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The PhD program in Art History encourages high scholastic achievement, original research, and a firm theoretical grounding. The program involves coursework, two foreign languages, two comprehensive examinations in minor and major fields, dissertation proposal, round table presentation, doctoral dissertation, and oral defense.

Admission

Admission to the PhD program requires the completion of an MA in art history and reading knowledge of one language other than English. Students with master's degrees in related fields may be required to complete additional art history courses for their PhD program.

Entrance into the program is possible only in the fall. Although it is possible to enroll on a part-time basis, the PhD program must be completed within six years of initial registration. For a schedule of fees, please refer to the UBC Calendar at <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/>

Applications are completed online. Visit <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/apply-online> to begin your application

Application Deadline

Students are advised that the deadline for receipt of complete applications is **January 10**. All supporting material must be received by the deadline. You will be notified in mid-to-late March as to whether you have been accepted into the program.

Residency Requirement

Students will normally spend a minimum of two academic years in full-time attendance at UBC. During this time, students prepare to advance to candidacy by completing coursework, language requirements, comprehensive exams, and the dissertation proposal.

Language Requirement

PhD students are required to be proficient in two languages as well as English. This is demonstrated by evidence of foreign languages on transcripts and/or proficiency by passing a reading knowledge exam (translation with dictionary) administered by either the Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory or a UBC language department at the beginning of each term.

Students who do not have proficiency in two languages, other than English, should register in a language course. Completing a language course at a level of 200 or above (not including conversation courses) with a grade of not less than 72% fulfills the language requirement. Students should note that courses designed specifically for reading a language are at the 300 level and usually do not assume prior knowledge of the language. If students prefer they can register in a language course as an Auditor and write our departmental reading knowledge exam at any time.

Students who need proficiency in a language with a non-roman script may receive special consideration. In such cases, the student may not be expected to complete the language requirement within the first academic year. As well they may elect to fulfill the requirement by obtaining an advanced proficiency in the language that fulfilled their admission requirement.

Entering the Program

On entering the Department a meeting will be arranged with members of the Graduate Advisory Committee to review the student's academic record and her/his proposed direction through the program. All of our programs are designed to provide a grounding in a broadly based and methodologically diverse art history. If it appears that the in-coming student's experience at the Masters level has been more narrowly focused than required, he/she may be advised to take a further seminar (in addition to the three required seminars) to achieve an equivalent diversity / balance.

Coursework

All Graduate students are required to take ARTH 571, the Methodology of Art History seminar (6 credits). Students continuing from a UBC MA in Art History do not repeat this course if they have taken it within the last five years. This two-term seminar, taught by two members of the art history faculty, deals with both "Western" and "non-Western" issues and engages students with current debates in the field. This is an intensive course and students should take advantage of any readings suggested for advanced preparation.

Students must achieve a 78% average in all coursework and no lower than 72% in any single course or they may be required to withdraw from the program.

Graduate Courses

PhD Students are required to take 9 credits of graduate level seminars in addition to ARTH 571. Three credits of this course work can be from outside of the department. The department normally offers four or five graduate seminars per academic year (in addition to ARTH 571).

ARTH 577 (Directed Reading) is only permitted in the special case that the student's supervisor is not teaching a research seminar for the two consecutive years of the PhD coursework.

All Graduate (500 level) courses - with exception of CCST 503 - are open to all graduate students.

* Not all courses are offered every year.

ARTH 531 (3/6) Studies in Early Medieval Art
ARTH 533 (3/6) Studies in Medieval Art
ARTH 535 (3/6) Early Modern: Renaissance
ARTH 537 (3/6) Early Modern: 17th Century
ARTH 539 (3/6) Studies in 19th Century Art
ARTH 540 (3/6) Studies in 20th Century Art
ARTH 543 (3/6) Studies in Canadian Art
ARTH 548 (3/6) Studies in Architecture

ARTH 550 (3/6) Studies in Art in the Islamic World
ARTH 551 (3/6) Studies in Chinese Art
ARTH 553 (3/6) Studies in Japanese Art
ARTH 555 (3/6) Studies in South and Southeast Asian Art
ARTH 561 (3/6) Studies in Indigenous Arts of the Americas
ARTH 571 (6) The Methodology of Art History

