The study of art history encompasses the visual art, architecture, and material culture of a wide range of regions and historical periods. Art history courses develop students' skills in visual analysis, interpretation of images and texts, use of historical sources, and engagement with scholarly debates. So conceived, the study of art is an element of a general, liberal arts education; the skills of analytical thinking, logical argument, and clear verbal expression necessary to the program are basic to most fields. While maintaining the University of Chicago’s traditional emphasis on the life of the mind, the major in art history prepares students for advanced study at the graduate level as well as for a wide array of careers involving visual acuity, design, research, and analysis.

Within the Art History Department, courses at the 10000-level meet the general education requirement in the arts. These courses may not be taken for credit toward the major, although majors are strongly encouraged to take at least one (1) to meet their general education requirements. Upper-level courses (20000-level) may take a relatively broad or narrow approach to particular periods, places, themes, or issues, or may deal with theoretical questions. The usual prerequisite for 20000-level Art History courses is consent of instructor or any 10000-level course in Art History or Visual Arts.

General Education Courses

Any of these 10000-level courses is an appropriate choice for any undergraduate to meet the general education requirement in the arts. None presuppose prior training in art.

Introduction to Art

ARTH 10100 Introduction to Art develops basic skills in the analysis and critical enjoyment of a wide range of visual materials. Issues and problems in the making, exhibition, and understanding of images and objects are explored through classroom discussion of key works, critical reading of fundamental texts, visits to local museums, and writing.

Survey Courses

- ARTH 14000 through 16999 - discuss major monuments of world art and architecture in the context of broad chronological and geographic categories and in relation to broad questions concerning the role art plays in individual, societal, and institutional settings.
- ARTH 14000 through 14999 - address Western art in Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance.
- ARTH 15000 through 15999 - address Western art from the early modern period to the present day.
- ARTH 16000 through 16999 - address the art of Africa, Asia, Latin America, and/or the Middle East.

Art in Context Courses

- ARTH 17000 through 18999 - introduce students to a well-defined issue, topic, or period of art in depth; at the same time, these courses explore issues of creativity, communication, and value in a series of concrete case studies.

Students who have taken at least one course in art history or visual art, or who have equivalent nonacademic experience, may elect to take an advanced lecture course, numbered from 20000 to 29999. The usual prerequisite is consent of instructor or any 10000-level course in art history or visual arts. The 20000-level art history courses investigate the arts of specific periods and places from a variety of perspectives. Some courses embrace large bodies of material defined by national culture; others follow developments in style, iconography, and patronage as they affect works in selected media.

Major in Art History

The BA in art history furnishes students with a broad knowledge of art, including architecture, even as it provides an opportunity for the complementary, intensive study of an area of special interest. The basic components of the concentration are: a Special Field, devised in consultation with departmental instructors and the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS); a distribution of courses outside the special field; at least two research papers in art history (emerging from ordinary course work in the department); and a third-year seminar on art-historical methods and issues. Fourth-year students who wish to pursue honors in the major conduct independent research on a topic of their own devising, producing a BA Paper with the guidance of a faculty member and a graduate preceptor.

Program Requirements

All art history majors are expected take at least one (1) course in art history at the 10000-level to fulfill their general education requirement in the arts. Although general education courses do not count for the major, they are useful preliminaries to advanced work. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that students take such a course as early as possible in their undergraduate careers. Note: Students who have formally declared the major in art history are guaranteed admission to 10000-level courses by notifying the instructor in advance.

The Standard Curriculum

The standard formula for requirements in the major goes by the sobriquet “4-3-2-1.” All art history majors must complete the following:
• **Four (4) courses at the 20000-level to meet a distribution requirement** within the department. These courses shall be selected in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Courses should be selected for maximal geographical, chronological, cultural, and methodological diversity, and for minimal overlap with the Special Field.

• **Three (3) courses at the 20000-level in a Special Field.** Students develop the Special Field in consultation with departmental instructors and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Because Special Fields reflect the interests of individual students, they range widely in topic, approach, and scope. Reading courses with art history faculty may be used to pursue specific questions within a Special Field. For more on the Special Field, see Special Field below.

• **Two (2) courses at the 20000-level as free electives.** Any art history courses at the 20000-level may satisfy this requirement. Courses outside the Department of Art History that relate directly to the Special Field are eligible to meet this requirement by petition to the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

• **ARTH 29600 Junior Seminar: Doing Art History.** Students are expected to take this course in the Winter Quarter of the third year. Students who wish to study abroad during that quarter must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies no later than the beginning of their third year to work out an alternative program of study.

• **At least two research papers of 10–15 pages.** See Research Papers below.

In all of the above cases, graduate seminars at the 40000-level may count toward requirements in the major. Students are advised, however, that such courses impose special burdens of time and expertise, and admission to them is typically only by explicit approval of the instructor and may involve various prerequisites.

Students wishing to pursue honors in the major have additional requirements, described below under Honors.

**Special Field**

The Special Field is developed by the student in consultation with instructors and the Director of Undergraduate Studies, and may take various forms. It may be defined with reference to a civilization, a chronological period, a nation-state, a cultural institution, or a suitable combination; it may be conceptual in character (e.g., art and the history of science, urban history, geography, gender and sexuality studies); it may combine historical, critical, and theoretical perspectives (e.g., politics and visual art in the twentieth century); it may be based in a particular medium or class of object (e.g., the built environment, tomb assemblages, or prints); it may combine historical and studio-practice courses (e.g., DoVA, CMST, TAPS, Music) to explore interrelations (e.g., art and dance). In many cases, courses outside the Department of Art History will be directly relevant to the Special Field; up to two such courses may be counted toward the major as free electives to complement the Special Field.

For those writing a BA Paper, the topic normally develops from the Special Field and allows for further study in the Special Field through independent research and writing.

A proposal for the Special Field, in the form of a written petition, must be received by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and approved no later than the end of a student’s third year. It is strongly recommended that students complete at least two courses in their Special Field by the end of their third year. The Special Field Declaration Form is available on the Department of Art History website (https://arthistory.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/major-requirements).

**Junior Seminar**

ARTH 29600 Junior Seminar: Doing Art History is designed to introduce the methods of art historical research. It is offered in Winter Quarter and required of art history majors; if they wish, minors may take the course to satisfy a 20000-level course requirement. Majors or prospective majors who wish to study abroad during Winter Quarter of their third year must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, preferably in their first or second year and no later than the beginning of their third year, to work out an alternative program of study. Second-year art history majors are permitted to enroll in the Junior Seminar with permission from the instructor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

**Research Papers**

All art history majors write at least two research papers of 10–15 pages. Students who wish to write a BA Paper should complete this requirement before the beginning of their fourth year. A research paper can be:

• a paper written to fulfill a course assignment,

• the extension of a shorter course paper (either during the course or after its completion) to meet the page requirement, or

• a new paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor.

The paper should include an analysis of existing scholarship and other relevant source materials. The paper should also draw on that scholarship and evidence to shape and support a thesis or argument of the student’s own devising. Formal analyses of works of art and analytic papers on materials assembled by the instructor do not qualify. On completion of a research paper, students must submit an approval form, signed by the course instructor, to the Director of Undergraduate Studies. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain this signature and to submit the form. Approval forms are available on the Art History website (https://arthistory.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/major-requirements).

**Honors**

Art history majors who wish to pursue a BA with honors must complete the following requirements in addition to the standard curriculum. These students must register for the BA Paper writing seminar (ARTH 29800 Senior Seminar: Writing Workshop) in Autumn Quarter of the fourth year. Writing the BA Paper is a process that usually takes more than
two quarters. Each student must secure the consent of an art history faculty member who will serve as his or her adviser by the second week of Autumn Quarter (i.e., two quarters before the planned quarter of graduation). Working with a preceptor, students must then complete a BA Paper by the second week of Spring Quarter of the fourth year. The BA Paper is typically a 20- to 30-page research paper of original work that grows out of the Special Field. For more information, see BA Paper and Seminar.

To be eligible for honors in the major, students must complete both the BA seminar and the BA Paper, and must have earned a major GPA of at least 3.5 and cumulative GPA of 3.3 at the time of graduation. Please note that completion of the BA Paper does not, in itself, guarantee honors in the major. Honors are awarded by the College on the basis of a departmental nomination of exceptional BA Papers.

BA Paper and Seminar

ARTH 29800 Senior Seminar: Writing Workshop is a workshop course offered in Autumn Quarter designed to assist students in writing and researching their BA Papers. Students typically take the seminar in Autumn Quarter before graduating in Spring Quarter; students graduating in Autumn or Winter Quarter should take the course in the previous academic year. In the closing sessions of the seminar, students present their work-in-progress for the BA Paper. They continue their research on the paper during the following quarters, meeting at intervals with their faculty BA advisor. Students have the option of taking ARTH 29900 Preparation for the BA Paper in Autumn or Winter Quarter to afford additional time for research or writing; this course is taught by arrangement between a student and his or her instructor. This course would be in addition to the 11 courses for the major with honors.

A polished draft of the BA Paper is due by Friday of ninth week of the quarter preceding graduation; the final version of the BA Paper is due Monday of second week of the quarter of graduation. Both the draft and final version of the BA Paper must be submitted in duplicate: one copy to the faculty advisor and the second to the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Because individual projects vary, no specific requirements for the BA Paper have been set. Essays typically range in length from 20 to 30 pages, but there is no minimum or maximum. Students should consult their BA advisor regarding all details, including optimal length, of the BA Paper.

The BA Paper is a substantial research paper that presents an original argument or develops original evidence about an intellectual problem. The paper should demonstrate the student’s capacity to formulate a serious research problem, develop a clear thesis, and substantiate the thesis on the basis of careful analysis of relevant evidence and measured consideration of competing views. The originality of the BA Paper may lie in the discovery of evidence, a new, critical analysis of familiar claims, or the synthesis of materials. In keeping with guidelines set by the College, the Department of Art History only recommends papers that have earned the highest grade to the master of the Humanities Collegiate Division for consideration of departmental honors.

