

## **Formalized Assessment Plan: Art History Program**

May, 2019

**College:** COTA

**Department:** Art History

### The School of Art + Design

Portland State University's School of Art + Design is dedicated to helping students understand and explore the ways that artists, designers, and their works function within a larger social context. With 1,100 undergraduate majors and minors, a vibrant and growing graduate program, a dedicated faculty of internationally recognized artists, designers, scholars, and a dynamic visiting artist program, PSU's School of Art + Design is a place where students from a variety of backgrounds interact, exchange ideas and cross conventional aesthetic boundaries.

Many prominent Northwest artists, designers, and art historians began their professional careers by studying in our programs at Portland State University. Our graduates have used their training in the School of Art + Design as the basis for careers in a wide variety of fields, from the arts to commerce, industry, and education. Art and design, which require personal initiative and imagination, as well as the development of skills in mental and manual dexterity, can provide students with a background well suited for applications that are wide-reaching and greatly rewarding.

The School of Art + Design helps students develop a visual, verbal, and critical language of the arts that has the positive impact on the future and engages with our communities. Since visual arts are a form of communication-related to all other forms, understanding the theoretical bases and critical interpretations of this communication is a crucial component of our curriculum. At the same time, because the visual arts are a unique form of communication, students are trained in the necessary technical skills, theories, terminology and processes specific to the production of the visual arts.

As part of an urban university, the mission of the School of Art + Design is dedicated to helping students understand and experience ways that artists, designers, and their works are involved in a larger social context, both in the contemporary world and in the course of world history. Whether in the studio, computer lab, lecture hall, or working in the community via internships, service projects, exhibitions, and collaborations, our students have the opportunity to forge connections between traditions of visual art and their own developing expression.

Students enrolled in the School of Art + Design at PSU will acquire:

- Knowledge and experience of the creative problem-solving processes.
- Knowledge of discipline-specific skills and vocabulary.
- Knowledge of art history and design.
- Knowledge of critical theories in art.
- Knowledge and experience to formulate a cumulative body of work in their discipline.

## Art History Program

### Learning Outcomes

Students majoring in art history at Portland State University will have acquired the skills listed below. The many students who take art history courses for a general education credit or as a designated minor will also develop these skills.

1. Students will demonstrate effective knowledge of visual vocabulary appropriate for careers in the visual arts and visual studies.
2. Students will be able to evaluate the significance of major works of art, monuments, artists, methods, and be able to assess the qualities of works of art and architecture in their historical and cultural settings.
3. Students will be able to analyze the ways in which artistic production, distribution, and reception have developed across different time periods and geographic areas.
4. Students will be able to develop independent research based on innovative theoretical and methodological approaches to generate new knowledge within the discipline of art history.
5. Students will be able to develop original arguments on works of art, presenting their reasoning in both oral and written form.
6. Students will be able to locate, interpret and analyze primary and secondary sources relevant to their art historical research.
7. Students will be able to assess the ways in which other academic disciplines in the social sciences and humanities intersect with the development and practice of art history.

### **BA/BS Art History Graduation Requirements:**

<https://www.pdx.edu/art-design/sites/www.pdx.edu.art-design/files/ARH%202018-19%20Grad%20Planner.pdf>

To complete a Formalized Assessment Plan, the art history faculty worked on our program's learning outcomes on April, 2019. Following the example of other programs in the School of Art + Design, we plan to focus on the subsequent sections of the assessment plan in our subsequent faculty meetings. In particular, we will be discussing how individual ARH courses allow students to develop the program's learning outcomes during our meeting on May 17, 2019; we will be using the curriculum map presented below.



ARH 353U Ancient Roman and Etruscan Art and Architecture								
ARH 356U Early Medieval Art and Architecture								
ARH 357U Byzantine Art and Architecture								
ARH 358U Romanesque Art								
ARH 359U Gothic Art and Architecture								
ARH 360 The Art of War: Representing the Crusades								
ARH 361U Northern Renaissance Art								
ARH 371U Italian Renaissance Art								
ARH 372U Italian Renaissance Art								
ARH 373U Italian Renaissance Art								
ARH 376U Italian Baroque Art								
ARH 377U Dutch and Flemish Baroque Art								
ARH 378U Spanish Baroque Art								
ARH 379 Latin American Baroque Art								
ARH 381U 19th Century Art								
ARH 382U 19th Century Art								
ARH 383 Western Art in the 20th Century								
ARH 384 Western Art in the 20th Century								
ARH 385 Western Art in the 20th Century								
ARH 392 History and Contemporary Issues in Photography								
ARH 398 Contemporary Art								
ARH 399 Special Studies								
ARH 401 Research								

ARH 402 Independent Study								
ARH 403 Thesis								
ARH 404 Cooperative Education/Internship								
ARH 405 Reading and Conference								
ARH 406 Projects								
ARH 407 Seminar								
ARH 410 Selected Topics								
ARH 410U Selected Topics								
ARH 411U Chinese Buddhist Art								
ARH 412U Japanese Buddhist Art								
ARH 415U Issues in Asian Art								
ARH 422U Chinese Painting								
ARH 423U Japanese Painting								
ARH 425U Modern Japanese Painting								
ARH 426U African Art								
ARH 431U Woman in the Visual Arts								
ARH 432U Issues in Gender and Art								
ARH 449 Art History Methods								
ARH 450 Great Periods and Themes in Art and Architecture								
ARH 474 Art and the Early Modern City								
ARH 486U American Art and Architecture								
ARH 487U American Art and Architecture								
ARH 499 Contemporary Art II								
ARH 501 Research								
ARH 503 Thesis								

ARH 504 Cooperative Education/Internship								
ARH 505 Reading and Conference								
ARH 506 Projects								
ARH 507 Seminar								
ARH 510 Selected Topics								
ARH 540 History of Architecture								
ARH 549 Art History Methods								
ARH 550 Great Periods and Themes in Art and Architecture								
ARH 598 Contemporary Art I								
ARH 599 Contemporary Art II								

### Campus-Wide Learning Outcomes

PSU's Campus-wide Learning Outcomes specifically address Creative and Critical Thinking, Communication, and Engagement, all of which are core values of our program and embedded throughout the curricula. To complete a Formalized Assessment Plan, the ARH program will discuss how our program fulfills the campus-wide learning outcomes during the Fall 2019 academic quarter.

### Representative Courses

To complete a formalized assessment plan, the ARH program will discuss how to select representative courses from our program during the Fall 2019 academic quarter. As part of this discussion, we will also discuss what evaluation criteria, findings, and data to include in our assessment plan.

### Overall Program Assessment Summary

The Art History program has been engaging in various assessment strategies since its conception. However, 2019 is the first year for us to formally compile and submit assessment documentation to the Provost and OAI. This first year is developmental on our end, and we have discussed with OAI an incremental plan over the next few years to learn and grow through the process. We would appreciate any feedback towards that aim, and if we are missing any specific documentation please contact us, as we likely have it. In preparing this document, we drafted our program's learning outcomes. We expect to continue working on our formalized assessment plan throughout the AY 2019-2020.