ARTH 649 (0) Doctoral Dissertation

Committees and Supervision

During the course of the program, students are advised by three departmental committees in addition to the Doctoral Thesis Research Supervisor

Graduate Studies Advisory Committee

The Graduate Studies Advisory Committee (GAC) consists of Art History faculty members and is chaired by the Art History Graduate Advisor. The Advisory Committee oversees the entire Art History Graduate Program to ensure students' timely progress in the fulfillment of the program requirements. The committee offers general assistance in planning course work, fulfilling the language requirement, selecting a Thesis Research Supervisor and PhD Committees. The student will meet with the Graduate Advisor, the Graduate Program Coordinator, and a committee member at the beginning of each academic year. The Graduate Advisor is available for regular consultation throughout the program.

Doctoral Thesis Research Supervisor

Selection of a Doctoral Thesis Research Supervisor occurs in the second term of the first academic year in preparation for the Comprehensive Exams and the Thesis Proposal. The student will work with his/her Research Supervisor until graduation. The Research Supervisor chairs both the Doctoral Examination Committee and the Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee. Annually, the Research Supervisor will submit the Supervisory Committee's report on the year's progress, to be placed in the student's file in the Graduate Program Coordinator's office.

Doctoral Examination Committee

The Doctoral Examination Committee is constituted by the student at the end of the first academic year to supervise his/her preparation for the Comprehensive Exams. The committee consists of the Research Supervisor and two other faculty members, at least one of whom must be in the Department.

Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee

Before completion of the major field comprehensive exam, the student constitutes her/his Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee, which oversees the dissertation proposal and supervises thesis work to graduation. The committee generally consists of the Research Supervisor and two other faculty members, at least one of whom must be in the Department.

Comprehensive Exams

Major & Minor Field Comprehensive Exams

Students identify major and minor fields of study upon entering the program, so that an appropriate Doctoral Examination Committee may be constituted to include advisors in both fields, and a third faculty member. The student will select a Doctoral Thesis Research Supervisor by the second term of the first academic year and begin the formation of his or her Doctoral Examination Committee. The Doctoral Examination Committee will supervise the preparation of a bibliography for both the major and minor fields as well as administer and evaluate the Comprehensive Exams written for each field. The exams are pass/fail; in the unlikely event that the student is unsuccessful, the exam may be rewritten once. The Comprehensive Exams are expected to be completed by the end of the second academic year.

A) PhD Minor Field Comprehensive

The minor comprehensive must take up an area of study that is geographically, historically, and theoretically different from the major field. The student will solicit a minor field advisor from the art history faculty. Ordinarily, the minor will consist of:

- 1) Development of a syllabus for a fourth year undergraduate seminar in consultation with the minor field advisor.
- 2) Development of a bibliography of approximately 30-50 sources from which the syllabus will draw that incorporates a review of the literature
- 3) Completion of the syllabus.

The syllabus will include:

- a) Title of course
 - b) Short summary of course content
 - c) Full account of course with description of historical parameters, debates in the field, forms of visual imagery, themes, issues and goals for the course, and an introductory lecture (6-8 pages in total).
 - d) 12 weeks of classes (approximately one page for each week)
these should include: topic, argument, images, historical context and issues, readings (required and recommended), discussion points.
 - e) One-two page summary
- 4) Once approved by the minor field advisor, the student sends the syllabus electronically to the Graduate Program Coordinator who files a paper copy and circulates the syllabus to the PhD supervisor and the third reader. The third reader has been solicited by the student for both the minor and major exams.

B) Major Field Comprehensive Exam

- 1) Develop a bibliography of approximately 40 texts (articles, chapters, books) on a topic in consultation with the PhD supervisor, which will be circulated to the minor field advisor and the third reader.
- 2) Develop out of this bibliography a short list of 20-40 titles, in consultation with the Supervisor. Write annotations for each of 200-400 words, to be circulated to the Doctoral Exam Committee Members. The organization may be chronological, thematic, or alphabetical as required. The supervisor will provide a question or questions on the topic in advance of the exam to the Graduate Program Coordinator who will send the question to the student. The student chooses an exam of four hours (closed book, at the university using a department computer) or eight

hours (open book using the student's computer), sending the essay to the Graduate Program Coordinator upon completion who will forward it, with the question, to the Doctoral Exam Committee.

