ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

College of Arts and Humanities
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arthistory.umd.edu (http://arthistory.umd.edu)

The Department of Art History & Archaeology is a community of students and scholars that focuses on visual expression to understand culture in all its breadth and variations. Students in Art History & Archaeology study an expansive history of objects from the fine arts (painting, sculpture, architecture) to street art. In the classroom and with leading DC area arts institutions, you will refine your thinking about visual culture in both art historical and archaeological contexts, working across a wide range of histories, perspectives, and values.

Students are encouraged to supplement their art historical and archaeological studies with courses in other fields, to participate in internships at local museums and galleries, and to take advantage of Maryland’s study abroad programs. Students who have completed a minimum of 60 credits may apply to the Department’s honors program.

Programs

Major

- Art History Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/art-history-archaeology/art-history-major/)

Minors

- Archaeology Minor (ARTH) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/art-history-archaeology/archaeology-minor/)
- Art History Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/art-history-archaeology/art-history-minor/)

Advising

Our director of undergraduate studies and undergraduate advisor are ready to help. For contact information, office hours, and other details, go to: arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/advising (https://arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/advising/).

Departmental advising is mandatory for all majors. Once registration begins, students must make an appointment for departmental advising before the department can remove their registration block. Students should check for registration blocks and advising hours.

Students should consult the department’s undergraduate advisor for general and mandatory advising matters including registration and advising block removal, study abroad questions, and museum internships. For specific questions regarding the major and minor programs and requirements, special situations, issues with academic probation, as well as for special permissions, please contact the director of undergraduate studies.

To review the academic plan for this major, go to arhu.umd.edu/academicsadvising/academic-plans (https://arhu.umd.edu/academicsadvising/academic-plans/).

Opportunities

Internships

The location of the University between Washington and Baltimore gives students the opportunity to use some of the finest museums and archival collections in the world for their coursework, independent research and internships. Art History majors are encouraged to supplement their art historical and archaeological studies by applying to internships at local museums and galleries. For more information regarding local museum and gallery internships in the DC-Baltimore region, please consult the departmental website: arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/internships-careers (https://arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/internships-careers/).

Experiential Learning

Students of junior standing or higher may receive academic credit for spring or fall museum/gallery internships via ARTH386. This course may count as one of the seven 3xx/4xx-level ARTH courses required for completion of the ARTH major. Prerequisites: permission of the Department and 60 credit hours completed.

For details outlining the process for securing such credit and for museum internship information, go to: arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/internships-careers (https://arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/internships-careers/).

Students must complete all of the required steps outlined on the website and register for ARTH386 before the end of the schedule adjustment period for that semester. The Department does not give credit for museum and gallery internships that have already been completed.

Honors Program

The Honors Program allows advanced undergraduate students (those who have completed at least 60 credits, of which 12 are ARTH credits) to develop a topic with a faculty advisor, write an honors thesis, and work toward departmental honors at graduation. Such honors will be noted on your official transcript. Consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies for details.

Among your seven 3xx/4xx-level ARTH courses required for the major, you must take at least one colloquium (ARTH488). In addition to the regular requirements for the major, you must research and write an Honors Thesis (ARTH499), normally in the year when you will graduate. Before registering for this course you must identify and gain the support of a faculty supervisor. The faculty supervisor must be a regular member of the ARTH Department faculty. Adjunct faculty members do not supervise honors theses.

Student Societies and Professional Organizations

The Department of Art History and Archaeology has an active Undergraduate Art History Association (AHA) and is also affiliated with OrgSync. Interested students should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Undergraduate Advisor for more information or go to facebook.com/UmdAHA (https://www.facebook.com/UmdAHA/).
Scholarships and Financial Assistance
The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers all types of federal, state and institutional financial assistance programs and, in cooperation with other university offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: financialaid.umd.edu (http://financialaid.umd.edu).

Awards and Recognition
The Department of Art History and Archaeology offers four undergraduate awards each year at spring commencement. The Judith K. Reed Scholarship is awarded to an exemplary ARTH major of junior standing. The Judith K. Reed Commencement Award, the George Levitine Award, and the Frank DiFederico Award are granted to outstanding graduating ARTH seniors. For more information, visit: arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/funding-awards (https://arthistory.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/funding-awards/).