THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MASTER OF ARTS IN ART HISTORY

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY, VISUAL ART AND THEORY
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The 37th annual graduate symposium exhibition, *Teaching Material* (2014)
Program Overview

The Master of Arts in Art History program is a two-year thesis program, designed to instruct students in methods of research and presentation of scholarly materials.

All of our programs are designed to provide a grounding in a broadly based and methodologically diverse art history. The program offers advanced study of art history in areas of European and North American art, Asian art, and the indigenous arts of the Americas leading to the Master of Arts (MA) (Art History).
Admissions

Applicants for the MA in art history program normally have preparation in the discipline equivalent to the undergraduate major in art history at UBC. This translates into a minimum of ten courses (30 credits) in art history at the third- and fourth-year levels. It is recommended that these courses represent a significant range of historical periods and/or geographic areas. An A mark must have been earned in at least 12 credits, with at least a high B standing in the remainder, for an overall average of not less than B+.

In addition, applicants must also satisfy the Faculty of Graduate Studies minimum admission requirements. As per the Faculty of Graduate Studies eligibility, the master’s degree at UBC requires a bachelor’s degree (or honours bachelor’s degree) requiring four years of study with a B+ average in third- and fourth-year-level coursework. From Quebec, a three-year bachelor’s degree is acceptable provided the Diplôme d’Études Collégiales (DEC) has been previously awarded. Please refer to the Faculty of Graduate Studies website at www.grad.ubc.ca to confirm the minimum admission requirements if you are an international student.

Apply online at: www.grad.ubc.ca/apply/online/.

Students may enter the program only in the fall. Although it is possible to enrol on a part-time basis, students must complete all requirements within five years of initial registration.

It should be noted that these standards constitute a minimum and admission remains at the discretion of the department. If you do not meet these requirements, please contact the department’s graduate program coordinator for advice on how to fulfill them. Further information is available online at www.ahva.ubc.ca.

Application deadline

The deadline for receipt of complete applications is January 10. All supporting material must be received by the deadline. Notifications of acceptance are normally sent by late March.

Fees

Please refer to the UBC Calendar for tuition and fee information. An online version is accessible at students.ubc.ca. The MA art history program can be pursued on a full-time basis only.
**Language Requirement**

Reading proficiency in a language other than English is desirable for many seminars at the fourth- and fifth-year levels and is regarded as an essential skill. Therefore, MA candidates are required to have a reading knowledge of one language other than English appropriate to work in their field. In most cases the language requirement will be fulfilled by the end of the student’s first year of studies.

- Students may demonstrate their proficiency in a language other than English by passing a reading knowledge exam (translation with dictionary). Exams are scheduled in the Department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory in October and February. For some languages, exams may be administered by another UBC department.

- Students who have not obtained proficiency in a language other than English should register in a UBC 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 most European languages are available at the 300 level and usually do not assume prior knowledge of the language. If they prefer, and instructors permit, students may register in a language course as an auditor and write the departmental reading knowledge exam.

- Students who need proficiency in a language using a non-Roman script may receive special consideration. Courses taken to fulfill the language requirement are not counted toward the required credits for the MA degree.
Program Requirements

The MA in art history requires 30 credits of coursework of which 24 must be in ARTH courses numbered 500 or above.

The 30 credits include the Methodology of Art History (ARTH 571, 6 credits), required in the first year, and the Master’s Thesis (ARTH 599, 6 credits), normally begun in the second year. The remaining 18 credits may be chosen from art history or from other departments as per the following guidelines:

- The two-year MA program should include coursework with a broad range of historical periods and geographical regions.
- Up to 3 credits of coursework at the 400 level may be counted toward the degree, with approval from the graduate advisor.
- Up to 6 credits of coursework may be taken outside the department.
- Students can repeat a seminar (with the exception of ARTH 540) if the content is substantially different and if it is taught by a different instructor.
- Students should not take more than 6 credits (excluding the Master's Thesis, ARTH 599) with the same instructor.
- ARTH 577 (Directed Reading) is permitted only in the special case that the student’s supervisor is not teaching a research seminar for the two consecutive years of MA coursework.
- Courses taken to fulfill the language requirement are not counted toward the required credits for the MA degree. In order to remain in the program, students must maintain an overall average of 78% in all art history courses and not receive a grade lower than 72% in any single course.
Graduate Courses