Double Majors and the BA Paper

Whether or not a single BA Paper can satisfy requirements for a double major in art history and another program is decided by the department on a case-by-case basis. Students should consult with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The criteria on which the decision is based include:

• the degree to which the resulting thesis is likely to speak from and to art history, even as it necessarily speaks from and to another field;
• the feasibility of the proposed advising arrangements for the proposed joint thesis; and
• the department’s estimation of the student’s track record for independent work that bodes well for writing a successful thesis while navigating between two majors.

Transferring Credit

No credit from Advanced Placement (AP) exams can be used in the major. Up to four courses taken outside the University of Chicago may be counted towards the art history major, contingent on approval by the College and Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students planning to take courses outside the University are urged to consult with the Director of Undergraduate Studies as they formulate their plans. Students should also consult with their College adviser to be sure that they understand the University’s procedures for transfer credit. Refer to Transfer Credit for more information.

While studying abroad, students are encouraged to keep excellent records: they will be required to submit the syllabus and all written work for each course in order to be considered for credit. Please note that some courses may be approved by the College but not by the major.

Students first apply for transfer credit from the College, and credit for courses taken as part of a University of Chicago–affiliated direct enrollment program is vetted by Study Abroad. When the credit has been approved, students petition the Director of Undergraduate Studies in writing for credit for the major. The petition must include a cover letter with the title and description of the course, as well as the name and location of the institution. To the cover letter should be attached a syllabus and a written record of the work the student did for the course. The Director of Undergraduate Studies will review the work for each course individually, determine if the course is applicable for credit in the major, and, if so, where that credit should be applied.

Summary of Requirements for the Major

MAJOR: Standard Curriculum

Four (4) courses approved to meet the distribution requirement
Art History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three (3) courses approved in a special field</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) courses approved as electives</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 29600 Junior Seminar: Doing Art History</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) 10- to 15-page research papers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* All courses must be at the 20000-level or higher.

**MAJOR: Honors Curriculum**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four (4) courses to meet the distribution requirement</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three (3) courses in a special field</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) courses as electives</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 29600 Junior Seminar: Doing Art History</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) 10- to 15-page research papers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 29800 Senior Seminar: Writing Workshop</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>1100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* All courses must be at the 20000-level or higher.

+ Some students register for ARTH 29900 Preparation for the BA Paper in Autumn or Winter Quarter to afford additional time for research or writing. This course would be taken in addition to the 11 courses in the major with honors.

Advising

Art history majors should see the Director of Undergraduate Studies no less than once a year for consultation and guidance in planning a special field, in selecting courses, and in choosing a topic for the BA Paper if pursuing honors, as well as for help with any academic problems within the major. When choosing courses, students should refer to the worksheet available on the Art History website (https://arthistory.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/major-requirements). This form helps each student and the Director of Undergraduate Studies monitor the student's progress in the program.

In order to keep an accurate record of students' progress to graduation, students will need to regularly provide a copy of the updated major worksheet to their College adviser for processing.

Recommendations for Art History Majors

Qualified undergraduate students in art history may, with the express permission of the instructor, enroll in graduate seminars in the department. (These seminars are also open to non-majors with the same proviso.) For students interested in graduate study in art history, it is advantageous to have performed well in a graduate seminar while completing the BA.

Students are urged to also pursue upper-level language courses. If a language course is relevant to a student's Special Field, the student may petition the Director of Undergraduate Studies to count it toward electives.

Those planning to continue their study of art history at the graduate level are advised to achieve language competency equal to at least two years of college study in French or German, or in the language(s) relevant for the geographic region that corresponds to their primary area of interest.

Grading

Art history majors must receive quality grades in courses taken for the major. ARTH 29900 Preparation for the BA Paper is open for Pass/Fail grading with consent of the instructor. Art history courses elected beyond program requirements may be taken for P/F grading with consent of the instructor. All courses taken to satisfy the general education requirement in the arts must receive quality grades. Nonmajors may select the P/F grading option with consent of the instructor if they are taking an art history course that is not satisfying a general education requirement. A Pass grade is given only for work of C– quality or higher.

Minor in Art History

All art history minors are encouraged take at least one (1) course in art history at the 10000-level to fulfill their general education requirement in the arts. Although general education courses do not count for the minor, they are useful preliminaries to advanced work. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that students take such a course as early as possible in their undergraduate careers. Note: Students considering the minor in art history and seeking admission to a 10000-level ARTH course may identify themselves to the instructor in advance.

The formula for requirements in the minor goes by the sobriquet “3-and-3”:

* All art history minors take three (3) courses at the 20000-level to meet a distribution requirement within the department. These courses shall be selected in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Courses should be selected for maximal geographical, chronological, cultural, and methodological diversity, and for minimal overlap with the Special Field.
• All art history minors take **three (3) courses at the 20000-level in a Special Field**. Students develop the Special Field in consultation with departmental instructors and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Because Special Fields reflect the interests of individual students, they range widely in topic, approach, and scope. Reading courses with art history faculty may be used to pursue specific questions within a Special Field. For more on the Special Field, see Special Field.

In all of the above cases, graduate seminars at the 40000-level may count toward requirements in the minor. Students are advised, however, that such courses impose special burdens of time and expertise and admission to them is typically only by explicit approval of the instructor and may involve various prerequisites.

In one of the courses, students also write one research paper of about 10–15 pages on a topic chosen with and guided by the instructor, by individual arrangement at the start of the quarter (see Research Papers). Minors may elect to take ARTH 29600 Junior Seminar: Doing Art History with the majors; if they do, they will research and write an essay on a topic of their choice instead of preparing a BA Paper proposal.

Students who elect the minor program in art history must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. Students choose courses in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The Director’s approval for the minor program should be submitted to a student’s College adviser by the deadline above on a form available on the Art History website (https://arthistory.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/program/minor-requirements).

Courses in the minor may not be double counted with the student’s major(s), other minors, or general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

**Special Field**

The Special Field is developed by the student in consultation with instructors and the Director of Undergraduate Studies and may take various forms. It may be defined with reference to a civilization, a chronological period, a nation-state, a cultural institution, or a suitable combination; it may be conceptual in character (e.g., art and the history of science, urban history, geography, gender and sexuality studies); it may combine historical, critical, and theoretical perspectives (e.g., politics and visual art in the twentieth century); it may be based in a particular medium or class of object (e.g., the built environment, tomb assemblages, or prints); it may combine historical and studio-practice courses (e.g., DoVA, CMST, TAPS, Music) to explore interrelations (e.g., art and dance).

**Summary of Requirements for the Minor in Art History**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three (3) courses at the 20000-level to meet the distribution requirement</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three (3) courses at the 20000-level in a special field</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One (1) 10- to 15-page research paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* One of the courses may be ARTH 29600 Junior Seminar: Doing Art History. Students in the minor would research and write an essay on a topic of their choice instead of preparing an honors paper proposal.

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**Art History Courses**

**ARTH 10100. Introduction to Art. 100 Units.**

This course develops skills in perception, comprehension, and evaluation of various art objects and the built environment. It encourages close analysis of visual materials, exploring the range of questions and methods appropriate to works of art and buildings, in their historical, theoretical, and social dimensions. Most importantly, the course emphasizes articulate writing and salient argumentation about visual and other aesthetic phenomena. Three coherent units, on Monument/Site, Image/Medium, and Object/Museum, explore these issues across cultures and periods. Examples draw on original objects in campus collections and sites on campus.

**Instructor(s):** Staff

**Terms Offered:** Autumn Winter

**Note(s):** Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.

**ARTH 14105. Introduction to Roman Art and Archaeology. 100 Units.**

This course offers a survey of the art and archaeology of the Roman world from the founding of Rome in the eighth century BC to the Christianization of the Empire in the fourth century AD. Students will witness the transformation of Rome from a humble village of huts surrounded by marshland in central Italy into the centripetal force of a powerful Empire that spanned mind-bogglingly distant reaches of space and time. Throughout the course, we will consider how the built environments and artifacts produced by an incredible diversity of peoples and places can make visible larger trends of historical, political, and cultural change. What, we will begin and end by asking, is Roman about Roman art?

**Instructor(s):** P. Crowley

**Terms Offered:** Spring

**Note(s):** Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.  
Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 14113
ARTH 14107. Greek Art and Archaeology. 100 Units.
This course examines the art and archaeology of ancient Greece from ca. 1000 BCE - ca. 200 BCE. Participants will learn a lot of facts about the Greek world; they will see the Greeks emerge from poverty and anarchy to form a distinctive political and social system based on city-states, and they will see that system grow unstable and collapse. They will see the emergence of distinctive forms of sculpture, architecture, pottery, and urban design - many of which are still in use today. Along with these facts, they will acquire a conceptual toolkit for looking at works of art and for thinking about the relation of art to social life.
Instructor(s): S. Estrin Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 14119

ARTH 14200. Introduction to Medieval Art. 100 Units.
This course provides an introduction to art produced during the European Middle Ages. Beginning with the fusion of Christian and Imperial images under the Roman Empire and ending with the introduction of print in the fifteenth century, this course considers works of art across a variety of media (architecture, sculpture, painting, textiles, metalwork, stained glass) and in a range of historical and cultural contexts. We will address the complex social, religious, and political motivations that informed artistic production during the Middle Ages, and we will focus on the question of how images were seen and understood by medieval viewers. The course is organized chronologically and is structured around a set of broad thematic concerns such as the relationship between art and power, changing theorizations of the image, the re-use of the past, the body in art, the relationship of the secular and the sacred, and the role of art in public and private devotion. Readings will include medieval sources in translation and selected works of modern scholarship.
Instructor(s): A. Kumler Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 14200

ARTH 15650. Art Since 1900. 100 Units.
Focusing on the interrelationships between avant-garde culture and the emerging mass cultural formations of industrializing societies, our survey will address a wide range of historical and methodological questions: the impact of new technologies of production, the utopian projects of the Euro-American avant-gardes, the transformation of modernist conceptions of artistic autonomy, the changing roles of cultural institutions, the construction of social Others, the formation of new audiences, and the rise of "contemporary art."
Instructor(s): M. Jackson Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 15650

ARTH 15800. Contemporary Art. 100 Units.
This course will consider the practice and theory of visual art in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Among the subjects that will drive our narrative will be the rise of postmodernism, pop art, the aesthetics of the social movements of the 1960s, institutional critique, the relationship between reproductive media and Feminism, the concept of spectacle, conceptual art, the appearance of a global art industry after 1989, the connections between art school and art-making, "relational aesthetics," the fate of art in the age of the Internet, the art of the post-studio moment, and what happens to art when it engages with "everything."
Instructor(s): M. Jackson Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20006

