

**Minneapolis College of Art and Design
Liberal Arts Department
Art History Minor
Description, Overview, and Required Courses**

Description and Overview for the Art History Minor

The Art History Minor offered through the Liberal Arts Department combines object-based analysis with an understanding of historical and contemporary artistic practices. Students gain an expanded knowledge of the research and methods used in the discipline of Art History, skills of visual interpretation that are transferable to a wide variety of creative and scholarly practices. The Art History Minor is medium-inclusive, encompassing the study of objects of fine art, design, and the decorative arts, as well as art historical aspects of material and visual culture. Topics explored as part of the Art History Minor may include iconography, formal analysis, stylistic shifts, biography, the art market, ritual, reception, historiography, museum and gallery displays, critical theory, and the roles and responsibilities of the artist and the exhibition venue.

Learning Objectives for the Art History Minor

- Gain an expanded understanding of the theories and methods utilized in the field of Art History and their application to the collection and display of art
- Demonstrate significant knowledge about and appreciation for the relationships between studio practice and art historical traditions
- Develop a deep familiarity with individual movements in order to analyze and evaluate critically chronological and thematic art historical narratives
- Employ art historical research to discuss, analyze, and situate in substantive ways artworks from an array of cultural contexts and historical periods
- Utilize various theoretical and methodological frameworks to write and to speak about art and design, both substantively and critically

Methodology of Instruction for the Art History Minor

The methodology of instruction for the courses required of the Art History minor varies. Courses may be lecture-based, offered online, or taught in a seminar-style format. Close reading and engaged discussion of assigned material are expected in most classes, as is mastery of key artists, designers, and works. Students are expected to contribute actively to class discussion and to complete writing activities, exams, visual analysis assignments, and research essays and presentations.

Required Courses

All of the Following (9 credits):

AH 1701 – Art & Design History 1 AH 1702 – Art & Design History 2
AH 4913 – Art History Seminar

One of the Following (3 credits):

AH 2101 – Interrogating Post Modernity: The Fine Arts Since 1945
AH 2103 – Applied Arts and Designed Objects
AH 2105 – Print Culture, Art, and Communication in the Age of Mass Reproduction
AH 2107 – Photography, the Moving Image, and Digital Culture
AH 3365 – History of Animation
AH 3600 – History of Filmmaking
AH 3412 – History of Furniture Design
AH 3657 – History of Comic Art
AH 3659 – History of Graphic Design
AH 3377 – History of Illustration
AH 3610 – History of Photography
AH 3367 – History of Print / Paper / Book
AH 3568 – History of Sculpture
AH 3378 – History of Web & Multimedia

One of the Following (3 credits):

AH/HS 3867 – Readings in Contemporary Art
AH/HS 3875 – Readings in Contemporary Design
AH/HS 3875 – Readings in the Graphic Novel
AH/HS 3864 – Readings in Photographic Culture

One of the Following (3 credits):

AH/HS – Any course cross-listed as “AH/HS” and taken for “HS” (Humanities and Sciences) credit

18 Credits TOTAL