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

* Not all courses are offered every year.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 531</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in Early Medieval Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 533</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in Medieval Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 535</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Early Modern: Renaissance</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 537</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Early Modern: 17th Century</td>
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<td>ARTH 539</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in 19th Century Art</td>
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<td>ARTH 540</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in 20th Century Art</td>
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<td>ARTH 543</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in Canadian Art</td>
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<td>ARTH 548</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in Architecture</td>
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<td>ARTH 551</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in Chinese Art</td>
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<td>ARTH 553</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in Japanese Art</td>
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<td>ARTH 555</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in South and Southeast Asian Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 561</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Studies in the Indigenous Arts of the Americas</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 571</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Methodology of Art History</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>(a rigorous two-term required methodologies seminar led by two professors who are specialists in divergent areas)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 577</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Directed Reading <em>(permitted only in the special case that the student’s supervisor is not teaching a research seminar for the two consecutive years of the MA coursework)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 599</td>
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<td>MA Thesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCST 500</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Historical Frameworks in Critical and Curatorial Studies</td>
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<td>CCST 501</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Contemporary Contextual Issues for Critical and Curatorial Practice</td>
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<td>CCST 502</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Case Studies in Exhibitions and Institutions</td>
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Committees and Supervision

During the course of the program, students are advised by two departmental committees.

Thesis Committee

The Thesis Committee consists of a research supervisor (chair or first reader) and a second faculty member (second reader) and is normally constituted by the student before the end of first-year coursework to supervise thesis work through to graduation. The Thesis Committee oversees the formulation of a thesis topic, presentation of thesis research at the roundtable, and the deposit of the finished thesis.

Art History Graduate Advisory Committee

The Art History Graduate Advisory Committee oversees the entire art history graduate program to ensure students’ timely progress in fulfilling program requirements. The committee offers general assistance in planning coursework, fulfilling the language requirement, selecting a Thesis Committee, and formulating a thesis topic.

The Art History Graduate Advisory Committee is chaired by the graduate advisor. The graduate advisor is available for regular consultation throughout the program.

The student will meet with the graduate advisor and another member of the Advisory Committee in September of each academic year.
A student presenting at the semi-annual graduate student roundtables
Roundtables

At the mid-stage of thesis research, a roundtable will be held in order for the student to receive feedback from other students and faculty. Roundtables will normally be scheduled in February of the student’s second year in the program.

The candidate will write a one-page abstract of the roundtable presentation, which must be approved by both Thesis Committee members. The approved abstract must be submitted to the graduate program coordinator at least ten days before the scheduled presentation to allow time for distribution and proper consideration by faculty and graduate students. At this time, the candidate should also select a graduate student discussion moderator.

The roundtable oral presentation should be 20 minutes long (eight or nine typed, double-spaced pages). The illustrated presentation will indicate the issue(s) 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 should 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 roundtable, the candidate will meet with the Thesis Committee and a member of the Graduate Advisory Committee for a follow-up discussion that will assist in the final shaping of the project.
MA Thesis

The Master’s Thesis (ARTH 599) is designed to train students in the skills of scholarly research and analysis. It entails the development and convincing presentation of an argument in the form of a thesis that should be no longer than 60 pages of text and footnotes. An appropriate thesis topic needs to be conceived as a specific and limited problem that poses an intervention within an existing research field and its debates. It should normally involve work within existing literatures and thus be capable of completion with library research rather than travel.