ARTH 16460. Modern Latin American Art. 100 Units.
This course offers an introductory survey of the art of modern Latin America from the first wave of independence in the early nineteenth century to the present day. Through the study of key artists, movements, and works of art, we will attend to a set of central problems: the formation of collective identities in these new nations, the impact of revolution, dictatorship, and political violence on the development of art in the region, the incorporation of both foreign styles and indigenous traditions, and the shifting definitions of Latin American art. Special emphasis will be placed on developing the skills needed to analyze a wide variety of modern and contemporary art, including painting, sculpture, photography, performance art, and site-specific installations.
Instructor(s): M. Sullivan Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 16460
ARTH 16800. Arts of Japan. 100 Units.
This course surveys the arts of the Japanese archipelago through the study of selected major sites and artifacts. We will consider objects in their original contexts and in the course of transmission and reinterpretation across space and time. How did Japanese visual culture develop in the interaction with objects and ideas from China, Korea, and the West? Prehistoric artifacts, the Buddhist temple, imperial court culture, the narrative handscroll, the tea ceremony, folding screens, and woodblock prints are among the topics covered.
Instructor(s): C. Foxwell Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 16806

ARTH 16910. Modern Japanese Art and Architecture. 100 Units.
This course takes the long view of modern Japanese art and architecture with a focus on the changing relationships between object and viewer in the 19th and 20th centuries. Beginning in the late eighteenth century with the flowering of revivalist and individualist trends and the explosion of creativity in the woodblock prints of Hokusai and others, we will then turn to examine Western-style architecture and painting in the late nineteenth century; socialism, art criticism, and the emergence of the avant garde in the early twentieth century. Also covered are interwar architectural modernism, art during World War II, and postwar movements such as Gutai and Mono-ha. No familiarity with art history or Japan is required.
Instructor(s): C. Foxwell Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 16911

ARTH 17121. The Art of Leonardo da Vinci. 100 Units.
The central focus of this course will be on the small, damaged and disputed body of paintings that Leonardo has left to us, the wealth of his drawings that help us make sense of that problematic heritage and provide the most direct route into his creative thinking, and the hundreds of pages of text in the form of notes in mirror-image handwriting that comment on art and so many other subjects. Our structure will be roughly chronological, including his late fifteenth-century Florentine artistic and social context; his two long periods in Milan as a court artist; his triumphant return to Florence and rivalry with the young Michelangelo; his brief and unsatisfying stay in papal Rome; and his final years in France. Among the themes that will be critically examined are: Leonardo’s role in the creation of what is still grandiosely called the High Renaissance; the value and problematic aspects of thinking of him as the quintessential artist-scientist; the significance of the fact that he has been a figure of such obsessive art-historical and broader cultural significance for over 500 years; and the ways in which recent scientific examination and digital imaging have shed surprising amounts of new light on his art. Through the concentrated study of the works of Leonardo and his artistic context, the course will take seriously the attempt to introduce students with little or no background in art history to some of the major avenues for analysis and interpretation in this field.
Instructor(s): C. Cohen Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21414

ARTH 17303. The Body in Ancient Greek Art and Culture. 100 Units.
This course provides an introduction to the role of the human body in ancient Greek art. We will examine, on the one hand, the various ways in which Greek artists represented the body, and consider how forms of bodily identity such as gender and sexuality were constructed and articulated through artistic practice. But we will also consider the ways in which works of art themselves - statues, paintings, vessels - could function like bodies or in place of bodies, expanding the notion of what it means to be a living being. Readings will range from primary texts - ancient literature in translation - to more theoretical writing on embodiment, gender, and sexuality.
Instructor(s): S. Estrin Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 17319, GNSE 17303

ARTH 17610. Modernism. 100 Units.
This course will explore the development of European and American modernism by concentrating on examples in local collections, especially the Smart Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago. The modernist era, from roughly 1860 to 1960, brought dramatic changes in the conception and making of art. We will analyze these by attending to the media of painting, sculpture, and printmaking.
Instructor(s): M. Ward Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): The class will meet frequently at the Art Institute, and students will need to be able to arrive at the museum in time for classes beginning there at 3:30 p.m. Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
ARTH 17612. The Art of Michelangelo. 100 Units.
The focus of this course will be Michelangelo's sculpture, painting and architecture while making use of his writings and his extensive body of drawings to understand his artistic personality, creative processes, theories of art, and his intellectual and spiritual biography, including his changing attitudes towards Neoplatonism, Christianity and politics. Our structure will be chronological starting with his juvenilia of the 1490s in Florence at the court of Lorenzo the Magnificent through his death in Rome in 1564 as an old man who was simultaneously the deity of art and a lonely, troubled, repentant Christian. Beyond close examination of the works themselves, among the themes that will receive attention for the ways they bear upon his art are Michelangelo's fraught relationship with patrons; his changing attitude towards religion, especially his engagement with the Catholic Reform; his sexuality and how it might bear on the representation of gender in his art and poetry; his "official" biographies during Michelangelo's lifetime and complex, ambivalent, reception over the centuries; new ideas about Michelangelo that have emerged from the restoration and scientific imaging of many of his works. At the same time, the course will be an introduction of students with little or no background in art history to some of the major avenues for interpretation in this field, including formal, stylistic, iconographical, psychological, social, feminist, theoretical and reception.
Instructor(s): C. Cohen Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21411

ARTH 17700. 19th Century French Art in the Art Institute. 100 Units.
In this course, we will closely examine 19th century paintings and sculptures in the Art Institute of Chicago and seek to understand how and why art changed during this period. Topics to be considered include the meaning of stylistic innovation in the 19th century, the development and dissolution of the genres as landscape and portraiture, and varying conceptions of realism and abstraction. Most class sessions will be devoted to looking at works in the galleries of the Art Institute. Because attendance is mandatory, students should consider whether their schedules will allow time for traveling to and from the museum for class meetings.
Instructor(s): M. Ward Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.

ARTH 17704. Art Meets Philosophy. 100 Units.
The great German Romantic poet and critic Friedrich Schlegel once famously noted that "one of two things is usually lacking in the so-called Philosophy of Art: either philosophy or art." In this course, we are looking to prove Schlegel wrong by mapping out the very fruitful history of the relationship between ("western") art and ("western") philosophy instead, beginning in the poet's own early 19th-century Germany and concluding in the contemporary debates surrounding the rising influence of artificial intelligence on the making and exhibiting of art. We will be looking at artists and artworks- and not only in the classroom, but also in museums and artist's studios - in the framework of, and illuminating, contemporaneous philosophical discourse, and reading a variety of texts that help to shed light on the circumstances of certain artistic developments' conception in turn. Think Hegel and Caspar David Friedrich; Nietzsche and Ferdinand Hodler; Heidegger and Van Gogh or Paul Klee; Derrida and Daniel Buren's "institutional critique"; Agamben and Steve McQueen. (The historical emphasis will rest on post-war art and philosophy.) Our bibliography will focus primarily on the continental tradition in philosophy; writing assignments will depart from a direct experience of seeing and handling art. A final project will propose a physical synthesis of the rivaling siblings of art and philosophy.
Instructor(s): D. Roelstraete Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 17704

ARTH 17728. Commemorating and Contesting Colonialism. 100 Units.
This course examines the ways in which French colonialism has been celebrated, commemorated, taught, and contested in visual art, monuments, institutions and neighborhoods, from the revolutionary era to the present. From the commemorations of Napoleon's Egyptian Expedition to the recently redesigned Islamic Art wing of the Louvre; from the Palais de la Porte Dorée that housed the 1931 Colonial Exposition to the Franco-Algerian artist Kader Attia's recently opened "convivial space" La Colonie; from the Grand Mosque of Paris to the Institut du Monde Arabe; we will explore together the many ways that artists, sculptors, architects, city planners, and activists have responded to the French imperial project. For much of the 19th and 20th centuries, successive regimes sponsored large- and small-scale efforts to make metropolitan citizens aware of French colonial efforts, ranging from monumental celebrations of military victories to the naming of streets after colonial administrators. At the same time, critics of empire, both colonial subjects and French activists, and postcolonial states have used art and architecture to contest those same efforts, exposing the limits of the French universalizing mission and the human costs of empire building. In examining the many ways different artistic forms have engaged with France's colonial projects, we will pay particular attention to how historical events and contemporary political debates have shaped their production.
Instructor(s): N. Davidson Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Paris Humanities study abroad program.
Note(s): This course is part of the College's Paris Humanities study abroad program.
ARTH 17899. Warhol's Art Histories. 100 Units.
This undergraduate course centers on the Andy Warhol (1928-1987) retrospective, Andy Warhol: From A to B and Back Again, held at the Art Institute of Chicago on October 20-January 26. This is the first retrospective of Warhol's work organized by a U.S. institution since 1989. The first part of the course will closely examine the historiography of writing on Warhol- including a focus on the art historical debates about what a queer reading of Warhol's work looks like and performs; the contested legacies of Warhol's race riots series; the role of advertising and design; the marginalization of Warhol's moving image works; and an investigation of the histories of pop art that may have been eclipsed by an over-emphasis on Warhol. The remaining weeks will hinge on close analysis of select objects in the exhibition, as well as the exhibition as itself an argument about why Warhol's work should be taken seriously. We might include discussions with visiting scholars, artists, conservators and curators.
Instructor(s): S. Nelson Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): This course meets frequently at the Art Institute of Chicago. Students should plan their schedules accordingly to account for travel. Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.

