

ART HISTORY

Bachelor of Arts



Introduction to the Major

Art History traces the human experience through visual art and architecture from the ancient world to contemporary art, right here in Worcester.

You will learn to analyze works of art and to ask larger questions about the place and role of the arts in human history: How does the design of a building give shape to power relationships? How do artists navigate the political pressures of their historical moments? You will have opportunities to express your own creativity through projects and internships with the Worcester Art Museum, ArtsWorcester, and other cultural institutions in the region.

Highlights

You'll consider the technologies of art-making and the ways the visual arts shape broader conversations about our culture and what it means to be human. By conducting research with faculty, curating exhibits, or participating in the digital reconstruction of an ancient temple, you'll bring your classroom learning to bear in hands-on activities that will prepare you for an exciting career.



"Students in Art History are curious about art in every context, and they have the skills to persuasively connect the art they study to the major social challenges of our time"

- Kristina Wilson, Professor of Art History, Clark University



What can I do with my major?

JOBS & EMPLOYERS

Art history graduates work in museum education and curation, media and entertainment, art sales, fashion, marketing and advertising, as consultants, and more.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Alumni have pursued graduate degrees at Harvard University, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, New York University Institute of Fine Arts, and more.

Foundational Courses

ARTH 101 - Ways of Seeing

Why are civilizations defined by the art they make? How do museums become the owners of famous works of art? This course is a thematic introduction to key issues and hot topics in the field of Art History.

ARTH 201 - Public Art History in Worcester

Focuses on a project in collaboration with a Worcester cultural institution, involving research, readings, and the creation of a public-facing written work.

VAPA 290 - Capstone in Visual and Performing Arts

Explores critical questions in the professional worlds of the arts and cultivates a cohort experience with students across the arts.

Find out more at clarku.edu/programs/major/art-history-ba

YOUR CLARK EXPERIENCE



Discover and Demonstrate your Purpose



Cultivate Your Communities



Engage Locally & Globally



Develop your Professional Identity

Year 1



Explore the Art History Major

Meet with the art history program director and your adviser to start identifying courses that match your interests and goals. Take Ways of Seeing and ArtsLaunch in the spring semester.



Seek out resources

Check out events at the Higgins School of Humanities or through the Visual and Performing Arts Department.

Build your writing skills through the Writing Center. Consult a reference librarian on an art history topic.



Learn about local arts and history resources

Visit ArtsWorcester, the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester Historical Society, Worcester Art Museum, or Old Sturbridge Village.

Check out the Museum Meanings club to meet fellow students who love art history!

Year 3



Plan for senior year and beyond

Are you considering graduate school? Connect with your career adviser to strategize and plan.

Notify the Graduate Office if you intend to apply for the 4+1 Accelerated Master's Degree. Apply for Honors, if interested.



Engage your networks

Create a LinkedIn profile. Find alumni in your fields of interest. Ask for an informational interview to learn about what they do and how they got there.



Design an independent project

Art history majors take a creative approach to art and history. Get support for your independent project through advising or opportunity funding, such as the Sara Bickman Fellowship for Visual & Performing Arts majors.

Year 2



Dig into the major

Take the Problems of Practice Seminar. Take Ways of Seeing if you haven't already. Try out a 200-level art history course.



Consider studying abroad

Visit the Study Abroad Office to explore the possibilities. The Art History faculty strongly encourage students to study abroad to see and experience art from around the world.



Apply what you have learned

Find an internship, job, or research opportunity to explore your career interests.

Develop a resume with the Career Connections Center (CCC) template. Upload to Handshake for review and feedback. Look out for the Art History resume dinner in the fall, where you can share your resume with faculty and peers.

Year 4



Pull it together with your capstone

Take the V&PA Capstone and get to know the majors across all of the arts at Clark. Make sure you complete all 200-level requirements.



Share your knowledge and give back

Share your passions and your work by presenting at ClarkFEST or at an art history conference. Work as a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA). Lead a discussion section for an introductory course.



Get ready to launch

Update your resume, cover letter, and LinkedIn profile. Schedule a mock job interview through the Career Connections Center to get feedback.

Talk with faculty and your career adviser about your plans. Identify faculty who know you well and will serve as references or write letters of recommendation.