- 3) Students are expected to complete their comprehensive examination within 24 months from the date of initial registration. A student who is not admitted to candidacy within 36 months from date of initial registration must withdraw from the program. Extension of this period may be permitted by the Dean of Graduate Studies in exceptional circumstances.

C) Dissertation Proposal (10-12 double-spaced pages)

The PhD thesis is the student's opportunity to research and analyze primary sources, to make an original contribution to the field, and to develop and present a substantial argument roughly the scale of a scholarly book. A PhD thesis should make a contribution that significantly affects an existing research field and its debates. An appropriate topic would therefore involve investigating the structure of that field. Archival research is generally appropriate and normally involves travel in the third year of the program.

Normally, upon completion of the major field comprehensive exam, the student finalizes the dissertation proposal. If one of the comprehensive exam readers will be substituted by a new committee member for the dissertation, the student should be in contact with the new committee member before completing the major field exam for feedback in advance of writing the proposal.

The proposal should consist of:

- a) Working title
- b) Summary of proposed research
One page abstract
- c) Program of Research
Description of your object(s) of analysis
Hypothesis
- d) Situate the proposed research in the context of the relevant scholarly literature
- e) Objectives
Proposed contribution to the advancement of knowledge
- f) Relevance of the proposed research
What are the historical, art historical, and critical contributions you envision?
With which debates does the project engage?
- g) Methodology
Where will you pursue your research (archives, collections) ?
What will you do? How will you approach your sources? And why?
What is your theoretical contribution?
- h) References
Relevant bibliography.

The Thesis Proposal will be read and evaluated by the student's Thesis Supervisory Committee. The Thesis Supervisor or Graduate Program Coordinator will inform the student of the result of this review within two weeks of the Thesis Proposal's formal submission. As the Thesis Proposal is being developed, the student will meet with the committee members to discuss recommendations for refining the topic, goals, and methods. This gives the student the opportunity to re-frame and re-submit it in consultation with the Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee.

During the period of work on the thesis, students are registered in ARTH 649 until program completion. Students should also consult the Guidelines for the Various Parties involved in Graduate Student Thesis Research available from the Faculty of Graduate Studies <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/>.

Advancement to Candidacy

Advancement to Candidacy occurs once students have successfully completed all of the requirements outlined above: residency period, coursework, language requirement, major and minor Comprehensive Exams and the Thesis Proposal. It is expected that a student will be Admitted to Candidacy within two years from the date of initial registration. A student who is not Admitted to Candidacy within a period of three years must withdraw from the program. In exceptional circumstances extensions may be granted by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Round Table

At the mid-stage of thesis research, normally in November of the fourth academic year, a Round Table will be held in order for the candidate to share research findings and to receive feedback from other students and faculty. After consultation with the Thesis Committee the Round Table is scheduled with the Graduate Program Coordinator. Once a date has been established it cannot be changed without the Thesis Committee's consent and on less than four weeks notice. Moreover, postponements of the Round Table must be scheduled at least four weeks after the original date.

The candidate will submit a two-page abstract of the Round Table presentation and a tentative Table of Contents of the thesis, which has been approved by all Thesis Committee members. The approved abstract and Table of Contents is submitted to the Graduate Program Coordinator At least 10 days before the scheduled presentation to allow time for distribution and proper consideration by faculty and graduate students. At the same time, the presenter should name a student moderator.

The Round Table oral presentation should be 40 minutes long (approx. 16 typed, double-spaced pages) and accompanied with a visual presentation. The oral presentation should convey the central arguments and issues being addressed in the thesis. The presentation will be followed by questions and a discussion facilitated by the student moderator. The candidate should expect to be asked about the feasibility of the thesis and to be open to alternative points of view. The discussion is open to all graduate students, faculty, and others who wish to attend.

Shortly after the Round Table, the candidate will meet with the Thesis Supervisory Committee for a follow-up discussion which will be facilitated by a member of the Graduate Studies Advisory Committee.

