

SPECIAL REPORT
OF THE
ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

concerning

**REVISION OF THE HISTORY OF
ART & ARCHITECTURE MAJOR
(#5217)**

Presented at the
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COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

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ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

The Academic Matters Council recommends approval of this proposal.

Briefly describe the Proposal

This proposal revises the distribution requirements for the history of art and architecture major, and makes no other substantive changes to the existing program requirements.

Please describe the existing program requirements, listing all required courses and available electives, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.

Current requirements and distribution areas are as follows:

The major requires a minimum of 13 courses (41 credits) in History of Art and Architecture distributed as follows:

- Majors must take any two 100-level surveys (100, 110, 115, 116, 118).
- One course at any level in non-Western art.
- One course at any level in history of Architecture
- One upper-level course in each of the following five areas:
 - Ancient
 - Medieval
 - Renaissance/Baroque
 - Modern (19th – 21st centuries)
 - American
- Three upper-level electives in History of Art and Architecture
- Art-Hist 370: The Department's Junior Year Writing Course. All majors must take the course in the fall semester of the Junior year.

Please describe the requirements that you are proposing, listing course requirements, elective options, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.

The major requires a minimum of 13 courses (41 credits) in History of Art and Architecture distributed as follows:

- Majors must take any two 100-level surveys (100, 110, 115, 116, 118).
- At the upper level (200 and above), majors must take at least 1 course in each of following three (3) time periods and four (4) geographical areas, and their electives may be in an area of focus, should they so choose.
- In case of overlaps (like Orientalism 1000-2000 CE) the student may count the course once, but only once in either area. The choice is for the student to take, but courses may not be counted twice toward distribution requirements. Official course descriptions will specify that "said course may count for either A or B but not for both."
- Time periods
 - Ancient/medieval
 - Early modern through nineteenth century
 - Twentieth to twenty-first century
- Geographical areas
 - Africa and Middle East
 - Europe and the Mediterranean
 - Asia and the Pacific
 - Americas

We will keep in mind that the geographical categories may change from period to period; Asia Minor is an example, being considered part of the western tradition during the Byzantine era and part of an Asian (Islamic) tradition after 1071.

Trans-regional or transcultural aspects will be assumed to be incorporated whenever possible or appropriate. We should not require that all courses do this, but expect that this will occur when practical, possible, or appropriate.

- **Three upper-level electives in History of Art and Architecture.**
- **Art-Hist 370: The Department's Junior Year Writing Course. All majors must take the course in the fall semester of the Junior year.**

Please provide the rationale for these revisions.

The proposed changes in the distribution requirements were designed to 1) respond to changes in the orientation of the discipline; and 2) allow for potential areas of focus for the undergraduate major. Longer explanations for these two points follow.

- 1. The revised distribution requirements reflect a larger, disciplinary shift in concepts of coverage for the undergraduate art history curricula. As the discipline moves away from a model that places Europe at a teleological history that moves from ancient, classical, medieval, Renaissance, 19th century, modern and contemporary periods, many of the leading art history departments across the country have undertaken a serious reconsideration of curricular requirements, often reflecting a relatively more neutral geographical and temporal coverage [a survey of undergraduate distribution requirements at peer institutions is attached].**

In conjunction with the review of educational effectiveness at the undergraduate level, the department has agreed to reshape the current distribution requirements to capture the diverse scope of art history, conceived as interlocking and dynamic global and temporal relationships. These changes address, among other issues, the troublesome category of "non-Western" art.

- 2. The emphasis in the new requirements conveys to majors a reconfigured sense of the field of art history, allows for more choice and flexibility in electing courses, and finally, creates opportunities, where none existed before, for majors to create an area of focus through their course selection, especially for students who wish to pursue in-depth studies in graduate school. We believe this is an important change for majors to take control over their studies and course selection.**

Academic Requirements Review

See attached.

