

# ART HISTORY

U N I V E R S I T Y O F W E S T G E O R G I A

Art History courses help prepare students to live in a media-saturated world by building skills in visual analysis, critical thinking, research, writing, and oral presentation. The Art History program at UWG offers courses in a wide range of geographical and chronological areas. The strengths of its faculty lie in the study of medieval art and modern/contemporary art and theory. Courses emphasize the interrelationship between art and historical influences, such as the links between medieval pilgrimage and the artworks created to reinforce religious teachings and inspire spiritual responses, and the relationship between artmaking and critical theory in treating the changing concept of the avant-garde. Courses also take advantage of local galleries and museums, utilizing exhibitions on campus for assignments or requiring a trip to the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University, or The Contemporary Art Center in Atlanta. Students have further opportunities to study works of art in person through “museum seminars,” courses which include travel to cities such as New York, Chicago, and Paris (the last through the department’s study abroad program based in Bayeux, France). While many Art History courses are lecture-based, advanced course offerings include discussion-based seminars that tie in with faculty research and local exhibitions. The Art History program has also been a pioneer in offering online courses at West Georgia through CourseDen.

The Art History program has offered an art history major and minor since 2002. Art History majors are required to have a distribution of courses that include pre- and post-Renaissance work, as well as a course in the art of a non-western culture. Recommended minors for Art History majors include English, Anthropology, Business Administration, Chemistry (for Art Conservation), Film, Foreign Languages, Global Studies, History, Mass Communications, Philosophy, Sociology, Studio Art, and Women’s Studies. The program also supports all studio-based courses in the Art Department. All Art majors are required to take four Art History courses; two of these must be Art 2201 and 2202. For a minor in Art History, students are required to take Art 2201, Art 2202, and 9 additional hours at the 3000 level or above. Art History faculty work closely with faculty in studio-based disciplines and expect Art majors to forge connections between their studio work and the content of their art history courses.

The Art History program founded the Georgia Undergraduate Art History Forum, an annual student research symposium supported by a consortium of colleges and universities in Georgia; the forum is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their work with students and faculty at other programs. Internships for Art History students are also encouraged; students have interned at the Carrollton Cultural Art Center, the High Museum of Art, Museum of Design Atlanta, the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University, and the Fox Theater, among others.

Art History majors find work in a wide variety of fields. An undergraduate degree is good preparation for careers in museum work, art galleries, the auction business, publishing, journalism, and visual resources management. Our degree also prepares majors to continue with graduate work in Art History, which prepares students to work in higher education, curatorial departments of art museums, and publishing. An Art History degree can also prepare students for graduate study in related fields like Historic Preservation and Art Conservation. Recent graduates have received fellowships for graduate study in Art History at Florida State University and Ohio State University, and have worked at SCAD-Atlanta. The professional organization for art historians is the College Art Association (CAA). For more information on art history as a career choice, visit their website at [www.collegeart.org](http://www.collegeart.org). Our department is also actively involved in the Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC).

# ART HISTORY COURSES

## UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

### **ART 2201 - History of Western Art I - 3 credit hours**

This course covers the history of visual arts from pre-history to the fourteenth century, focusing upon the western tradition.

### **ART 2202 - History of Western Art II - 3 credit hours**

This course covers the history of visual arts from the High Renaissance to the present, focusing on the Western tradition.

### **ART 2301 - Non-Western Art - 3 credit hours**

An introduction to the art and architecture of Asia, Africa, Oceania, or the New World, to be explored as evidence of one or more non-western cultures as they evolve in specific times and places with reference to use in relationship to ritual and beliefs of those who create these expressions.

### **ART 3230 - Med Art Chrs Europe/Near East - 3 credit hours**

Lecture based course in religious and secular art in the Early Christian, Byzantine, Medieval, or Northern Renaissance periods, c. 100-1500 CE, including selected scripture, painting and architecture in historical and cultural context. May be repeated up to 9 credit hours if the topic changes. Prerequisites: ART 2201.

### **3240 - Ital Renaissance or Baroque Art - 3 credit hours**

A lecture-based course in Italian Renaissance or Baroque art, studying artwork from the period in historical and cultural context. May be repeated up to 6 credit hours if the topic changes. Prerequisites: ART 2202.

### **ART 3260 - American Art - 3 credit hours**

Lecture-based course in American art, studying artwork in its historical and cultural context. Prerequisite: ART 2202.

### **ART 3270 - Pre-World War II Modernism - 3 credit hours**

Lecture-based course on the art and architecture of the pre- World War II period, exploring the concepts and formal characteristics of 'modernism' in Western art. Prerequisite: Art 2202.

### **ART 3275 - Art Since 1945 - 3 credit hours**

Lecture-based course on art movements from 1945 to the present. Prerequisite: Art 2202.

### **ART 3280 - Museum Seminar - 3 to 4 credit hours**

This course involves classroom study of the art collections and architecture of a city or country followed by a trip to visit what has been studied. The subject varies: American cities or abroad. Credit will vary by trip. Students enrolling in the summer Bayeux program will take 4 hours; others take 3 hours credit. May be repeated up to 16 hours credit. Prerequisite: Art 2201 or 2202.

### **ART 4290 - Modernist Criticism - 3 credit hours**

A discussion-based seminar based on intellectual and theoretical debates about modern and contemporary art, focusing on the concept of the avant-garde and the practice of art criticism. Readings are informed by theoretical developments such as psychoanalysis, semiotics, Marxist Art History, gender and race studies, poststructuralism and visual culture debates. Prerequisite: Art 2202.

### **ART 4295 - Special Topics in Art History - 3 credit hours**

Investigation of a particular topic, problem or issue in Art History with emphasis on those not covered in other art history courses. Prerequisites: Art 2201 and 2202.

#### Additional Courses Offered Occasionally:

### **ART 3220 - Art of the Ancient World - 3 credit hours**

Lecture-based course on selected topics in the art of Ancient Egypt, Ancient Near East, Greece or Rome. Prerequisites: ART 2201.

### **ART 3250 - 18th or 19th Century Art - 3 credit hours**

This is a lecture-based course on 18th or 19th century art which studies artwork in its historical and cultural aspects including Rococo, Neoclassical, Romantic or Realist movements. It focuses on the painting, sculpture, photography, graphic arts of the 18th or 19th century. May be repeated up to 6 credit hours if the topic changes. Prerequisites: ART 2202.

**All Art History students must complete the Junior Review (ART 4078) and the Senior Capstone Sequence (ART 4298 & ART 4299) in order to graduate.**

#### Tips:

We recommend that students take Art 2201 (History of Western Art 1) before Art 2202 (History of Western