

MINORS

ART HISTORY MINOR

Our Mission:

The Art History minor offers students an opportunity to focus on an expanded range of historical and cultural ideas about art and art making. The minor provides a guided and structured approach to diverse critical methods for exploring the cultural creation, meaning, dissemination, and impact of visual images, objects, and practices.

Participating Departments:

Program Learning Outcomes

Otis College Interdisciplinary Studies: Art History Minor Program Learning Outcomes are action words describing our approach to learning, and what we commit to our students.

Art History Minor Student Will:

Grow

Art History Minor student work will demonstrate: Disciplinary knowledge and skills • Proficiency in industry-standard skills, technologies, and processes Advanced visual and information literacy skills, utilizing both traditional and emerging technologies to locate, critically evaluate, ethically use, and effectively communicate art historical research and insights to diverse audiences. Audience-focused research, historical context, and field-specific discourse Ability to analyze and contextualize canonical, non-canonical, and marginalized art historical narratives as tools for critical and creative problem-solving in both academic and professional contexts. Capacity to identify and solve creative problems Ability to apply art historical methodologies to contemporary challenges in art and design, transforming historical understanding into innovative creative solutions.

Dare

Art History Minor student work will demonstrate: Innovation • Experimentation and play Engagement in experimental and risk-taking research practices that push the boundaries of historical inquiry, embracing innovative methodologies and challenging conventional interpretations of art, design, and visual culture. Challenge to the status quo Critical approaches to the study of art history that challenge normalized assumptions and dominant narratives within the field. This includes questioning traditional hierarchies, exploring alternative perspectives, and advocating for more inclusive and equitable representations of art/design and artists/designers.

Reflect

Art History Minor student work will demonstrate: Self-awareness Development of self-awareness of one's own biases and perspectives in art historical analysis. Capacity to communicate (orally, written, and/or visually) about their practice Ability to clearly articulate the relationship between the field of art history and their majors, and how these studies will help them achieve personal and professional goals. Capacity to seek, assemble, evaluate, and ethically apply information and ideas from diverse sources Capacity to critically evaluate and ethically use diverse sources in art historical research Analysis of both ethical and aesthetic impacts of art and design Articulation of the ethical and aesthetic impacts of art, design and visual culture throughout history and in contemporary society, across diverse geographies and cultures.

Connect

Art History Minor student work will demonstrate: Awareness of positionality – in the world, their field, their communities Ability to develop and articulate connections across applied studio and Liberal Studies disciplinary perspectives and one's own positionality in these fields. Integration of skills, information, and concepts Ability to identify and analyze diverse histories of art and design production, recognizing specific cultural, regional, and temporal contexts, and connecting these histories to real-world applications in current and future creative job markets. Awareness of how art and design's plural histories connect artists/designers to social justice, community engagement, and the development of intercultural competency and respect.

Shine

Art History Minor student work will demonstrate: Ability to define aspirations, future goals and their role within the creative economy Ability to articulate the relevance of art historical knowledge to one's major and various career pathways in the creative economy. Compelling presentation and exhibition skills, through Annual Exhibition, Capstone, and portfolios Effective presentation skills in discussing and writing about art and design history. Professional portfolio showcasing their writing informed by art historical research and a personal vision.

Course Descriptions

AHCS 226 - FA Contemporary Art Survey (3.00)

This Contemporary Art for Fine Artists is a survey of key fine art objects, practices and issues from the late 1950s to the present. Taking key historical events as its structure, the class uses contemporary art movements and counter movements to investigate mechanisms of form, taste, value, class, gender and exclusion, as these are demonstrated and challenged by artists in the US and globally. Included is a consideration of postmodern theory and fine art creation as systems capable of both perpetuating and effectively challenging normalized and marginalized identities. Required for Fine Arts majors.

AHCS 310 - Topics in Art History (3.00)

AHCS 310 are elective Art History courses that address a variety of issues in fine art and visual culture. Course offerings vary each semester and certain LIBS314 topics will satisfy this elective. See the Liberal Arts and Sciences department for course offerings and course descriptions. This course may be taken in either fall or spring.

AHCS 310 - Topics in Art History (3.00)

AHCS 310 are elective Art History courses that address a variety of issues in fine art and visual culture. Course offerings vary each semester and certain LIBS314 topics will satisfy this elective. See the Liberal Arts and Sciences department for course offerings and course descriptions. This course may be taken in either fall or spring.

AHCS 310 - Topics in Art History (3.00)

AHCS 310 are elective Art History courses that address a variety of issues in fine art and visual culture. Course offerings vary each semester and certain LIBS314 topics will satisfy this elective. See the Liberal Arts and Sciences department for course offerings and course descriptions. This course may be taken in either fall or spring.

LIBS 440 - Capstone (3.00)

The Liberal Arts and Sciences Capstone experience is a required senior-level course designated to facilitate students' critical reflection on a topic that intersects with their own studio practice, discipline, and/or identity. As the signature course and culminating expression of the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department, the class design allows for independent research and private mentoring through Blended classes that meet synchronously online. The Capstone research process encourages students to apply the skills they have accrued during their time at Otis College to a project that can advance their understanding of their career path and chosen industry. A minimum grade of C- or better on the Capstone paper and course is required to pass.

Electives

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Art History of Game Design	AHCS 229	3.00
Graphic Design/ Illus History	AHCS 222	3.00
Art through LA	LIBS 314	3.00

Elective Descriptions

AHCS 229 - Art History of Game Design (3.00)

AHCS 222 - Graphic Design/ Illus History (3.00)

LIBS 314 - Art through LA (3.00)

This course is predominantly a site visit-focused class, which requires students to participate in one week of field trips throughout Los Angeles during the week of May 18-22. This hybrid course will combine asynchronous online learning with site-specific field trips to analyze the rich relationships between art, space and community in Los Angeles. Research and case studies will include examples from art theory, historic sites, public space, architecture, landscape, urban practices and activism. At the end of the semester, in-depth tours, artist visits and workshops will examine the evolved landscapes of our contemporary city and their impact on communities and art production. Student analysis and feedback will focus on the relationships between art and space via the course texts and experiential learning activities. A detailed itinerary for daily site visits will be provided during the spring semester. This is a travel-study class that will be available OLAY (online asynchronous) during the semester, and will include 4 IN-PERSON workshops/site visits/studio visits in May. Students are REQUIRED to attend all field trips and to be available from 9am-4pm each day. Students will be responsible for their own transportation and parking fees for this course.

* It is recommended that at least one AHCS310 course has a non-western focus. Students who have a discipline specific art/design history requirement for their major may have that count towards one AHCS310 elective. Certain LIBS314 topics will satisfy this requirement with approval from the Minor Area Head and Director of Interdisciplinary Studies.

** LIBS440 Capstone paper should address an Art History topic. LIBS440 Capstone/Senior Thesis for Fine Arts majors will fulfill this requirement. Students who have a dedicated capstone for their major will complete one capstone course that combines both their major and minor