Students should select a Thesis Committee and a thesis topic by the end of their first year's coursework in order to begin research during the summer. Whenever possible, the thesis topic should arise from coursework, i.e, a seminar paper. Students who will not be able to take a seminar in their area of thesis research until the second year should consult their thesis supervisor or the graduate advisor before the end of the first year in order to plan summer research in anticipation of this seminar.

Students should expect that more than a single draft will be necessary for an acceptable thesis. Thesis Committee members are allowed two weeks to read and comment on each draft, and students must allow for this time, particularly in regard to meeting a deadline for submission of the thesis to the department and to UBC Library. These deadlines are printed in the “Academic Year” section of the UBC Calendar.

When the Thesis Committee has approved the thesis, it will be submitted for marking in order to complete requirements for ARTH 599. The student must also submit an application for graduation to Enrolment Services; the application is available from Enrolment Services, the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, or online at www.students.ubc.ca.

After completing editorial changes required by the Thesis Committee, the student will prepare the thesis for deposit to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Instructions for “Masters and Doctoral Thesis Preparation and Submission” can be obtained from the Faculty of Graduate Studies website: http://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/dissertation-thesis-preparation.

Students should also consult the “Guidelines for the Various Parties involved in Graduate Student Thesis Research,” available from the Faculty of Graduate Studies.
Financial Support

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

Opportunities for financial support in the MA program include the following:

**Graduate Support Initiative Awards (GSI)**

Graduate Support Initiative Awards (GSI) are offered to the best and brightest incoming master’s 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 Fellowships**

The university offers a limited number of Affiliated Fellowships to students with a minimum first-class standing. Awards are based on academic excellence and are open to any graduate student regardless of citizenship or visa status. Applications for Affiliated Fellowships are available to students upon their acceptance to the program, from the graduate program coordinator, and are normally due in November of the first year. Students who are awarded these highly competitive fellowships receive funding for their second year of study. These fellowships are valued between $8,000 and $16,000.

**Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS)**

This award is based on academic excellence and valued at $17,500. 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 http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp

* Students applying to UBC are encouraged to apply for the CGS during the final year of their undergraduate degree.
Teaching Assistantships

The department has a number of TA positions available every year. TA positions are normally offered to students entering the second term of the first year of the program, and these teaching assistantships will continue to be offered to students until they have completed their degree (conditional on satisfactory performance, availability of positions, enrolment, and funding). Notice of teaching assistantships are posted in the department by March 31. Duties include leading tutorial sessions and grading exams and papers for undergraduate courses for up to 12 hours per week.

Art History Travel Research Scholarship

The department has a fund 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: http://ahva.ubc.ca/graduate/funding-and-awards-for-grad-students/.

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 through their website at http://students.ubc.ca/finance.
Facilities, Programs, and Resources

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. International and Canadian critics, curators, artists, and scholars address challenging and topical themes relevant to the study and practice of art in today’s world.

The Distinguished Visiting Artist Program

The Distinguished Visiting Artist Program brings senior practicing artists to the department to give a public lecture, lead an intensive seminar, participate in graduate student critiques, and assist MFA students in the development of their work and early professional career. This program is made possible by the generous support of the Rennie Collection.

The AHVA Visual Resources Centre (VRC)

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 22 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 in the initial stage on art history courses and the post-1945 category. So far, more than 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 VRC has also undergone renovations to offer an exciting collaborative space through the inclusion of the Film Collection from the Department of Theatre and Film.
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre: Music, Art, and Architecture Library

The Music, Art, and Architecture Library is located in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The collection includes books and journals on visual art, art history, architecture, community and regional planning, dance, design, and music. 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. The library provides many areas for students to study: silent and group study spaces, a graduate research room, and a digital media commons. Library staff with specialization in visual art and art history is available to assist with reference, instruction, and tours.

http://ikblc.ubc.ca/

The Museum of Anthropology

UBC’s Museum of Anthropology, 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.

