose independent projects to be carried out according to a written proposal approved and supervised by an instructor in the course of the semester. Field trips may be required. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.*

551, 552. Internship

Staff

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

A supervised internship in an arts-related institution, office, studio, or agency. Students write a paper describing and critically analyzing their experience, and make a public presentation. The internship must be arranged by the student and approved by the chair of the department in advance. It may be repeated for up to eight credits, although no more than four can be counted toward completion of the major and two toward the minor. Field trips may be required. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.*

570. Senior Seminar in Art

Nygaard

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits.

In the year before graduation, seniors in the Department undertake individualized projects and professional development activities. Senior studio majors take the course for two credits, while art and art history majors enroll for four credits. All students present their work publicly. Field trips may be required.