

Art History and Museum Professions, B.A.

Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Arts

Nature of the Program

The BA in Art History and Museum Professions provides a foundation in the history of art and architecture in a global context while introducing students to the range of museum professions and collection care and management. Students gain hands-on experience at the Art Museum of WVU and have access to four other campus museums. Majors have the option to take a series of technical art history courses to prepare them for further study in art conservation. Additionally, students can choose to earn their BA Art History and Museum Professions degree with a JD in Law in six years in an accelerated program. Students are required to take one Global Positioning Studies (GPS) place-based study course, such as *Disegno Italia*, San Gemini Preservation Studies in Italy, or 19th Century Painting and Photography in France. These GPS courses fulfill a regular degree requirement (see more information and a complete list of courses on the School web page).

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

BA Art History and Museum Professions students are required to demonstrate adequate mastery of a second language to meet accreditation standards.

This can be accomplished through a variety of language options that may or may not involve credit hours. Students should consult with their faculty mentor about appropriate options.

Admissions for 2025-2026

Students must meet the requirements for University admission. There are no additional entrance requirements (e.g., portfolio review) for the Bachelor of Arts programs in Art History and Museum Professions, Art Therapy, and Game Design and Interactive Media.

A research paper is recommended for applicants seeking scholarship consideration by the Art History and Museum Professions program.

For further information, please consult the College's website or call the College's Recruitment Office at (304) 293-4339. Applicants can also visit the School of Art and Design's website or phone the School office at (304) 293-2552.

Major Code: 3752

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations		
F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	University Requirements	51
	School of Art and Design Requirements	6
	Art History Major Requirements	63
Total Hours		120

University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)	
	Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5	19
ART 191	First-Year Seminar	2
	General Electives	30
Total Hours		51

School of Art and Design Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A grade of C- or higher required in all ART and ARHS courses in the program requirements.		
ARHS 120	Survey of Art History 1 (may fulfill GEF 6)	3
ARHS 160	Survey of Art History 2 (may fulfill GEF 8)	3
	Global Positioning Studies (GPS) Requirement *	
	Writing Portfolio Requirement **	
Total Hours		6

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Global Positioning Studies (GPS) Requirement - At least one ART or ARHS course must fulfill the GPS requirement.

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The School of Art and Design values and supports written communication abilities and critical thinking skills developed through iterative writing experiences across the curriculum and within the discipline. To meet this goal students must pass with a B- or better a writing portfolio requirement that includes examples of academic, professional, and reflective writing they have produced in their regular courses. Please contact your advisor for more information.

Art History Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A grade of C- or higher required in all ART and ARHS courses in the major requirements.		
	Studio (Any ART course)	6
Art History & Museum Professions: Restricted Electives I-IV		
I: Prehistory to 1300: Select 1 from the following		3
ARHS 304	Asian Art	
ARHS 320	Greek and Roman	
ARHS 321	Ancient Greek Art and Architecture	
ARHS 325	Ancient Roman Art and Architecture	
ARHS 331	Medieval	
ARHS 333	Medieval Architecture	
II: 1300-1750: Select 1 from the following		3
ARHS 350	Northern Renaissance	
ARHS 354	Italian Renaissance	
ARHS 360	Baroque	
	ARHS Semester in Italy	
III: 1750-Present: Select 1 from the following		3
ARHS 370	American	
ARHS 375	Nineteenth Century	

