

ART HISTORY, MA

Since 1960, the MA program in the history of art at Tulane has prepared outstanding students for careers in research, teaching, and museum work. About a third of our graduates have continued toward their doctoral degrees either at Tulane or elsewhere. The program welcomes students who have majored in fields other than art history. The MA stipend is about \$18,100 a year.

Requirements

Course ID	Title	Credits
Eight 6000 or 7000 level courses		24
Three of which should be with the student's faculty advisor		
ARHS 9980	Master's Research	0
Total Credit Hours		24

Curriculum:

The MA requires 24 credit hours (8 courses) at the 6000 and 7000 levels, plus a thesis.

According to their specialization, students will fall into one of the following two tracks: ancient and early modern studies (track I), or modern and contemporary studies (track II). Distribution requirements call for students in both tracks to take one class in each of the following three areas: 1) Classical, Byzantine, Medieval, Pre-Columbian; 2) Renaissance, Baroque, Colonial Latin American; 3) American; Modern Europe, US, Caribbean, and Latin America. Students in each track are also expected to take three classes with the regular faculty teaching in the area that most closely relates to their own research, and who will most likely be in their theses committees.

The 7000-level courses are for graduate students only and are sometimes taught in tandem with 3000-level courses for undergraduates. The 6000-level courses are taken by juniors and seniors as well as graduate students. Both include seminars on special topics. With the permission of their graduate advisor, students may take two courses outside the art history program.

Language Requirement:

Reading proficiency in at least one foreign language relevant to the student's work is required. French, German, Italian, Latin, and Spanish are especially useful for research in art history. The requirement is satisfied by passing a reading exam. Because reading knowledge of foreign languages is necessary for research in most art-historical fields, students are urged to take their language exam early.

Thesis:

An important step in the MA program is the writing of a thesis and its subsequent oral defense. The thesis may be the outgrowth of a seminar paper, or it may focus on a special interest of the student insofar as it falls within the area of competency of the faculty. Students work with their graduate advisors in selecting the appropriate topic, establishing the thesis committee, and preparing the thesis prospectus by the end of the first year. A member of the thesis committee may be from another department or school in the university. While moderate in length and considerably more limited in scope than a doctoral dissertation, the MA thesis should demonstrate the student's ability to do research of publishable quality. The defense usually takes place a month before the end of the last semester.