ARTH 17908. American Graphic Art and Commercial Culture: 1850-1960. 100 Units.
This class focuses on widely distributed printed images, most of them with commercial, aesthetic, and/or political significance, along with the graphic design traditions and typography associated with them. While concentrating on American imagery, the context would be international, reflecting the condition of popular graphic arts in this country. Among other things it would treat book illustration, posters, advertising art, magazines and newspapers, cartooning, postcards, children's literature, commercial paper, and trade catalogs. Necessarily, given this wide scope, it will be episodic in character, but it will also attempt to relate this visual explosion to larger artistic movements, major events, technological changes, and political trends. It would also explore, from time to time, the roles played by collecting, exhibition, and academic commentary in legitimating the subject, as well as the power of ethnic and racial stereotyping and the multiplication of trade and printing journals. The aim, in short, is to examine the flowering of a visual print culture that had its roots in the Gutenberg Revolution of the 15th century. There will be both class discussion and lecturing. This is art in context, emphasizing breadth and the introduction of figures, institutions, and movements nurtured by an expansive production and distribution network. The course will be hosted by the Special Collections Research Center at Regenstein Library.
Instructor(s): N. Harris Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 17908

ARTH 18000. Photography and Film. 100 Units.
This is a core course that serves as an introduction to the history of art by concentrating on some fundamental issues in the history of photography and film. The course is divided roughly in half between still photography and film. The central theme of the course concerns the way in which photographs and films have been understood and valued during the past 165 years. There have been profound changes in attitudes and beliefs regarding the nature of photographs throughout the history of photography (this is likewise true of film). The current range of views is very different from those held by the various audiences for photographs and films in the last century and the century before. For instance, photographs were originally conceived of as copies of things that can be seen, but the notion of copy was drawn from a long-established set of views about what makes a picture a work of art and copies were said to be incapable of being works of art. This view continues to haunt the writings of some critics and historians of photography and film. The course will concentrate on the work of photographers, theorists of photography and film, and on films by John Huston, Billy Wilder, and Roman Polanski.
Instructor(s): J. Snyder Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.

ARTH 18305. Art in Context: New Art in Chicago Museums. 100 Units.
Through very regular, required site visits to museums, galleries, and experimental spaces in the greater Chicago area, this course will introduce students to the close consideration-in situ-of works of art created in our times, as well as to the application to these works of pertinent modes of critical and historical inquiry. Sites to be visited can include our own Smart Museum of Art, the Hyde Park Art Center, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Gallery 400 at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and private collections and galleries.
Instructor(s): D. English Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Course limit of 12 students; instructor consent required.
Note(s): This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
ARTH 18601. Reframing Women: Female Portraiture from the Mona Lisa to RuPaul. 100 Units.
As soon as portraiture was reinvented in the early 1400s, male patrons commissioned male artists to record the likenesses of their wives, mothers, daughters and lovers. With little sociopolitical agency of their own, the women depicted in these paintings also had little control over how they were portrayed. As such, their visual identities were constructed and framed by "the male gaze"—that is, the visual point-of-view of a cis-gendered, European, heterosexual male. Because art academies remained closed to women for centuries, male artists continued not only to create society's images of ideal female beauty but also to help define the ways in which women could participate in the public sphere. With few exceptions, portraits show women as passive muses, the foci of the adoration of their male family members, or as sex objects, dangerous bodies engendering lust and temptation. As women gained increased autonomy in western society and, with that, the ability to study art, they began, for the first time, to claim their feminine identities and to construct a version of femininity that existed outside of-or at least reacted against-the male gaze. In contemporary times, an expanded idea of what it means to be "female" and a cultural move towards intersectionality have continued to challenge our notions of femininity, showing that the concept of ideal female beauty is inextricably caught up not only in concerns about gender and sexuality but also of class and race. Organized
Instructor(s): Christine Zappella Terms Offered: Summer
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 18601

ARTH 20000. Introduction to Film Analysis. 100 Units.
This course introduces basic concepts of film analysis, which are discussed through examples from different national cinemas, genres, and directorial oeuvres. Along with questions of film technique and style, we consider the notion of the cinema as an institution that comprises an industrial system of production, social and aesthetic norms and codes, and particular modes of reception. Films discussed include works by Hitchcock, Porter, Griffith, Eisenstein, Lang, Renoir, Sternberg, and Welles.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Note(s): Required of students taking a major or minor in Cinema and Media Studies.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 10800, CMST 10100, ARTV 20300

ARTH 20228. William Blake: Poet, Painter, and Prophet. 100 Units.
William Blake is arguably the most unusual figure in the history of English poetry and visual art. Recognized now as an essential part of the canon of Romantic poetry, he was almost completely unknown in his own time. His paintings, poems, and illuminated books were objects of fascination for a small group of admirers, but it was not until the late 19th century that his work began to be collected by William Butler Yeats, and not until the 1960s that he was recognized as a major figure in the history of art and literature. Dismissed as insane in his own time, his prophetic and visionary works are now seen as anticipating some of the most radical strands of modern thought, including Freud, Marx, and Nietzsche. We will study Blake's work from a variety of perspectives, placing his poetry in relation to the prophetic ambitions of Milton and his visual images in the European iconographic tradition of Michelangelo and Durer, Goya and Fuseli. The course will emphasize close readings of his lyric poems, and attempt to open up the mythic cosmology of his allegorical, epic, and prophetic books.
(Poetry, 1650-1830; Theory; 18th/19th)
Instructor(s): W. J. T. Mitchell Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 20228, ENGL 30228, ARTH 30228, ENGL 20228

ARTH 20304. Ancient Stones in Modern Hands. 100 Units.
Objects from classical antiquity that have survived into the modern era have enticed, inspired, and haunted those who encountered or possessed them. Collectors, in turn, have charged ancient objects with emotional, spiritual, and temporal power, enrolling them in all aspects of their lives, from questions of politics and religion to those of race and sexuality. This course explores intimate histories of private ownership of antiquities as they appear within literature, visual art, theater, aesthetics, and collecting practices. Focusing on the sensorial, material, and affective dimensions of collecting, we will survey histories of modern classicism that span from the eighteenth century to the present, from the Mediterranean to the Pacific. Historical sources will include the writings of Johann Gottfried Herder, Johann Joachim Winckelmann, Emma Hamilton, Vernon Lee, and Sigmund Freud, among others; secondary source scholarship will draw from the fields of gender studies, the history of race, art history, and the history of emotions. We will supplement our readings with occasional museum visits and film screenings. Assignments: Active participation in class, one secondary text analysis, one analysis of a controversy, and one proposal for a monument, museum, or school curriculum.
Instructor(s): S. Estrin & A. Goff Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Making History courses forgo traditional paper assignments for innovative projects that develop new skills with professional applications in the working world. A team-taught and interdisciplinary course; we welcome students from all backgrounds, with no previous experience in ancient art or modern history required.
Equivalent Course(s): CLCV 21019, CLAS 31019, HIST 29422, ARTH 30304, HIST 39422
ARTH 20603. Image and Text in Mexican Codices. 100 Units.
In most Mesoamerican languages, a single word describes the activities that we would call "writing" and "painting." This seminar will investigate the interrelationships between image and text in Central Mexico both before and immediately after the introduction of alphabetic writing in the 16th century. We will also review art historical and archaeological evidence for the social conditions of textual and artistic production in Mexico, and how these traditions were transformed under Spanish colonial rule. We will consider the materiality of text and image by working with facsimiles of Mesoamerican books in the Special Collections Research Center of the Regenstein Library. At the end of the course, students will have acquired a basic literacy in Aztec and Mixtec writing systems, and will have refined their ability to look productively and write elegantly about art.
Instructor(s): C. Brittenham Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 27001, LACS 30603, LACS 20603, KNOW 37001, ARTH 30603

ARTH 20700. Understanding the Built Environment. 100 Units.
This course aims to equip students with the basic skills and knowledge required to analyse architecture and the urban environment. It offers an introduction to the methods and procedures of the architectural historian. These include practical tasks such as understanding architectural terminology, reading and interpreting architectural drawings, engaging with buildings 'on site', and studying buildings in context through urban design issues, such as street networks and public spaces.
At a broader level, the course will involve critical discussions about the relationship between architecture and society, the building as a historical object, cultural representations of architecture, and modes of perceiving/experiencing the built environment. The course will operate through a combination of in-class seminars and site visits to buildings in Chicago. This course is specifically geared to introducing the fundamentals of architectural history to those undergraduate students seeking a minor in architectural studies. However, MA and PhD students in other fields are welcome to register.
Instructor(s): K. Taylor Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): In the second weekly session, the class will often meet off-campus at sites throughout the city. Students will need to be able to get to these sites in plenty of time, and therefore should not have other classes directly before or after.
Equivalent Course(s): ARCH 20000, ARTH 30700

ARTH 21313. Video Art: The Analog Years. Theory, Technology, Practice. 100 Units.
The course gives a critical introduction to early video and television art - from the proto-televisual impulses in the historical avant-gardes to the increasing proximity between analog and digital technologies in video art in the late 1970's and early 1980's. We will focus on the various technical aspects of analog video, as well as on artistic practice and early writings on the subject. Topics will include the technics and politics of time; video, feedback systems and ecology; the reconfiguration of the artist's studio; guerilla politics and alternative TV; video and autobiography; the relation between video and painting; the musical history of video; the invention of new machines; and video as a "television viewer".
Instructor(s): I. Blom Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28703, CMST 38703, MAAD 18703, ARTH 31313

ARTH 22106. Introduction to the Study of Iconography. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 32106, RLIT 32106, RLST 28320, HCHR 32106

ARTH 22351. The Sonic Image. 100 Units.
The Sonic Image offers a unique opportunity to work with three senior researchers exploring the bridge-making and sense delimiting articulations of sound & sight together. We will examine the potency of sound in a world largely understood through its visualization as a world picture. Readings in sound studies, visual studies & media studies explore sound, sounds that evoke pictures, the forensics of sound, sound art, & films including The Conversation, Blow Out & Amour. Each faculty collaborator brings distinct interests to the course. WJT Mitchell's renowned theorization of images naturally extends to his theorizing the possibility of the sonic image. Artist Lawrence Abu Hamdan's commitment to the value of earwitnessing asks the listener to extend forensic knowledge to the very core of what it means to be a human being in the world. For the course, Hamdan will develop a workshop comprising a series of practical exercises that experiment with the conditions of testimony or claim making, enabling an exploration of how the law come to its truths and how can we use sonic imagination to trouble & contest established modes of enacting justice. Performance scholar, Hannah B Higgins, examines how musical notation, performance & sound bear on the relationships between sound & vision in recent art practices. An intervention from composer Janice Misurrell-Mitchell will add a dimension of musical testimony to our investigation.
Instructor(s): W.J.T. Mitchell, Hannah Higgins, Lawrence Abu Hamdan Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Open to all levels with consent of the instructors. All interested students should please email the instructor (wjtm@uchicago.edu) a one page statement of interest, explaining why they want to take the course, and what they will bring to it.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 22351, ENGL 42351, MAAD 12351, ARTH 32351, ARTV 40351, ARTV 20351

