INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The History of Art major is designed to give students a solid grounding in the artistic traditions, practices, and contexts that comprise historical and contemporary visuality. By introducing students to the discipline’s history, methods, and debates, the major prepares students to pursue independent research, evaluate evidence, create coherent and sustained arguments, and develop academic writing skills. Students in the major gain exposure to different historical periods, geographical regions, and topics, while having the flexibility to pursue specific interests by selecting a Focus of Study.

FOCUS OF STUDY

History of Art majors concentrate a portion of their upper division coursework in a Focus of Study. By selecting a focus, students engage a specific field/period/topic in a cluster of relevant courses taught within and outside the department. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Art + Politics
- Materials + Materiality
- Art + Bodies
- Urbanism
- Craft
- Art + Religion

“Art history is undergoing dramatic transformations. We’re engaging and shaping these developments.”

– Whitney Davis, Professor

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Engage with art history internationally with study abroad.
- Get involved with the History of Art Undergraduate Student Association (H.Art).
- Check out the Visual Resources Center to find technology and information to support your academic projects.
**FIRST YEAR**
- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
- Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements.
- Enroll in L&S and HUM 10 (Compass Courses) and learn about study options in L&S and the Arts & Humanities.
- Get 11 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.
- Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
- Enroll in the L&S college success DeCal seminar.
- Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar or student-run DeCal course.
- Explore Berkeley Arts+Design with HUM 20.
- Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships.
- Visit the Art History/Classics Library and explore the Fine Arts Collections.
- Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
- Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
- Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.
- Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library.
- Check out the Career Center Yearly Planner.
- Set up a Handshake account and sign up for CareerMail.
- Explore career fields in the Career Connections Networking Series.

**SECOND YEAR**
- Meet with your major advisor to discuss a Focus of Study.
- Complete the required lower division courses in History of Art and Art Practice/ Materials and declare the major.
- Review the major guidelines for study abroad.
- Continue exploring with a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
- Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAP and SURF-SMART.
- Build your research skills in HUM 101: Research Bootcamp.
- Contribute to a community organization with an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
- Go on a service-learning trip with the Alternative Breaks Program.
- Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad.
- Meet with a Career Center counselor to discuss your career options and goals.
- Shadow alumni during a winter externship.
- Learn about graduate and professional school. See Step-by-Step for planning help.
- Think about doing an internship and attend an internship fair.

**THIRD YEAR**
- Focus on upper division courses in History of Art geography, chronology, theories and methods, and seminars.
- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Ask your major advisor about the History of Art honors program.
- Explore the resources of the Visual Resources Center.
- Consider becoming a Golden Bear Orientation Leader.
- Work with peers and graduate students in HUM 196: Mentored-Research and Discovery Groups.
- Develop your foreign language reading skills if planning on graduate study in Art History.
- Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF.
- Curious about entrepreneurship? Enroll in HUM 120: Entrepreneurship for All.
- Attend a leadership position in your student organization.
- Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program.
- Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal in the Capital.
- Learn about career fields and conduct informational interviews with people in those fields.
- Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.
- Create or update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- Attend career and graduate school fairs.

**FOURTH YEAR**
- Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Complete any "bucket list" courses.
- Finish remaining major, college, and campus requirements.
- Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.
- Explore the resources of the Visual Resources Center.
- Consider becoming a Golden Bear Orientation Leader.
- Work with peers and graduate students in HUM 196: Mentored-Research and Discovery Groups.
- Develop your foreign language reading skills if planning on graduate study in Art History.
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- Create or update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- Attend career and graduate school fairs.

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**
- Jobs and Employers
  - Analyst Consultant, Accenture
  - Asst. Creative Producer, Masterclass
  - Development Assoc., SFMOMA
  - Director of Comms., Acia Fraternity Education Asst., Cooper Hewitt
  - GIS Technician, Evan GIS Consulting
  - Public Prgm. Asst., OC Museum of Art
  - Registrar, Art Gallery
  - Research Assistant, Hearst Museum
  - Teacher’s Aide, UC Davis

- Graduate Programs
  - Architecture, Masters
  - Art History, PhD
  - History, Masters
  - Humanities, Masters
  - International Business, Masters

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

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