Degree Tracks in Art History at Binghamton University

Track A (309): Art History Concentration
The ART HISTORY concentration prepares undergraduate majors for scholarly and professional work and study in the art world: advanced graduate study; professional museum and gallery work; and arts administration careers.

Lower level -- two from 101, 102, 103 or 104  8
Intermediate level -- 200 and above; 20 course credits in total, no more than 8 credits at the 200 level: at least 8 credits must be in each of:
  — Pre-1800  20
  — Post-1800
Seminar in Theory & Methods (ARTH 496)  4
Elective in Fine Arts (Studio Art, Cinema, Theatre, Music)  4
Additional 400-level seminar  4
Senior Honors (ARTH 498-499)  4-8

TOTAL  40 – 44 credits

N.B. Two-credit courses may be counted towards the required credit hours.

Sequence of Course Work for Majors
Students who declare a specialization in art history normally take two courses from the introductory sequence (ARTH 101, -102, -103, -104) in the freshman or sophomore year, and then move into intermediate courses (ARTH 200 level) and advanced courses and seminars (ARTH 300 and 400 levels) that focus more intensely on particular periods and problems. The Seminar in Theory and Methods (ARTH 496) examines the discipline and its history from a theoretical and critical perspective. ARTH 496 is usually offered in the spring semester. The Honors program offers students an opportunity to crystallize their studies in a carefully defined project supervised by a member of the art history faculty. Honors candidates must have a GPA of 3.5 in the Major and must obtain the agreement of a member of the faculty to enroll for this course, by presenting him or her with a short proposal outlining the proposed topic. Students not enrolled in Senior Honors must take a seminar course at the 400 level, in addition to ARTH 496. Qualified students may be eligible for the Art History B.A. & M.A. Five Years Combined Degree Program, which allows Art History majors in Track A or B (but not C) to complete a B.A. in Art History and an M.A. in Art History in 5 years.

Fifty percent (50%) of the required coursework for the Major must be in the upper division (ARTH 300 and above). Majors in art history may elect the Pass/Fail grade option in only two art history courses (or a total of 8 credits). These courses may not include ARTH 496, Seminar in Theory and Methods, or ARTH 498-499, Senior Honors. Transfer credits toward the Art History Major must be reviewed by the department. A maximum of 16 credits at the 100 and 200 levels will be accepted. All upper division (300 and 400 level) courses must be completed in residence. Not more than 4 credit hours, equivalent to one of the required advanced-level courses, may be an independent study (ARTH 397). Courses passed with a grade of D do not fulfill requirements for the Major.

Related Courses Outside the Department
All art history majors are advised to take at least two courses in other departments that relate specifically to their art historical work: e.g., the history, politics and/or literature of a temporal or spatial period in art; courses in the theory of perception, aesthetics, sociology or anthropology, in relation to problems in art theory or the cultural context of art. Courses should be selected with the advice of the student's departmental mentor. In addition, the department strongly advises majors to acquire a reading knowledge of French or German.
Track B (409): Architectural/Urban History Concentration

The concentration in ARCHITECTURAL and URBAN HISTORY prepares departmental majors for advanced study in the field, for careers in teaching, for professional work in such areas as historic preservation, and for civic administrative work in related areas.

Lower level -- two from 101, 102, 103 or 104 8
Intermediate level -- 200 and above; 20 course credits in total, no more than 8 credits at the 200 level; 12 credits MUST BE in the history of architecture, at least 4 credits in each of:
- Pre-1800
- Post-1800 20
Seminar in Theory & Methods (ARTH 496) 4
Studio Art course in drawing 4
Additional 400-level seminar 4
or Senior Honors (ARTH 498–499) 4 – 8

TOTAL 40–44 credits

N.B. Two-credit courses may be counted towards the required credit hours.

Sequence of Course Work for Majors

Students who declare a specialization in art history normally take two courses from the introductory sequence (ARTH 101, -102, -103, -104) in the freshman or sophomore year, and then move into intermediate courses (ARTH 200 level) and advanced courses and seminars (ARTH 300 and 400 levels) that focus more intensely on particular periods and problems. The Seminar in Theory and Methods (ARTH 496) examines the discipline and its history from a theoretical and critical perspective. ARTH 496 is usually offered in the spring semester. The Honors program offers students an opportunity to crystallize their studies in a carefully defined project supervised by a member of the art history faculty. Honors candidates must have a GPA of 3.5 in the Major and must obtain the agreement of a member of the faculty to enroll for this course, by presenting him or her with a short proposal outlining the proposed topic. Students not enrolled in Senior Honors must take a seminar course at the 400 level, in addition to ARTH 496.

Qualified students may be eligible for the Art History B.A. & M.A. Five Years Combined Degree Program, which allows Art History majors in Track A or B (but not C) to complete a B.A. in Art History and an M.A. in Art History in 5 years.

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Track C (509): Pre-Architecture Concentration

The PRE-ARCHITECTURE concentration prepares students for entry into professional graduate schools in architecture, design and urban planning.

Lower level -- two from 101, 102, 103 or 104 8
Intermediate level -- 200 and above; 20 course credits in total, no more than 8
credits at the 200 level; 12 credits MUST BE in the history of architecture, at least 4 credits in each of:
   — Pre-1800 20
   — Post-1800
Seminar in Theory & Methods (ARTH 496) 4
Studio Art courses:
   Intermediate Level Drawing 4
   Elective 4
Additional 400-level seminar 4
Senior Honors (ARTH 498-499) 4-8
Required courses outside the department:
   Mathematics 221 4
   Physics 121 4

TOTAL 52 – 56 credits

N.B. Two-credit courses may be counted towards the required credit hours.

Sequence of Course Work for Majors

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