ARTH 22402. Perspective as a Challenge to Art History. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 42412, SCTH 32402, ENGL 22402, ARTH 32402
ARTH 22611. The Politics of Luxury in the Middle Ages. 100 Units.
This course explores conspicuous consumption, the love of costly things, the lure and power of precious materials, and the important role played by the arts in the definition of status, authority, influence, and pleasure in the Middle Ages. Investigating a series of episodes from the history of medieval luxury, we will explore how precious objects participated in western gift-culture (both "sacred" and "secular"), how the patronage of works of art pursued a variety of ideological and social aims, and we will scrutinize the aesthetic and economic conceptions of value transacted via works of art and practices of "ars" (skilled labor). Not least, the course aims to interrogate how the politics of luxury contributed to changing conceptions of the status of the artwork and the artist over the course of the Middle Ages.
Instructor(s): A. Kumler Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 32611, MDVL 22611

ARTH 23602. Native American Art at The Field Museum: An Anthropological Perspective. 100 Units.
This course explores recent forays into collecting and displaying contemporary Native American Art for the Field Museum, a museum of natural history and anthropology. Through site visits and dialogues with Field Museum staff, contemporary Native American artists, and readings, the course introduces students to the potential and problematic of locating, defining, and representing contemporary art within the colonial context of the Field Museum and how collaboration with artists and community members plays a role in shifting the paradigm toward one that centers collaborative curation and is inclusive of the direct voice of artists. Students will have the opportunity to observe the major renovation currently underway of the Native North American Hall and the role that contemporary art will play in deepening understanding of existing collections and contemporary social concerns.
Instructor(s): A. Wali Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 33602

ARTH 24002. Advanced Nonfiction Workshop: Writing About the Arts. 100 Units.
The short and the long of it. In this course, we'll be focusing on writing about visual arts by using shorter and longer forms, and while thinking about short and long durations of time. The time of encounter with a work of art, the time of its making, kinds of time the artists wanted to invoke, the endurance and ephemerality of the work, and of the experience of the work.
We'll work short: wall text, compressed review, lyric fragment, and long: involved and layered sentences and elaborations.
We'll work with and against different kinds of syntax, white space, and the unsaid, and read authors including John Yau, Lori Waxman, Zbigniew Herbert, Mark Strand, John Berger, Junichiro Tanizaki, and Dore Ashton, and ekphrastic poetry by Terrance Hayes, Tyehimba Jess, and Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon. The course hopes to support students both in developing useful practices and experimenting boldly. Every class session will begin with a student-led two-work tour at the Smart Museum, and we will spend one session on close looking at works on paper at the Smart. Students will also visit five collections, exhibitions and/or galleries and keep a looking diary. Students will write a number of exercises in different forms (wall text, review, interview / portrait), and will also write two essays (which may follow one extended line or be a mosaic composite) to be workshopped in class.
Instructor(s): Rachel Cohen Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Instructor consent required. Apply via creativewriting.uchicago.edu (writing sample required). Attendance on the first day is mandatory.
Equivalent Course(s): CRWR 24002, ARTH 34002, CRWR 44002

ARTH 24008. Advanced Nonfiction Workshop: Drawing from Life. 100 Units.
This is a course for students interested in developing their ability to write about the visual arts, as critics, appreciators, theorists, or memoirists, and, practically, for work in galleries, museums, journals, and magazines. A theme of the course will be to explore ways that art and life may interact, both in the work made by a visual artist, and in the nonfiction that arises in response to a visual artist or their work. Some students may be interested to write biographically about artists and their work, and we'll talk about how to make biography illuminating and not reductive; other students may be interested to draw on their own life experiences as they try to shed light on works of art; still others may be curious to see how certain artists themselves have viewed the questions and practices of drawing from life. We'll use ideas about drawing, and especially drawing repeatedly, as a model and a metaphor for thinking about writing. We'll have some occasions to look at works on paper held at the Smart Museum, and we'll visit some exhibitions and galleries, together and independently.
Readings will include works such as James Lord's book A Giacometti Portrait, on being drawn by Giacometti, Maggie Nelson on the color blue in life and art from Bluets, John Berger on drawing, Rebecca Solnit on photographer Edweard Muybridge, Geoff Dyer on street photography from The Ongoing Moment, John Yau on Jasper Johns's practice and on those of contemporary artists, Zbigniew Herbert
Instructor(s): Rachel Cohen Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Instructor consent required. Apply via creativewriting.uchicago.edu (include writing sample). Attendance on the first day is mandatory.
Equivalent Course(s): CRWR 44008, ARTH 34008, CRWR 24008

ARTH 24014. The Veneration of Icons in Byzantium: History/Theory/Practice. 100 Units.
In order to appreciate the pivotal religious significance icons had in Byzantium for private devotion, in the liturgy, in civic ritual, and in military campaigns, we will survey the visual evidence along with a vast array of written sources. We will explore the origins of the Christian cult of icons in the Early Byzantine period and its roots in the Greco-Roman world of paganism. Through the close analysis of icons executed over the centuries in different artistic techniques, we will examine matters of iconography, style and aesthetics. We will also have a close look at image theory, as developed by Byzantine theologians and codified in the era of Iconoclasm.
Instructor(s): Karin Krause Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28704, RLVC 44004, ARTH 44014, HCHR 44004
ARTH 24090, Japanese Woodblock Prints: From 1600 to the Present. 100 Units.

Despite the availability of moveable type, woodblock printing—in which each printed sheet was produced by an intricately hand-carved block—was the main reproductive technology in early modern Japan (roughly 1600 to 1850) for both texts and images. In these years, Japan's high literacy rates and booming urban publishing industry gave rise to an array of fascinating illustrated books and prints—from theater ephemera and guidebooks to "art" prints, landscape series, and supernatural tales—that offer interesting points of comparison with early modern printing in the West. Drawing on a recent exhibition at the Smart Museum, this course will consider Japanese woodblock prints as artistic and social objects during the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries. While viewing actual prints in area collections, we will discuss style and technique, the representation of class and gender, the world of the pleasure quarters, illustrated plays and fiction, urban growth and travel, censorship, and the supernatural.

Instructor(s): C. Foxwell Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 24090, EALC 34090, ARTH 34090

ARTH 24106, Uncanny Resemblances. 100 Units.

This course examines one of the most captivating bodies of portrait art in the Western tradition. For well over a century, the study of Roman portraiture, an essentially German subfield of classical archaeology, has largely confined itself to forensic problems of dating and identification. More recent work has focused on social and political topics ranging from site-specific issues of context and display, patronage and power, gender, and the ideological stakes of recarving and reuse. Additionally, we will consider the historiographical and media-archaeological contexts that have profoundly shaped and framed our understanding of these objects, both in antiquity and modernity: e.g., the production (and reproduction) of wax and plaster death masks in Roman funerary custom; ancient theories in the domain of optics that were used to explain the phenomenon of portraits whose eyes appear to follow a beholder in space; how the stylistic category of "veristic" portraiture in the Roman Republic has its origins not in antiquity (despite the Latin etymology), but rather in the painting and photography of the Neue Sachlichkeit in Weimar Germany; and how the contemporary use of digital craniofacial anthropometry to study the recarving and reuse of Roman portraits relates to Sir Francis Galton's criminological apparatus for creating composite photographic images using portraits from ancient coins as early as 1885.

Instructor(s): P. Crowley Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 24106, ARTH 24106, CLCV 23119, CLAS 33119, KNOW 34106

ARTH 24190, Imagining Chicago's Common Buildings. 100 Units.

This class is an architectural studio based in the common residential buildings of Chicago and the city's built environment. While design projects and architectural skills will be the focus of the class, it will also incorporate readings, a small amount of writing, some social and geographical history, and several explorations around Chicago. The studio will: (1) give students interested in pursuing architecture or the study of cities experience with a studio class and some skills related to architectural thinking, (2) acquaint students intimately with Chicago's common residential buildings and built fabric, and (3) situate all this within a context of social thought about residential architecture, common buildings, housing, and the city. Please note: the class has required meetings on both Tuesdays (5-6:20) and Fridays (2:30-5:50, with a break) beginning on Tuesday October 2nd. This course is part of the College Course Cluster program: Urban Design.

Instructor(s): L. Joyner Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Consent is required to enroll in this class. Interested students should email the instructor (Luke Joyner, lukejoy@uchicago.edu) to briefly explain their interest and any previous experience with the course topics. Please note: The course has required meetings on both Tuesdays (5-6:20 p.m.) and Fridays (2:30-5:50 p.m., with a break) beginning on Tuesday October 1. Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20210, ARCH 24190, ENST 24190, GEOG 24190, AMER 24190

ARTH 24191, City Imagined, City Observed. 100 Units.

This urban design studio course takes two distinct notions of the city as its starting point: grand, imaginative plans -- utopian, unbuilt, semi-realized, real... both as aesthetic objects, and as ideas -- and how the minute flows of day-to-day life, up from the smallest scale, enter into dialogue with little built and lived details, intended or not. With Chicago as context and canvas, we will dream both big and small, search both present and past, and draw precisely on both what we dream and what we experience... seeking not to dictate what the city will be, but to expand our sense of what a city can be. The studio work will proceed in two stages: individually developing ideal city plans, then breaking each others' plans, using real observations and factors (and even spontaneous impulse) to complicate and rebuild them into something lovelier.