ARHS 380	Modern	
ARHS 381	Modern Architecture	
ARHS 389	Contemporary	
IV: Museums Professions: Select 2 from the following		6
ARHS 310	Introduction to Curatorial Practices	
ARHS 317	Gallery Studies	
ARHS 411	Conservation Practices: Digital Documentation, Treatment, Condition Assessment	
ARHS 412	Collections Care and Preservation of Material Objects	
ARHS 413	Material Objects Investigations 1 (2-D)	
ARHS 414	Material Objects Investigation 2 (3-D)	
ARHS 491: Professional Field Experience (may take for 3 CR HRS as Practicum/Lab beyond Required 3 CR HRS)		
San Gemini, Italy GPS (co-requisite courses)		
ARHS 421	Professional Field Experience: Analysis of Archaeological Ceramics	
ARHS 422	Professional Field Experience: Restoration of Archaeological Ceramics	
ARHS 451	Professional Field Experience: Introduction to the History and Craft of Book Bindings	
ARHS 452	Professional Field Experience: Intro to Preservation and Preventive Conservation of Books	
ARHS 453	Professional Field Experience: Restoration of Traditional Masonry Buildings in Italy	
ARHS 454	Professional Field Experience: Sketching and Analyzing Historic Buildings in Italy	
ARHS 455	Professional Field Experience: Paper Media and Restoration Methods for Artworks	
ARHS 456	Professional Field Experience: Handwritten & Printed Archival Materials Restoration Methods	
ARHS 457	Professional Field Experience: Traditional Painting Materials, Methods, & Restoration Issues	
ARHS 458	Professional Field Experience: Traditional Painting Workshop	
ARHS 459	Professional Field Experience: Restoration: Theory, Ethics, and Issues	
ARHS 300/400-level Electives from ARHS I, II, III		12
Art History & Museum Professions Required Courses		
ARHS 240	Research, Writing, & Methods in Art History ***	3
ARHS 345	Modern Art Theory	3
ARHS 401	Senior Project-Capstone	3
ARHS 311	Museums and Society	3
ARHS 312	Museums in Action	3
ARHS 491	Professional Field Experience	3
Foreign Language Requirement ****		0-12
Total Hours		63

ARHS 240 fulfills writing requirement

The foreign language requirement typically completes GEF areas 7 and 8. Cognate: Language other than English for reading knowledge (NASAD Required, "adequate mastery" of 0-12 CR HRS).

SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Studio Arts		3 GEF 3	3
ARHS 120 (GEF 6)		3 ARHS 160	3
Foreign Language (GEF 7)		3 Foreign Language (GEF 8)	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)		3 General Elective	3
ART 191 (University Requirement)		2 GEF 2	4
GEF 4		3	
		17	16

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ARHS 240		3 ARHS I	3

Foreign Language (GEF 8)	3 Foreign Language (GEF 8)	3
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3 ARHS 312	3
ARHS 311	3 ARHS I-III 300/400 Elective	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3

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Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ARHS 345		3 ARHS III	3
ARHS IV		3 ARHS IV	3
ARHS II		3 GEF 5	3
General Elective		3 ARHS I-III 300/400 Elective	3
Studio Art		3 General Elective	3

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Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ARHS I-III 300/400 Elective		3 ARHS 491	3
ARHS I-III 300/400 Elective		3 ARHS 401	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3	3

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Total credit hours: 120

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	University Requirements	36
	School of Art and Design Requirements	6
	Art History Major Requirements	48
	Law Requirements	30
	Total Hours	120

University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)	
	Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5	19
ART 191	First-Year Seminar	2
	General Electives	15
	Total Hours	36

School of Art and Design Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ARHS 120	Survey of Art History 1	3
ARHS 160	Survey of Art History 2	3
	Total Hours	6

Art History Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A grade of C- or higher required in all ART and ARHS courses in the major requirements.		
	Studio (Any ART course)	6
	Art History Core	
	Prehistory to 1300: Select 1 from the following	3