Resources

If this proposal requires no additional resources, say so and briefly explain why. If this proposal requires additional resources, explain how they will be paid for. For proposals involving instruction, indicate how many new enrollments are expected and whether the courses have room to accommodate them.

No additional resources are required as no new courses have been created.

**MOTION: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision of the History of Art & Architecture
10-19 Major, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 19-021.**

Distribution Requirements at peer institutions

Colorado	Connecticut	Michigan	Pittsburgh	Indiana	Berkeley	Yale
Complete six hours in each of the three areas: Ancient, Asian, Pre-Columbian, or Native American; Medieval, Early Modern (Renaissance/Baroque), or Colonial Latin American; Modern or Contemporary.	One course in Group A: Ancient, Medieval, or Renaissance art Group B: Art from the 19th century to the present Group C: Art from global perspectives	Concentrators are required to take courses that satisfy three of the four Time periods and three of the five Geographical areas. Time 1. Ancient 2. Medieval 3. Early Modern 4. Modern and Contemporary Geographical Area A. The Middle East (includes Western and Central Asia, and North Africa) B. Sub-Saharan Africa C. Asia (includes China, Japan, India, South and Southeast Asia, and the Pacific) D. Europe and the US E. Latin America and the Caribbean	Must take 1 course in each area listed: 1) Ancient Art across the globe 2) Asian Art 3) European Art before 1750 4) Modern and/or Contemporary Art across the globe	One course in at least four of the following different areas of art history: Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque, Modern European and American, Contemporary, Asian, African/Oceanic /pre-Columbian, Islamic, or Art Theory	each student must take courses in 4 of the following 5 Geographical areas and 1 course in each of the Chronological periods. Geographical: A) Europe and the Mediterranean B) Asia and the Americas C) The Middle East and Africa E) Trans-cultural Chronological: I) Prehistoric – 1200 II) 1200 - 1800 III) 1800 - present	the six courses must satisfy both a geographical and a chronological distributional requirement. The geographical requirement is divided into five areas: Africa and the Pacific; the Americas; Asia and the Near East; Europe; and transregional. The chronological requirement is similarly divided into five segments: earliest times to 800; 800–1500; 1500–1800; 1800 to the present; and transchronological. The six intermediate and advanced courses must be chosen from four different geographical areas and four different time periods; a single course can fulfill both a geographical and a chronological requirement.

University of Colorado

Complete at least six hours at the 3000 or 4000 level in each of three areas: Ancient, Asian, Pre-Columbian, or Native American; Medieval, Early Modern (Renaissance/Baroque), or Colonial Latin American; Modern or Contemporary.

University of Connecticut

24 credits of art history at the 2000-level and above to include: 3 to 6 credits of Art History at the 2000-level; One 3-credit course from each of Groups A, B, and C listed below; A 3-credit capstone seminar (either ARTH 4010 or another course designated annually by the art history faculty); and 6 to 9 additional credits of art history at the 3000 level.

Group A: Ancient, Medieval, or Renaissance art

Group B: Art from the 19th century to the present

Group C: Art from global perspectives

University of Michigan

Distribution requirements:

There are two kinds of distribution requirements, one focused on **Time** and the other on **Geographical Area**. The former familiarizes the student with cultural practices associated with different moments in historical time, and the latter with a variety of national and regional traditions.

Concentrators are required to take courses that satisfy **three of the four Time periods** and **three of the five Geographical areas**.

Because every course taught falls into both time and area categories, the distribution requirements can be satisfied with as few as three courses.

Time

1. Ancient 2. Medieval 3. Early Modern 4. Modern and Contemporary

Geographical Area

A. The Middle East (includes Western and Central Asia, and North Africa) B. Sub-Saharan Africa C. Asia (includes China, Japan, India, South and Southeast Asia, and the Pacific) D. Europe and the US E. Latin America and the Caribbean

University of Pittsburgh

Must take 1 course in each area listed:

Ancient Art across the globe

Breadth Requirements Asian Art

European Art before 1750

Modern and/or Contemporary Art across the globe

Indiana University

24 credit hours above the 100 level, including at least two courses at the 200-300 level, at least two courses at the 300 level, and at least three courses at the 400 level. All such courses should count for at least 3 credit hours and should be distributed among at least four of the following different areas of art history: Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque, Modern European and American, Contemporary, Asian, African/Oceanic/pre-Columbian, Islamic, or Art Theory. Students must also meet the degree requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences.