Instructor(s): L. Joyner Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Consent is required to enroll in this class. Priority will be given to students who have completed ARTH 24190.
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 24191, ARTV 20205, ARCH 24191, ENST 24191, GEOG 24191
ARTH 24195. Architecture on Display. 100 Units.
This traveling seminar explores the challenges of exhibiting architecture and the built environment, a medium whose scale resists traditional museum and gallery display and whose representation in drawings is notoriously difficult for the public to grasp - but nonetheless is increasingly embraced by museums and biennales. Our central example is "Countryside: Future of the World," an exhibit on the future of the global hinterland at Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum in New York, which we will visit. The latest of several provocative exhibitions by contemporary architect Rem Koolhaas, it instantiates a recent phenomenon of interpretive and thematic shows by architects that exceed the museum's traditional aim to represent architect-designed buildings and projects. In addition to examining Koolhaas's work, we will investigate architectural display in two broader contexts: other types of contemporary architectural exhibition, particularly examples we can visit in Chicago and New York, and the history of architectural display through drawings, models, mock-ups, fragments, virtual reality, and buildings converted into museums in their own right, from tenements to the Robie House. Students will write research papers. The course includes a class trip to New York over a long weekend during the quarter, Thursday evening to Sunday. 
Instructor(s): K. Taylor Terms Offered: Spring 
Note(s): This is a traveling seminar and instructor consent is required. 
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 24195, ARTH 34195

ARTH 24196. Second Nature: New Models for the Chicago Park District. 100 Units.
The Chicago Park District seems to preserve "first nature" within the metropolitan field. But the motive for establishing this sovereign territory was hardly natural. Today, cultural change raises questions about the significance and operation of this immense network of civic spaces. What opportunities emerge as we rethink them? While this design studio focuses on the development of new model parks for Chicago, it can support students coming from a broad range of disciplines. Texts, seminar discussions, and field trips will complement and nourish the development of architectural proposals. 
Instructor(s): A. Schachman Terms Offered: Spring 
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 24196, GEOG 24196, ARCH 24196, ARTV 20206

ARTH 24250. A Visual History of Latin American Women. 100 Units.
This undergraduate seminar will analyze both visual and literary images of and by women to show their role in society and the transformations experienced in terms of their civil, political, labor, and reproductive rights. These vignettes, which span from Pre-Colombian times to the present, will be examined from an art-historical perspective, thus providing students with the opportunity to discuss Latin America's historical context through visual culture. 
Instructor(s): Rosario Granados Terms Offered: TBD 
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 24250, GNSE 24250

ARTH 24267. Architecture of Memory. 100 Units.
This architecture studio course will explore the concept of spaces created as memorials or for the purpose of holding or preserving memories. Design projects and spatial concepts will be the main focus for the class. Students will also research and critique existing built projects and visit spaces around the city to form a basis for understanding and analyzing architecture. Students will generate a portfolio of 2D and 3D spatial explorations throughout the quarter. For final design projects, students will choose real sites and will create a design for a memorial for an aspect of social history of the South Side and/or the Washington Park neighborhood of Chicago. Visits to exhibitions around Chicago and current events stories will serve as starting points for project subjects. Students are required to attend the first seminar to enroll in the course. 
Excursions across the city will occur during regular meeting times, but a make-up option will be outlined and permitted. Though basic tools and materials for model making will be available for sharing during studio or through a tool library, some students may find it beneficial to obtain their own items for use outside of class time and to supplement what is provided. 
Instructor(s): N. Bharani Terms Offered: Winter 
Note(s): Excursions across the city will occur during regular meeting times, but a make-up option will be outlined and permitted. Though basic tools and materials for model making will be available for sharing during studio or through a tool library, some students may find it beneficial to obtain their own items for use outside of class time and to supplement what is provided. 
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 34267, ARTV 24267, ARTV 34267

ARTH 24416. Biocentrism: The Concept of Life in German Literature and Art. 100 Units.
This course explores the notion of life broadly understood, drawing on texts from a variety of disciplines (literature, philosophy, art history, biology) as well as on artworks that reflect on the concept of life. How did artists and writers conceive of the process of life? How did they situate life in relation to movement? How do notions of the organic/inorganic, material/spiritual organize writers' and artists' understanding of life? How did scientific and cultural currents such as organicism, vitalism, constructivism influence literary and aesthetic practices and theoretical frameworks? What are the networks of exchange between literature, the arts, and the emerging life sciences in the period? These and other questions will be grounded in close consideration of works by Aristotle, Nietzsche, Freud, Rilke, Woolf, Kafka, Benjamin, Haackel, Murnau, Kandinsky, Klee, Mies. 
Instructor(s): M. Christian Terms Offered: TBD 
Note(s): Course conducted in German 
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 24416
ARTH 24611. Materialities of Modern Art. 100 Units.
Exploring the significances of materiality in art, particularly in modern art, this seminar will test the art historical relevances of theories and histories of materials, and, by extension, of matter, tactility, touch, things, objects, commodities, use, craft, and design. Readings will be drawn from a variety of disciplines, including aesthetics, art history, anthropology, literary theory, philosophy, visual and material culture. Part of the purpose of the class is to work closely with the Smart Museum exhibition “The Allure of Matter.”
Instructor(s): C. Mehring Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 34611

ARTH 24615. Modern & Contemporary Materialities (Suzanne Deal Booth Conservation Seminar) 100 Units.
This course aims to explore the links between materiality, making and meaning of modern art and investigate how surface, form, texture and color are localized in particular artistic or historical contexts. It can be argued that the discipline of art history still remains substantially divided between those who study what objects mean and those who study how objects are made, where 'meaning' typically derives from cultural hermeneutics, while 'madeness' remains the province of technical analysis. The course will discuss the methods, theory and strategies of a material-based approach, its forms of writing and claims to meaning. Readings will be drawn from a variety of disciplines, including art history, visual and material culture, anthropology, philosophy, and material science.
Instructor(s): M. Kokkori Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Registration by instructor consent only.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 34615

ARTH 24626. Allure of Matter: Material Art in China. 100 Units.
This seminar examines contemporary art in China through the lens of the Smart Museum of Art's upcoming exhibition, The Allure of Matter: Material Art in China. Using works in the exhibition as case studies, the course explores questions about materials and materiality in contemporary art. Throughout the course, we will address the following questions: How have unconventional materials impacted art practices in China? How do these material explorations inform our understanding of contemporary art in China and beyond? How do materials mediate different relationships between the artist, artwork and viewer? Guest speakers, including conservators, will expand our discussions of materiality. The course will meet for approximately half of the time at the Smart Museum or Wrightwood 659.
Instructor(s): O. Cacchione Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Students who have taken a course in modern or contemporary art history preferred.
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 34627, ARTH 34626, EALC 24627

ARTH 24721. Manet, Mallarmé, and Modernism. 100 Units.
Much of the theory, as well as the look and sound of modern art, as it developed in the late nineteenth century, is the result of the individual efforts as well as the friendly collaboration of the Parisian painter Edouard Manet and the Parisian poet and English teacher Stéphane Mallarmé. This course will introduce them, examine their major collaborations (Le Courbeau, L’Après-Midi d’un Faune), and place them within the developing consensus in experimental art and thought at the fin de siècle, which for reasons having to do with the reception Mallarmé, came to be called symbolism.
Instructor(s): A. Pop Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 25007, SCTH 35007, ARTH 34721

ARTH 24813. Museums and Art, 1750-1920. 100 Units.
This course considers how the rise of the art museum in the modern era affected the making of modern art and the viewing of past art. It is not designed to be a survey course, but rather a historical investigation of certain issues and developments. We will concentrate on the following: what has been said to happen to objects when they are uprooted and moved into the museum; how and why museums have changed display practices so as to get viewers to look at art in new ways; what artists have understood museums to represent and how they have responded to that understanding in their work and their display preferences. Case studies will be drawn from across Europe and the United States.
Instructor(s): M. Ward Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 34813

ARTH 24814. Museums and Art, 1920-present. 100 Units.
This course considers the history of the art museum in relation to developments in modern and contemporary art. We will focus upon how political, social and commercial factors transformed art institutions and display practices in the early and mid-century 20th century; how various challenges -- artists' critiques, new forms of art making, different audiences - did (or did not) lead to change in the 1960s; and how museums have continued to evolve in the times since. Case studies will be drawn from across Europe and the United States.
Instructor(s): M. Ward Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 34814
ARTH 25105. Chichen Itza. 100 Units.
This course investigates the visual culture of Chichen Itza, one of ancient Mesoamerica's most cosmopolitan cities. Thriving in the centuries after the collapse of the lowland Maya kingdoms, the city of Chichen Itza articulated a new political and cosmological vision of authority, drawing on traditions from all over Mesoamerica, past and present, to create an innovative visual synthesis. This course will investigate Chichen Itza's most famous architectural and sculptural monuments in the light of new epigraphic and chronological discoveries, paying close attention to questions of innovation, repetition, and serial production.
Instructor(s): C. Brittenham Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): This is a traveling seminar; we will go to Chichen Itza and related sites in Mexico between December 14-21, 2019. Please email the course instructor, explaining your interest in and preparation for the course. Students who are interested in the course but unable to travel should also contact the instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): LACS 25105, LACS 35105, ARTH 35105, ARCH 25105

ARTH 25111. Rhoades Seminar: Theory, History, and Practice of Textiles - The Andes. 100 Units.
How many minutes of your day are spent with some form of textile touching your skin? And yet, what do you really know about them? This seminar will introduce you to the basic concepts and techniques of making textiles. While readings and discussions will offer globally-relevant perspectives on textiles, the course's primary lens will be the prolific textile tradition that developed in the region of the Andes Mountains over thousands of years. In this course, you will conduct hands-on experiments with technologies for spinning, dyeing, and weaving in an art historical laboratory setting, in order to understand the tools, techniques, and embodied knowledge that they entail. You will then apply what you have learned in these experiments to your own studies of ancient Andean textiles in the stellar collection of the Art Institute of Chicago. Readings will draw on scholarship, reference works, and how-to manuals. Written assignments will take the form of gallery labels and catalogue essays in order to better understand these genres of writing. This course has no prerequisites, but a willingness to participate in active learning (and not having a fear of perhaps doing something badly the first time) are essential. A background in art practice may be helpful, but is in no way necessary or required. Because wool will be handled extensively, potential allergies should be considered before enrolling.
Instructor(s): A. Hamilton Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): This course meets at the Art Institute of Chicago. Students should plan their schedules accordingly to account for travel.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 35111, LACS 23512, LACS 33512

ARTH 25115. Winckelmann: Enlightenment Art Historian and Philosopher. 100 Units.
We approach the first great modern art historian through reading his classic early and mature writings and through the art and criticism of his time (and at the end, our own). Reading-intensive, with a field trip to the Art Institute.
Instructor(s): Andrei Pop Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): German reading competence helpful, but NOT required.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 35115, STH 35000, CLAS 35014, GRMN 35015, GRMN 25015, KNOW 35000

