History of Art and Architecture

Akiko Walley, Department Head
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The Department of the History of Art and Architecture offers study in the principal and architectural traditions of Asia, the Americas, Europe, and the Mediterranean. Courses are appropriate for students interested in history, art, and the larger cultural context of society. They are also suitable for students intending to concentrate on the practice of art or environmental design. The undergraduate program prepares students for a range of careers (including those in the business world, art museums, and galleries) as well as graduate studies in art history. The graduate program emphasizes both breadth and depth, and it is characterized by close working relationships between students and the faculty.

Students explore global history, culture, and society through art and architecture from antiquity to the present day. Trained to analyze the broad spectrum of human creativity and expression, art history students are natural ambassadors of pluralism and tolerance, developing skills in appreciating visual and material culture to make them true global citizens—ideally equipped to correlate historical events and concerns with important contemporary and international phenomena.

The history of art and architecture program at Oregon is comprehensive in scope. Students learn at least one ancient or modern language associated with their main area of interest, and courses examine cultural production from around the globe. The department trains students to become guardians and advocates for culture and the arts within Oregon, the United States, and the world.

Because of this rigorous training in critical thinking and communication, art history is not merely a preprofessional major for future art historians. An art history degree prepares students to embark on an array of professional careers, including those in business, education, law, private and nonprofit organizations, professional writing, and publishing. More specialized careers include art-based professions in museums, galleries, archives, and cultural institutes.

Faculty


Maile Hutterer, associate professor (medieval art and architecture). BA, 2004, California, Santa Barbara; PhD, 2011, New York University. (2014)


Emily Scott, assistant professor (history of art and architecture and environmental studies); BA, Bryn Mawr; PhD, 2010, California, Los Angeles. (2018)

Kristen Seaman, professor (Greek and Roman art and architecture). BA, 1994, Yale University, MA, 2009, PhD, 2009, California, Berkeley. (2015)


Emeriti


W. Sherwin Simmons, professor emeritus. BA, 1967, Yale; MA, 1975, PhD, 1979, Johns Hopkins. (1973)


The date in parentheses at the end of each entry is the first year on the University of Oregon faculty.

Major - Bachelor's Degree

- Art History (BA) (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/design/art-history/ba-art-history/)

Minor

- Art History (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/design/art-history/min-art-history/)

Major - Master's Degree

- Art History (MA) (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/design/art-history/ma-art-history/)
Major - Doctoral Degree

- Art History (PhD) (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/design/art-history/phd-art-history/)

Certificates

- Museum Studies (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/design/art-history/gcert-museum-studies/)
- New Media and Culture (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/design/art-history/gcert-new-media/)