

ART HISTORY

THE STUDY OF ART HISTORY

It is not necessary to have studied art previously, or to be able to draw, in order to study the history of art. Courses introduce students to all kinds of visual culture, and explore a wide range of art forms from popular images to the individual works of important artists in Europe, America and Africa.

Lectures are richly illustrated with visual images drawn from universities' outstanding slide libraries, which is also available to students for study purposes.

Courses in the visual arts provide excellent counterparts to majors in other cultural subjects, such as drama and film, literature and music, and also complement historical studies and courses in social science. African art courses are particularly suitable for students of anthropology, African history and African languages and literature.

For those interested in academic work and research in art history, art departments also offer a range of interesting courses at Honours and Masters levels.

The aim of the Art History courses offered is to investigate a diversity of visual images made at different historical periods and in different geographical areas.

In addition to acquiring knowledge about images and artists, students develop skills which enable them to think and write critically about visual forms, historical and modern.

The images studied in Art History include those traditionally defined as 'art', such as paintings and sculptures, but also visual forms which fall within the parameters of 'popular culture' or 'craft', such as advertisements, posters, ceramics and beadwork.

Students doing a Fine Arts degree are required to take a major in Art History, but many other students find it an interesting discipline, both in its own right and as an ancillary to other subjects.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Senior Certificate or an equivalent qualification and a talent for art.

SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

Prospective students are interviewed, auditioned and evaluated in terms of their general art ability.

TRAINING

UNIVERSITY

A 3-year BA Fine Arts degree is offered at universities.

Students will be submitted to a 1-year Foundation Programme.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Studies in the visual arts are valuable for careers in gallery management and museum work, journalism and advertising, teaching, tourism and arts and culture administration.



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