ARHS 320	Greek and Roman	
ARHS 325	Ancient Roman Art and Architecture	
ARHS 331	Medieval	
ARHS 333	Medieval Architecture	
1300-1750: Select 1 from the following		3
ARHS 350	Northern Renaissance	
ARHS 354	Italian Renaissance	
ARHS 360	Baroque	
ARHS Semester in Italy		
1750-Present: Select 1 from the following		3
ARHS 370	American	
ARHS 375	Nineteenth Century	
ARHS 380	Modern	
ARHS 381	Modern Architecture	
ARHS 389	Contemporary	
Art History Major Courses		
ARHS 240	Research, Writing, & Methods in Art History	3
ARHS 345	Modern Art Theory	3
ARHS 494	Seminar	3
ARHS 401	Senior Project-Capstone	3
ARHS 300/400 level (excluding Special Topics courses)		9
Foreign Language (fulfills GEFs 7 and 8)		12
Total Hours		48

Doctor of Jurisprudence Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
LAW 641	Introduction to Legal Research	1
LAW 675	Introduction to the Profession	1
LAW 686	Civil Procedure	4
LAW 700	Legal Analysis, Research and Writing 1	3
LAW 703	Contracts 1	4
LAW 705	Criminal Law	3
LAW 707	Property	4
LAW 709	Torts 1	4
LAW 711	Legal Analysis, Research and Writing 2	2
LAW 725	Constitutional Law 1	4
Total Hours		30

Suggested Plan of Study

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ART 191		2 ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3
ARHS 120 (GEF 6)		3 ARHS 160 (GEF 8)	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)		3 ARHS 312	3
Studio Art Course		3 Language Course 102	3
Language Course 101 (GEF 7)		3 GEF 2A/B, F3, F4, or F5	3-4
GEF F3, F4, or F5		3	
		17	15

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ARHS 240		3 ARHS Restricted Electives	3
ARHS 311		3 ARHS Restricted Electives	3

Studio Art Course		3 ARHS Restricted Electives		3
GEF 8		3 ARHS Restricted Electives		3
Language Course 203		3 GEF 2A/B, F3, F4, or F5		3-4
		15	16	
Third Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring		Hours
ARHS 345		3 ARHS 401		3
ARHS Restricted Electives		3 ARHS Restricted Electives		3
ARHS Restricted Electives		3 ARHS Restricted Electives		3
ARHS Restricted Electives		3 GEF 2A/B, F3, F4, or F5		3-4
GEF 8		3		
		15	12	
Fourth Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring		Hours
LAW 641		1 LAW 675		1
LAW 686		4 LAW 703		4
LAW 700		3 LAW 707		4
LAW 705		3 LAW 711		2
LAW 709		4 LAW 725		4
		15	15	

Total credit hours: 120

Once accepted to the College of Law, students will complete all of the requirements of the Doctor of Jurisprudence degree (http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/law/academic_policies_and_procedures/academic_programs/jd/#majortext) as are in effect when the student begins at the College of Law. The classes taken during the first year at the College of Law will count toward both the student's undergraduate degree and Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. During their second and third years at the College of Law, students shall be responsible for fulfilling all of the other requirements in order to graduate with the Doctor of Jurisprudence as in effect when the student began at the College of Law. Students should communicate with their undergraduate program during their 4th year of undergraduate/1st year of law school to coordinate graduating with their undergraduate degree in the August following the completion of their first year of law classes.

Major Learning Outcomes

ART HISTORY

Students graduating with a BA in Art History and Museum Professions will:

- Demonstrate visual literacy by visually analyzing objects, art, and images and situating them within applicable contexts.
- Demonstrate a general knowledge of representative monuments and artists of all major art periods of the past, including a broad understanding of the art of the contemporary and modern periods and global cultures, augmented by developing more in-depth competencies and knowledge across a broad geographical and temporal range of cultures and periods in art history.
- Analyze and evaluate the roles: of museums in society, that objects play in society; of patrons and collectors; of sites of exhibition and display; of the interplay of ethical issues.
- Communicate complex information clearly and effectively in writing, speaking, and public presentations adapted to different audiences.
- Produce research applying problem-solving skills in locating, evaluating, and synthesizing primary and secondary sources, and developing interpretations and thesis-driven arguments using properly documented evidence.
- Apply theory and critical thinking skills to generate original ideas.