UC Berkeley

II. UPPER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (7 or 8 courses)

In their Upper Division course work in History of Art (total 26-28 units; 8 of these units in Seminars), each student must take courses in 4 of the following 5 Geographical areas and 1 course in each of the Chronological periods.

Geographical: A) Europe and the Mediterranean B) Asia and the Pacific C) The Americas D) Middle East and Africa E) Trans-cultural

Chronological: I) Prehistoric – 1200 II) 1200 - 1800 III) 1800 - present

Upper Division lecture courses (3 or 4 units) and seminars (2 or 4 units) may fulfill these breadth requirements. Upper Division classes (lecture or seminar) can fulfill both a Geographical requirement and a Chronological requirement.

Harvard

1. One half-course in items 1a, 1b, 1c, or 1d must be in Asian, Islamic, African, or Latin American/Pre-Columbian if the major field is in any area of European or North American art or architecture; or one half-course in European or North American art or architecture if the major field is Asian, Islamic, African, or Latin American/Pre-Columbian.
2. Two half-courses in two different periods other than that of the major field. No more than five of the series of courses numbered History of Art and Architecture 10-89 may be taken for concentration credit, except with the approval of the director of undergraduate studies. The balance should be tutorials and upper-level courses.

Yale

Intermediate and advanced courses, numbered above 200, encompass more specialized surveys and themes in art history. The major requires six courses numbered above 200, of which two must be seminars numbered above 400; the six courses must satisfy both a geographical and a chronological distributional requirement. The geographical requirement is divided into five areas: Africa and the Pacific; the Americas; Asia and the Near East; Europe; and transregional. The chronological requirement is similarly divided into five

segments: earliest times to 800; 800–1500; 1500–1800; 1800 to the present; and transchronological. The six intermediate and advanced courses must be chosen from four different geographical areas and four different time periods; a single course can fulfill both a geographical and a chronological requirement.

Concentration/Major Field Focus

Harvard: “a major field focus”

Requirements for all concentrators, joint and full, provide exposure to a variety of areas within art history, as well as allow for the selection of a major field focus from among the following: African, Ancient (Egypt, Ancient Near East, Greece, Rome), Architecture, Baroque and Rococo, Byzantine, Chinese, Japanese, South Asian, Islamic, Latin American/Pre-Columbian, Medieval, Modern and Contemporary, and Renaissance.

Berkeley: “Focus of study”

Major requirements are also designed to maximize exposure to different historical periods, geographical regions, and topics, while allowing flexibility for students to pursue specific interests in a Focus of Study.

Stanford: “Concentrations within the major”

Concentrations within the major are approved by the faculty adviser and are not declared on Axess. Sample concentrations include:

- Topical concentrations: art and gender; art, politics, race, and ethnicity; art, science, and technology; urban studies
- Genre concentrations: architecture; painting; sculpture; film studies; prints and media; decorative arts and material culture
- Historical and national concentrations: ancient and medieval; Renaissance and early modern; modern and contemporary; America; Africa; Asia; the Americas
- Interdisciplinary concentrations: art and literature; art and history; art and religion; art and economics; art and medicine (with adviser consent a maximum of two concentration courses may be taken outside the department).

Pittsburgh

All students must develop a related area on the basis of their own career interests. For students who wish to attend graduate school in art history, for example, ancient or modern languages, cultural and intellectual history, sociology, and/or anthropology are advised depending upon the area of interest. For students with an interest in marketing, studio arts (especially design) or communications would be helpful. For those interested in graduate programs in art conservation, chemistry (general and organic) is required.