Thesis Completion and the Oral Defense

Students should expect that more than a single draft will be necessary for an acceptable thesis. Thesis Committee members are allotted two weeks to read and comment on each draft. Students must allow for this time when preparing to meet deadlines for the Oral Defense. When the Thesis Committee members agree that the thesis is acceptable with only minor, editorial changes, the Research Supervisor in consultation with the thesis committee submits a shortlist of potential External Examiners to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies who then appoint the External Examiner from this list and schedule an oral defense. The External Examiner is appointed at least three months before the final version of the thesis is submitted. At least 6 – 7 weeks before the anticipated defense date the candidate submits the following to the Faculty of Graduate Studies:

- Two CERLOX bound copies of the thesis
- An Approval Memo from Department Head/Graduate Advisor stating that departmental requirements have been met, student is registered in good standing with fees paid in full, and that the Supervisory Committee has read and approved the thesis for submission to the External Examiner.

The thesis is then distributed to the External Examiner, two University Examiners, and a Defense Chair appointed by Graduate Studies, none of whom will have advised the student in researching or writing the thesis. The oral defense may take place only if the thesis is approved by the External Examiner.

The oral defense of the doctoral thesis is regulated and coordinated by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. It provides the final opportunity for candidates to share results of their thesis research and receive feedback. This public event is advertised by circulation of a program and may be attended by students, faculty, and other interested persons. For detailed information regarding oral defense scheduling, procedures and thesis preparation, it is imperative that the student refer to the Faculty of Graduate Studies website to ensure that the most current regulations are met.

The candidate is required to complete an Application for Graduation for the term in which the successfully defended thesis is to be deposited at the Faculty of Graduate Studies. This application is available from the Faculty of Graduate Studies or from Enrolment Services.

Once final revisions to the thesis have been approved and the title page signed by Doctoral Thesis Committee members, the thesis may be submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. To ensure that the document is prepared in appropriate form for deposit refer to the leaflet Instructions for the Preparation of Graduate Theses, which may be obtained from the Faculty of Graduate Studies by visiting <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/dissertation-thesis-preparation/resources-thesis-preparation-checking>

Maintaining Student Status

Students register in ARTH 649 the PhD thesis for each session until they have completed the program. Those who fail to register by the deadlines indicated in the UBC Calendar must pay a late fee, forfeit their status and be required to reapply to the program. If the PhD degree is not awarded within a period of six years from initial registration, the student's status may be terminated and the student may be required to withdraw from the program. Extensions will be granted only under exceptional circumstances. For provisions relating to "On Leave Status," see the entry for Graduate Student Status in the UBC Calendar.

Financial Support

Opportunities for financial support include the following.

Grant-writing workshops are scheduled in the Department during September. All students are urged to participate.

Graduate Support Initiative Awards (GSI)

Graduate Support Initiative Awards (GSI), approximately \$24,000 are offered to the best and brightest incoming doctoral students for full-time graduate study. All applicants to the program are automatically considered for this award. In the event that a student receives another funding offer, in excess of the GSI allocation, the department reserves the right to withdraw the offer so that another student can receive funding.

University Affiliated Graduate Fellowships

The Faculty of Graduate Studies offers approximately 50 Affiliated Fellowships each year to meritorious students for full-time study and/or research leading to a graduate degree. Awards are made on the basis of academic excellence, and are open to current and prospective full-time UBC graduate students regardless of citizenship or visa status. Fellowship values range from \$175 to \$30,000, but most are in the range of \$16,000. More information can be found at: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/affiliated-fellowships>

Social Science & Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS)

Award based on academic excellence and valued at \$20,000 & \$35,000. Students who are either Canadian citizens or Landed Immigrants are eligible and are required to submit applications for this prestigious award in order to be included in the adjudication for Affiliated Fellowships. Applications are due in the fall. Further information is available at www.sshrc.ca and <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/sshrc-graduate-scholarships>

Teaching Assistantships

The Department annually advertises available TA positions. TA positions are normally offered to students entering their second year of the program. Notices of teaching assistantships are posted in the Department before April 1st. Duties include leading discussion sections and marking exams and papers for certain undergraduate courses, for 12 hours per week. Contact the Graduate Program Coordinator for particulars.

Art History Travel Research Scholarship

The department has a fund specifically designated to support travel for the purpose of thesis research. Preference is given to PhD students.

Conference Travel

The Graduate Student Travel Fund provides one-time travel support of up to \$500 for students presenting a paper at a conference or symposium. More information can be found at: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/graduate-student-travel-fund>.