ARTH 25213. Hermeneutics of the Image. 100 Units.
What does it mean to "read" an image? To achieve an understanding of its "meaning"? This is not an easy question since images don't directly offer propositional content, which is the usual habitat of meaning. In this seminar, we will approach this question by considering first some foundational contributions to hermeneutics (Gadamer, Hirsch) and to the theory of pictorial meaning (Wollheim). We will then dig into the tradition of pictorial interpretation as it unfolds starting with Winckelmann and Diderot and extending to the present day (Fried, Clark). Freudian hermeneutics (Freud, Adrian Stokes), iconology (Panofsky), and phenomenology (Merleau-Ponty, Heidegger) will also be considered. In each case, we will endeavor to test the claims and interpretive findings through close examination of the images involved. The emphasis will be on the tradition of European painting and sculpture, but the tools acquired in the seminar should also be applicable in other fields.
Instructor(s): David Wellbery Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): For advanced undergrads, consent of instructor required.
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 25213, GRMN 35213, STH 38113, ARTH 35213

ARTH 25500. Avant-Garde in East Central Europe. 100 Units.
The avant-gardes of the "other" Europe are the mainstay of this course, which focuses especially, but not exclusively, on the interwar avant-gardes of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, and Yugoslavia. A comparative framework is employed whenever lucrative to comprehend the East/Central European movements in the wider context of the European avant-garde. The course also traces the development and legacy (political and artistic) of these avant-gardes in their contemporary scenes. Plastic, verbal, and performative arts (including film) are studied.
Instructor(s): Malynne Sternstein Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): REES 23141, CMST 25100, ARTH 35500, REES 33141, CMST 35100
ARTH 25705. New Worlds: Art and Material Culture of Early America, 1500-1877. 100 Units.
This a pre-1877 seminar is focused on the art and material culture of North America from contact to the aftermath of the Civil War. The course tackles the question of cultural encounter, indexed through the art and artifacts of the period. The seminar is organized both thematically and chronologically, beginning with post-Columbian contact (early French watercolors of Indian life; church architecture of New Mexico), 18th century economic exchange (Chinoiserie, furniture, silver work), politics (revolutionary visual propaganda-in prints), emergence of a merchant class (portraiture of Copley, Stuart, et al.), history painting (West, Vanderlyn, et al.), neoclassicisms (sculpture), Euro-American westward expansion and Indian resistance (itinerant miniature and self-taught artists; hide painting), religion (Shaker furniture and architecture; Hicks), natural history (Audubon) advent of photography (daguerreotypes, ferrotypes, etc.), westward expansion and landscape painting (Cole, Bierstadt, Carlin), slavery, abolition and Civil War (runaway slave ads, Matthew Brady, Winslow Homer). The course will engage directly with the Special Collections, the Smart Museum, and the Art Institute of Chicago. Instructor(s): C. Allison Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course meets frequently at the Art Institute of Chicago. Plan accordingly to allow for travel time.
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 25705

ARTH 25709. Picturing Moral Autonomy in China and Elsewhere. 100 Units.
This course examines how intellectuals in Preindustrial China maintained their independence, as well as their moral autonomy, in times of inordinate social and political pressure. Systematic thinking on this topic appears early in China, beginning with Confucius and Mencius, but was by no means limited to the Confucian tradition. Zhuangzi (late 4th c. BCE) devoted an entire chapter to the problem. This course will survey some important meditations on the topic from the Classical period, but will focus on the Song dynasty (960-1278) with its rich body of essays, poems, and paintings touching upon the problem of moral autonomy. To supplement our study of primary sources we'll read secondary sources on Song law, society, and government, as well as relevant secondary studies of European art. Later in the course we will read reflections on Song period Chinese essays by English radicals of the 18th century, and will wrap up with American classics by Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Wendell Berry. Along the way we will learn how to conduct "close readings" of both written and visual materials for clues to the deep, humanistic themes underlying artistic choice.
Instructor(s): M. Powers Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 25709, ARTH 35709, EALC 35709

ARTH 25885. 20th Century American Drama. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 20110, ENGL 24503

ARTH 26106. Exhibition in Practice II. 100 Units.
Students in this course will work together to install an exhibition at the Smart Museum of Art. Building on the work produced in ARTH 2/36015 Exhibition in Practice I (spring 2019), students collaborate to write exhibition texts, coordinate programming, and participate in the installation process. Workshopping texts, trouble-shooting, and hands-on activities will feature in class sessions. Readings for this course explore diverse ways to approach exhibition narratives, from museum labels to catalogue essays.
Instructor(s): L. Wilson Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 36106

ARTH 26110. Ways of Curating and Collecting. 100 Units.
This seminar takes stock of contemporary currents in curating and collecting practices at a time when we are experiencing rapid expansion of the museum sector internationally, and witnessing the growing ubiquity of "curating" within the spheres of leisure, culture, entertainment and tourism. Using institutions across campus, the city of Chicago and beyond as our primary locus, we will explore curatorial and collecting strategies employed by a variety of visual arts institutions and platforms from the scale of the single-room/single curator gallery, to the museum and the international biennial. We will consider how curatorial and exhibition-making practices have evolved from the latter half of the 20th century to the present day. We will consider the socio-cultural and political implications of curatorial work, and reflect on the shifting status of the art object within collecting and non-collecting institutions. Together we will explore significant curatorial projects at a local, national and international level; we will undertake site visits as well as play host to visiting curators, artists and thinkers. Course readings will feature the writings of seminal international curators as well as selections from historians and theorists in the field of curatorial studies. Students will work through a series of independent and collaborative assignments as well as a final project that integrates curatorial theory and practice.
Instructor(s): Y. Umolu Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 36110, ARTV 20008, ARTV 30008

ARTH 26200. Magic and the Cinema. 100 Units.
This course will trace relations between motion pictures and traditions of magic, both as a theatrical entertainment and as a belief system. The invention of cinema's roots in the magic lantern and other "philosophical toys" which trick the senses into seeing visual illusions will be explored in relation to traditions of "Natural Magic" as well as a secularization of magical practices into entertainment from the Renaissance on. The early trick films of Méliès and others will be discussed in relation to the tradition of stage magic in the 19th century, as well as a particular reception of the magical nature of new technologies (electricity, photography, sound recording). The relation between cinema and hypnosis, both as a social concern and as a metapsychological description of spectatorship will also be explored. A consideration of the appeal of magic systems of thought (spiritualism, theosophy, ritual magic) for Avant-Garde movement and their relation to experimental films by Epstein, Artaud, Deren, Anger, Smith, Fischinger, and others.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25600, CMST 35600, ARTH 36200
ARTH 26711. Florentine Topographies: Art, Architecture, and Urban Life in the Italian Renaissance City. 100 Units.
The site of some of the most widely recognizable monuments of western art history and the home to some of the most famous artists, writers, designers, thinkers, and cultural patrons of early modern culture, Florence has long occupied a central place in a larger pan-European discourse of Modernity, Beauty, and the Individual Subject. As a result, the city itself has come to occupy a mythic position as a central hub of Western intellectual culture: uprooted from its geographical specificity by the circulation of such proper names as Machiavelli, Leonardo, Michelangelo, and unmoored from its historical heritage by the disorienting complexities of modern mass tourism. Therefore, this course seeks to re-integrate the "Renaissance" into the urban context from which it emerged, to defamiliarize it so that it can be looked at from other perspectives. It focuses on the city itself as the protagonist of some of the most important experiments in art, architecture, and urban development and shows how they were intimately connected to a lively and engaged social body. By approaching images and monuments through the spatial practices by which they were encountered by Renaissance society (rituals of conflict, contests, economic exchange, religious devotion, urban politics, identity formation, among others), students will gain a more nuanced understanding of the links between a localized urban culture and a larger intercultural and cross-temporal exchange of ideas.
Instructor(s): N. Atkinson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ARCH 26711, ARTH 36711

ARTH 26791. Best in Show: Art History as Exhibition History. 100 Units.
In this course, I propose a reading of post-war art history as seen, in part, through the periodical prism of one of the field's most important, signature events - the five-yearly Documenta exhibition in Kassel, Germany. Starting with the founding 1955 edition organized by Arnold Bode and ending with the 2017 edition which I worked on as a curator, we will discuss one chapter of Documenta's history per class alongside related events like the Venice and Sao Paulo biennials and Skulptur. Projekte Münster, touching upon such key issues of contemporary art practice and theory as the dynamics of globalization, identity politics, the vagaries of market influence, history and memory and the pressures of the social realm on aesthetic experience. As a history of exhibition making and curatorial practice, the course will also draw on recent developments in museum culture and the everyday politics of the art world's various institutions, and will be recounted in part from the perspective of exhibition-making experience. The class will consist of hands-on curatorial exercises, as well as writing and reading assignments that mirror and follow the 64-year arc of our historical periodization.
Instructor(s): D. Roelstraete Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 34265, ARTV 24265, ARTH 36791

ARTH 27301. Aesthetics: Phil/Photo/Film. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31301, CMST 39300, CMST 29300, PHIL 21100, ARTH 37301

ARTH 27530. (Re)Producing Race and Gender through American Material Culture. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to the role of the material world in the production and reproduction of ideologies of race, gender, and their intersections. Objects around us are imbued with meaning through their design, construction, use, and disuse. Architecture, art, photography, clothing, quilts, toys, food, and even the body have all been used to define groups of people. Combining secondary literature, theory, documentary evidence, and material culture, this course guides students as they ask questions about how ideologies of race and gender are produced, how they are both historically specific and constantly in flux, and how human interaction with the material world creates, challenges, and changes their construction. The primary course objectives are to (1) provide students with an introduction to material culture as a theory and methodology and (2) teach them how to apply it to research on ideologies of gender and race in history.
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27530, GNSE 27530, ANTH 25214, HIST 27414

ARTH 27800. The Material Science of Art (Suzanne Deal Booth Conservation Seminar) 100 Units.
This course will introduce students to the methods, theories, and strategies of scientific approaches to studying art objects and consider the meaning of different materials and surfaces across artistic media. It will showcase new scholarship generated in the field of conservation science and object-based art history that draws its strength from the collaborative work among scientists, conservators, art historians, and theorists. Conservation science draws on the applied sciences and engineering to understand how to preserve the world's cultural heritage and forge connections between making and meaning. The course will explore scientific examinations to investigate the production and use of art objects. Focusing on material studies of paintings and sculptures, pigments as well as their binding media, students will learn about the material make-up of art objects by employing visual analysis alongside practical studies using scientific analysis and imaging on campus and at the Art Institute of Chicago. Readings will be drawn from a variety of disciplines, including material science and chemistry, art history, visual and material culture, anthropology, and philosophy.
Instructor(s): M. Kokkori Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Permission of instructor required for registration.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 37800

ARTH 28212. Photography in Africa and African Diaspora. 100 Units.
From photography in the 19th century to the present, this course explores how and why photography became central to arguments about the modernity of African visual art and the roles it has played throughout the continent, the diaspora, and beyond. Moving from one regional focus to the next, students examine photography's roles in expedientary and ethnographic projects, identity formation, political activism, spirituality, documenting the landscape, and representing the fantastical and the everyday. This course will include visits to the Art Institute of Chicago among other area institutions.
Instructor(s): L. Wilson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 38212
This sequence is required of students majoring in Cinema and Media Studies. Taking these courses in sequence is strongly recommended but not required.