http://moa.ubc.ca
The Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

This standalone contemporary art gallery opened in 1995. The gallery is a public facility contributing to the cultural life of the campus, the city, the province, and beyond. Throughout the year the gallery hosts a variety of informative and provocative exhibitions that confirm the creative and eclectic aspects of contemporary art. Exhibitions are generated internally or borrowed and draw on work from local, national, and international artists, other Canadian art institutions, art organizations and international sources. The gallery attempts to expose the broadest possible spectrum of visual concerns to both the university community and the public at large. It also sponsors visiting speakers as well as occasional symposia.

http://belkin.ubc.ca

The Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery.
The Music, Art, and Architecture Library (inside the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre).
Faculty and Staff

Associate Professor and Head
Dana CLAXTON, MA, Liberal Studies (SFU)

Visual Art

Professors
Xiong GU, BFA, MFA (Sichuan Institute of Fine Arts)  Barbara ZEIGLER, BFA, MFA (Illinois)

Associate Professors
Dana CLAXTON, MA, Liberal Studies (SFU)  Manuel PIÑA, BSc (Vladimir Polytechnic Institute)
Gareth JAMES, BA (Slade School of Fine Art, UCL)  Marina ROY, BA (Laval), BFA (NSCAD), MFA (UBC)

Visual Art Graduate Advisor

Assistant Professors
Althea THAUBERGER, BFA (Concordia), MFA (UVic), PhD (European Graduate School)

Lecturers
Barrie JONES, BFA (UBC), MFA (York)  Phillip McCRRUM, BFA, MFA (University of Ulster)

AHVA Gallery Coordinator

Instructors
Christine D’ONOFRIO, BFA (York), MFA (UBC)
Art History

Professors

Anthony SHELTON, BA (Hull), MLitt, DPhil (Oxford)  
Catherine M. SOUSSLOFF, AB, PhD (Bryn Mawr College)

Scott WATSON, BA, MA (UBC)  
Director of the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

Associate Professors

Jaleh MANSOOR, PhD (Columbia)  
Maureen P. RYAN, BA, MA (UBC), PhD (Chicago)

Joseph MONTEYNE, MA, PhD (UBC)  
T’ai SMITH, BA (Barnard College, Columbia), MA, PhD (Rochester)

Art History Graduate Advisor

Assistant Professors

Ignacio ADRIASOLA, BA (Chiba), MA (Duke), MA (Chiba), PhD (Duke)  
Julia ORELL, MA (Frankfurt), PhD (Chicago)

Georgios MAKRIS, BA (University of Athens), MA, PhD (University of Birmingham)  
Saygin SALGIRLI, PhD (Binghamton)

Michelle MCGEOUGH, MA (Carleton), PhD (University of New Mexico)  
Erin SILVER, PhD (McGill)

Professor Emeritus

Marvin COHODAS, PhD (Columbia)  
John O’BRIAN, BA, MA (York), PhD (Harvard)

Serge GUILBAUT, L es L, M es L (Bordeaux), PhD (UCLA)  
Richard PRINCE, BA (UBC), RCA

Katherine HACKER, BFA (Ohio U), MS (Oregon), PhD (Pennsylvania)  
Charlotte TOWNSEND-GAULT, BA (Sussex), Dip. Soc. Anth., PhD (London)

Carol KNICELY, BA (UC San Diego), MA, PhD (UCLA)  
Rhodri WINDSOR-LISCOMBE, BA Hons, PhD (Courtauld Institute of Art, UCL)
Staff

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Tracy Chiu ahva.dept@ubc.ca

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Technical Services Library Assistant  
Jane Young jane.young@ubc.ca

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Andrew Keech (Acting) ahva.shop@ubc.ca

Studio, Safety, & Facilities Advisor  
Jeremy Jaud jeremy.jaud@ubc.ca

**Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery**

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Scott Watson scott.watson@ubc.ca

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Music, Art and Architecture Library

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V6T 1Z2
http://www.ahva.ubc.ca

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, British Columbia, Canada
V6T 1Z1
(604) 822-2844
http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/