For additional information on financial support for graduate students, consult the Faculty of Graduate Studies website at <http://www.grad.ubc.ca/>. Financial support counselling is also available in the UBC Office of Awards and Financial Aid at (604) 822-5111 or visit their website at <http://students.ubc.ca/finance/>

Departmental and Campus Facilities

Music + Art + Architecture Library

The Music + Art + Architecture Library is located in the newly constructed Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The collection includes books and journals on art history, architecture, community and regional planning, dance, costume, artistic photography and design. Special materials include exhibition catalogues, pamphlets, microforms, clippings, picture files, CD-ROMs and online indexes and databases.

Circulating books are located in the open stacks of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. Most material circulates for two weeks. All reserve books and course readings are kept in the Reserve Room which is located next to the Circulation Desk on Level 2. The Library provides many areas for students to study. In addition, there are group study rooms available (4 are bookable and 2 are on a first come basis).

A camera stand is located on Level 3 in a designated photography room.

Fine Arts staff is available to assist with reference, instruction and tours. Reference hours are Monday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information visit: www.library.ubc.ca/finearts

The AHVA Visual Resources Centre

The Collection has holdings of over 300,000 35mm photographic slides, digital images, videos, DVDs and films covering all areas of art history and visual art as represented by the Department's curriculum. It is a vital teaching and research facility for both faculty and students; its visual contents are updated on a regular basis for Intranet usage in the Arts Multimedia Computer Labs. For the sole purpose of review and study, visual materials from twenty-two art history courses are temporarily stored and disseminated to students via Internet access during examination times

The Artist and Architect Indices have been compiled and are updated regularly to facilitate searching and efficient retrieval of visual images. To provide easy access to the growing AHVA Digital Image Database, a versatile storage and retrieval system with effective searching mechanism is being developed together with Arts ISIT, focusing on the art history courses and Post 1945 category in the initial stage. So far, 30,000+ visual materials from 21 art history courses have been digitized with complementary indices accessible online during examination times.

The slide collection has well over 300,000 slides covering all areas of art history represented by the Department. It is a valuable tool for both research and teaching and may be used by graduate and undergraduate students in seminars. The centre has also undergone renovations to offer an exciting collaborative space through the inclusion of the Film Collection from the Department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing.

The Joan Carlisle-Irving Lecture Series

Each year the Department sponsors a thematic lecture series using funds from an endowment provided by Joan Carlisle-Irving. This enables about five lecturing visitors, who may be artists, critics, or art historians, to present seminars on campus that appeal to a wide range of audiences.

The Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

The Belkin Art Gallery organizes and hosts exhibitions of contemporary art as well as monthly workshops, tours, speakers and symposia. The gallery has a collection of contemporary art as well as an archive that is strong in the areas of mail art and concrete poetry. The gallery employs students through the work study program and is also involved in the curatorial studies program.

The Museum of Anthropology

UBC Museum of Anthropology, architecturally designed by Arthur Erickson and opened in 1976, is situated on the Point Grey cliffs overlooking Howe Sound and the North Shore Mountains. Both its setting and architecture are inspired by coastal First Nations' settlements of British Columbia. The collections include the famous Northwest Coast First Nations collection, the Walter and Marianne Koerner collection, an international textile collection and archaeological findings of British Columbia and the North Pacific Rim.

Other Creative and Performing Arts Departments at UBC

The Department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing offers programs that lead to the degrees of Ph.D., M.A., M.F.A., B.A. and B.F.A.

The Film Program offers an M.A. in film and Television History and Criticism and a M.F.A. in Film and Television production. A diploma in film and Television Studies is also offered.

The Theatre Program runs the Frederic Wood Theatre, which produces a program of plays from September through April and the Dorothy Somerset Studio, which produces plays of an experimental nature, including those directed by students.

The Creative Writing program offers B.F.A. and M.F.A degrees in areas such as Fiction, Plays, Poetry, Short Stories, Translation and Writing for Radio and Television. PRISM International is a student run literary journal published by the Department, featuring original work in English and translation from a wide variety of languages. Now over 30 years old, PRISM is Canada's oldest literary magazine.

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Disclaimer

This brochure in no way contradicts or modifies any rule laid down in the University Calendar, which should be consulted when precise information on any specific point on course program requirements is required. This is obtainable from the Office of the Registrar (Brock Hall, 2106 - 1874 East Mall, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1, Phone (604) 822-2844). <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/>