Learning Objectives

Art History combines the study of art with the study of culture. Our curriculum emphasizes four main objectives of learning: understanding of core content and history of the discipline; broad familiarity with diverse subfields within the discipline; opportunities to apply classroom learning in real-life settings; and deeper thinking and research in one specific area of study. Undergraduates who pursue a degree in art history will be able:

1. to demonstrate a familiarity with a wide range of artistic objects from both the Western and non-Western traditions.

2. to analyze the formal qualities of a work of art and situate it in a variety of historical and social contexts.

3. to develop persuasive arguments about works of art based on historical and formal evidence.

4. to assess the importance of scholarly interpretations of art objects based on an understanding of both the specific histories of interpretation of that object and the broader methodological trends employed within the discipline.

5. to cultivate, through exposure to a range of artistic objects and cultural traditions, a greater appreciation for and tolerance of diversity in today’s world.