Undergraduate art history courses are open to all UO students. In addition to specialized upper-division courses, the department offers a wide range of courses that fulfill General-Education Requirements. Art history majors should refer to the Distribution Requirements listed for completing their upper-division distribution requirements. Course dates and times may be subject to change; please check the UO Class Schedule for the most up-to-date information.

Classes being offered Fall 2024 (Scroll down for course descriptions):

- ARH 150
- ARH 205
- ARH 209
- ARH 314
- ARH 354
- ARH 368
- ARH 387
- ARH 399
- ARH 407/507 (multiple topics)
- ARH 410/510
- ARH 421/521
- ARH 425
- ARH 440/540
- ARH 453/553
- ARH 462/562
- ARH 607

A&L: Arts and Letters
GP: Global perspectives
IC: International cultures
US: US Difference, Inequality, Agency
ARH 150 Intro to Visual Culture
Instructor TBA
MWF 1pm-1:50pm | Location: STB 245

This course introduces to students to a wide variety of methods for looking at and analyzing images and objects of visual culture, drawing on concepts and methods from art history, anthropology, archaeology, and media studies.

Core Ed: A&L
Format: Lecture/Discussion Sections

ARH 205 Hist Western Art II
Victoria Ehrlich
TR 2-3:20pm | Location: TYKE 32

Historical survey of visual arts. Selected works of painting, sculpture, architecture, and other arts studied in relation to the medieval to early Renaissance cultures producing them.

Core Ed: A&L
Format: Lecture/Discussion Sections
ARH 209 History of Japanese Art  
Akiko Walley  
MWF 9-9:50 am | Location: LLCS 101

This course introduces students to the historical survey of the visual arts of Japan. Selected works of painting, sculpture, architecture, and other arts studied in relation to the culture in which they were produced. Lecture WEB SYNC. Weekly discussion sections, in-person.

Core Ed: A&L, GP, IC  
Format: Lecture/Discussion Sections

ARH 314 History of World Architecture I  
Maile Hutterer  
TR 4-5:20 pm | Location: LA 177

Introductory global survey of the history of architecture from prehistory through the Middle Ages.

Core Ed: A&L, GP, IC  
Format: Lecture/Discussion Sections
ARH 368 Art and Visual Culture of Climate Change  
Emily Eliza Scott  
TR 2-3:20pm | Location: FR 106  
This course will guide students through a critical exploration of climate change and its representation in contemporary art and visual culture (e.g., satellite imagery, activism, science fiction)  
Core Ed: GP, IC  
Distribution Req: Modern/Contemporary  
Format: Lecture

ARH 354 Contemporary Art  
Simone Ciglia  
MW 10-11:20 AM | Location: CHA 220  
This course offers a historical survey of Contemporary Art from the 1940s to the present, intersecting a chronological perspective with a thematic one. It presents major artistic movements, figures, and critical issues of the period, with a focus on the global expansion of contemporary art.  
Core Ed: A&L, IP, US  
Distribution Req: Modern/Contemporary  
Format: Lecture
ARH 387 Chinese Buddhist Art
Chiara Gasparini
TR 10-11:20am | Location: ESL 199
This course examines the development of Buddhist art and architecture in China, from the early Indo-Iranian style in the western regions to the Tibetan style of the late imperial period. Topics range from the representation of the Jataka tales, the development of various figures, adaptations and adoptions, to the role of patrons and monks in the making of Buddhist material culture. Students will also read original Buddhist texts translated into English to understand Buddhist artistic canons in China.
Core Ed: A&L, GP
Distribution Req: Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern
Format: Lecture

ARH 399 Sp St Modern Art
Instructor TBA
TR 12-1:20pm | Location: STB 251
This course explores movements, artists, and issues in modern and avant-garde art of c. 1880-1950.
Distribution Req: Modern/Contemporary
Format: Lecture
In this seminar, we will consider the development of art history as a discipline over time by critically examining the methodologies and theoretical frameworks that have informed the way art historians seek to understand and interpret works of art. Adopting a comparative approach, we will interrogate the benefits, limitations, and contributions of various methods to the production of art historical knowledge, with the expectation that students will strengthen and modify their own praxes through readings, discussions, and research/writing projects. Focusing on issues that are relevant in 21st-century scholarship, this course deals with topics such as authorship; reception; style; art and text; context; memory; agency; post-modernism; post-colonial theory; subaltern studies; feminist and queer theory; global art history; transnationalism; borderlands theory; visual culture; and space.

Format: Seminar

ARH 410/510 Silk Road
Chiara Gasparini
TR 2-3:20pm | Location: LA 241
This course examines cross-cultural artistic encounters between East and West through comparative, thematic sessions. It considers artistic production and consumption in various regions and social contexts of pre-modern Eurasia and also early modern America. It discusses a broad range of media, such as maps, sculptures, paintings, architectural elements, and textiles, related (but not limited) to nomadic people, diasporas and migrations, religions, urban settlements, trade, and slavery.

Distribution Req: Ancient, Medieval, Modern/Contemp.
Format: Lecture
ARH 421/521 Cultural Interaction in Greek and Roman Art and Architecture  
Kris Seaman  
F 9-11:50am | Location: LIL 211

This seminar explores cultural interaction in Greek and Roman Art and Architecture. Focusing on case studies, it examines topics such as Greek and Roman representations of different peoples; the art and architecture of Graeco-Roman Egypt; the Roman reception of Greek art and architecture; the art and architecture of the Indo-Greek Kingdoms and Gandhara; and Jewish art and architecture in the Graeco-Roman world.

Core Ed: GP, IC  
Distribution Req: Ancient  
Format: Seminar

ARH 440/540 Museology  
Simone Ciglia  
M 2-4:50pm | Location: LA 241

This course examines the history and theory of museums during the modern and contemporary periods, engaging key issues that shape the discipline and its debates today. Topics include exhibition and curatorial practice, collection management, architecture, ethics, education, decolonization, looting and repatriation, technology, globalization, and the representation of intersectional identities. Primary focus will be directed towards art museums and the context of the United States, offering comparative analysis with museums in other geographical contexts.

Distribution Req: Modern/Contemporary, Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies.  
Format: Seminar
This course explores the history of modern art from a global perspective, focusing on the dissemination of practices and ideas from perceived “centers” and the transformation of styles and movements according to local contexts.

ARH 453/553 Top Global Modern Art.
TBA
MW 10-11:20am | Location: LA 241

Examines modern architecture from 1885 to 1965, and the discourse surrounding it. Emphasis on the meanings and manifestations of modernity as these evolved in Europe, the US, and around the world.

ARH 462/562 Modern Arch
Keith Egggener
TR 10-11:30am | Location: VOL 101

Designed as a transdisciplinary course open to graduate students from any field of study, this seminar explores seminal and recent scholarship on intellectual decolonization. Each student in the course will have the opportunity to deeply investigate what is now considered canonical “history” within one’s academic discipline and to think of ways to introduce one’s field of study to future generations more inclusively and ethically, while we critically assess the present decolonization discourse/rhetoric as a class.

As a central project for the course, each student will produce an annotated revision of a chapter of a survey textbook within one’s field, or (when there isn’t one already published) write an introduction to an imaginary/future textbook in one’s discipline.

Select sessions will meet in the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, the UO Special Collections and University Archives at Knight Library, and/or the Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies
Format: Seminar