ARTH 28500. History of International Cinema I: Silent Era. 100 Units.
This course provides a survey of the history of cinema from its emergence in the mid-1890s to the transition to sound in the late 1920s. We will examine the cinema as a set of aesthetic, social, technological, national, cultural, and industrial practices as they were exercised and developed during this 30-year span. Especially important for our examination will be the exchange of film techniques, practices, and cultures in an international context. We will also pursue questions related to the historiography of the cinema, and examine early attempts to theorize and account for the cinema as an artistic and social phenomenon.
Instructor(s): A.Field Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Prior or concurrent registration in CMST 10100 required. Required of students majoring or minoring in Cinema and Media Studies.
Note(s): This is the first part of a two-quarter course.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 29300, ARTV 20002, CMST 28500, CMLT 32400, MAAD 18500, ENGL 48700, ARTH 38500, CMST 48500, CMLT 33600, CMST 48500, CMLT 22400

ARTH 28600. History of International Cinema II: Sound Era to 1960. 100 Units.
The center of this course is film style, from the classical scene breakdown to the introduction of deep focus, stylistic experimentation, and technical innovation (sound, wide screen, location shooting). The development of a film culture is also discussed. Texts include Thompson and Bordwell's Film History: An Introduction; and works by Bazin, Belton, Sitney, and Godard. Screenings include films by Hitchcock, Welles, Rossellini, Bresson, Ozu, Antonioni, and Renoir.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Prior or concurrent registration in CMST 10100 required. Required of students majoring or minoring in Cinema and Media Studies.
Note(s): CMST 28500/48500 strongly recommended
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 32500, CMST 28600, MAAD 18600, CMLT 22500, CMST 48600, REES 45005, MAPH 33700, ARTV 20003, REES 25005, ENGL 29600, ARTH 38600, ENGL 48900

ARTH 28702. Tales Retold? Modern & Contemporary Chinese Art. 100 Units.
Owing to its revolutionary transformations spanning the 20th and early 21st centuries, China offers a unique access point to exploring key issues in modern and contemporary art. Modern and contemporary artists from China and the Sinophone world have long confronted rather entrenched double-binds, crises of consciousness. We might consider this a double consciousness, on their part-consciousness of being artists in a globalizing context, on the one hand; of being political or national subjects, on the other. Organized thematically, this class will examine selections of artists, movements, and the discourses surrounding them, to unpack the mutual interrelation of key concepts, art and scholarly practices. Questions to be addressed include: How does art history and criticism currently deal with modern and contemporary Chinese art? How does the art world define this category of art practice; and vice versa, how do artists view the art world? Case studies will include artists practicing today as well as historical artists whose work has become a source for the present. While the class deals primarily with art in China, it will necessarily address the wider issues of globalization and the international institutional networks of contemporary art. Students will be encouraged to think broadly about comparative and inter-Asia relations, rather than dividing the globe into East and West.
Instructor(s): J. Lee Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 38702, EALC 38702, EALC 28702
ARTH 28705. Christian Iconography. 100 Units.
In Christian culture, visual images have for many centuries played a pivotal role in ritual, devotion, intellectual thought, and religious instruction. The most important aims of this course are that students understand images convey meaning in very unique ways and learn how to decode their visual messages. The study of iconography encompasses a variety of methods used to identify the subject matter of a pictorial image, describe its contents, and analyze its discursive strategies in view of its original cultural context. We will cover some of the most important themes visualized in the arts of Christianity by analyzing imagery spanning different periods, geographical regions, pictorial media, and artistic techniques. While special emphasis is placed on the intersections of art and literature, we will also examine pictorial themes that are independent of a specific textual basis. Alongside the study of Christian iconography, this course will address broader issues of visual inquiry, such as patronage, viewer response, emotions, and gender roles. In this course, students will acquire a ‘visual literacy’ that will enable them to explore all kinds of works of art fruitfully as primary sources in their own right.
Instructor(s): Karin Krause Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): P/Q: This course is open to all undergraduate students who are interested in the course topic. You certainly do not need to be an adherent of the Christian faith to take this course. However, a basic familiarity with some of the foundational texts of Christianity (esp. the Bible) and its main (Biblical) protagonists is not a disadvantage.
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28705, ARTH 38705

ARTH 28815. World's Fairs, 1851-1937: Chicago and Paris. 100 Units.
The great era of world's fairs (or universal expositions) lasted about ninety years. Although this golden age originated in London and took expression on every continent, two of its most significant hosts were Paris and Chicago. This course will examine the character and impact of expositions in these two cities, concentrating on Paris expositions held between 1855 and 1937 and the two Chicago fairs of 1893 and 1933. Particular attention will be given to the art, design, and architecture featured, stimulated, and sometimes ignored by the fairs. But technological, racial, political, institutional, and social themes will be examined as well. This colloquium is meant to encourage creation of research papers. It will meet once a week and there will be heavy reliance upon images at each session.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 28805

ARTH 29410. Dimensions of Citizenship: The Venice Architecture Biennale 2018. 100 Units.
In conjunction with the US pavilion at the 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale - co-commissioned by the University of Chicago and co-curated by Professor Niall Atkinson - this Gold Gorvy Traveling Seminar will explore the multiple relationships between architecture and citizenship both in contemporary practice and in historical perspective. The course will be centered around the pavilion's theme of architecture and citizenship at seven spatial scales: Citizen, Civic, Region, Nation, Globe, Network, Cosmos. Through these scales, students will engage critically with the works of participating artists, architects, and designers, works that address the spatial dimensions of belonging in contemporary society. Students will also explore the historical dimensions citizenship through Venice's complex history as a globally connected maritime empire that incorporated multiple linguistic, ethnic, and religious communities. Finally, the seminar will take account of the politics of national display at the root of the biennale itself and the relationship between historical and contemporary spatial experiences of citizenship and rights of abode, belonging and exile, migration and refuge, and the design of liminal spaces such as ships, ports of entry, quarantine centers, and ghettos as places of agonistic cultural exchange.
Instructor(s): N. Atkinson
Note(s): This is a traveling seminar; the course in its entirety will be taught Sept 4-25 in Venice. Registration is limited and by instructor consent only.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 39410

ARTH 29504. Art, Community, Activism. 100 Units.
there is no course description
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 39504

ARTH 29505. Objects of Japanese History. 100 Units.
The collections of Japanese objects held at the University of Chicago's Smart Museum, the Field Museum of Natural History, and the Art Institute of Chicago will be examined as case studies in museum studies, collection research, and, more specifically, in the interpretation of things "Japanese." Individual objects will be examined, not only for religious, aesthetic, cultural, and historical issues, but also for what they tell us of the collections themselves and the relation of these collections to museum studies per se. This year, in particular, we will examine the major exhibition of Floating World (Ukiyo) paintings held at the Art Institute.
Instructor(s): J. Ketelaar Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Several study trips will be made to the Smart Museum, the Field Museum of Natural History, and the Art Institute of Chicago during class time.
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 29504, HIST 24602
ARTH 29600. Junior Seminar: Doing Art History. 100 Units.
The aim of this seminar is to deepen an understanding of art history as a discipline and of the range of analytic strategies art history affords to students beginning to plan their honors papers or, in the case of students who are minoring in art history, writing research papers in art history courses. Students read essays that have shaped and represent the discipline, and test their wider applicability and limitations. Through this process, they develop a keener sense of the kinds of questions that most interest them in the history and criticism of art and visual culture. Students develop a formal topic proposal in a brief essay, and write a final paper analyzing one or two works of relevant, significant scholarship for their topics.
Instructor(s): M. Sullivan Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Required of third-year students who are majoring in art history; open to nonmajors with consent of instructor. This course does not meet the general education requirement in the arts.

ARTH 29700. Reading Course. 100 Units.
This course is primarily intended for students who are majoring in art history and who can best meet program requirements by study under a faculty member's individual supervision. The subject, course of study, and requirements are arranged with the instructor. Prerequisite(s): Consent of Instructor and Director of Undergraduate Studies Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Form. Must be taken for a quality grade. With adviser's approval, students who are majoring in art history may use this course to satisfy requirements for the major, a special field, or electives. This course is also open to nonmajors with advanced standing. This course does not meet the general education requirement in the arts.
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of Instructor and Director of Undergraduate Studies
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Form. Must be taken for a quality grade. With adviser's approval, students who are majoring in art history may use this course to satisfy requirements for the major, a special field, or electives. This course is also open to nonmajors with advanced standing. This course does not meet the general education requirement in the arts.

ARTH 29800. Senior Seminar: Writing Workshop. 100 Units.
Problems and methods in Art History. Required of fourth-year Art History majors who wish to pursue honors.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): This course does not meet the general education requirement in the arts.

ARTH 29900. Preparation for the BA Paper. 100 Units.
This course provides guided research on the topic of the senior paper. Students arrange their program of study and a schedule of meetings with their senior paper advisor.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn,Spring,Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Undergraduate Program Chair
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Form. May be taken for P/F grading with consent of instructor.
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Trajan.

Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.