

# HA3D3-30 Practices of Art History

**22/23**

**Department**

SCAPVC - History of Art

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Richenda Roberts

**Credit value**

30

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

This module will introduce students to the ways in which art history has developed as an academic discipline, illustrating the manifold ways in which it has been practiced by scholars from its beginnings in the 19th century to the present.

### Module aims

Students will become familiar with a range of approaches used to write the history of art. Students will read extracts from some of the most significant figures in the discipline and will gain a critical understanding of the ways in which theoretical premises and methodological processes have informed their approaches to works of art.

### Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Hegel and Art History

Connoisseurship

Wolfflin and Formalism

Panosfky and Iconology

The Social History of Art  
Feminism, Sex, Gender and Sexuality  
Post-colonialism  
Conceptions of the Artist and the Viewer

## Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Command a broad knowledge of the main theories of art and its history
- Apply theories to the interpretation of art and its history
- Understand the ways in which the interpretation of works of art is determined by theory and method.
- Initiate and sustain group discussion through intelligent questioning and debate at an appropriate level
- Ability to undertake research and to write up the results in the form of a well-structured argument at an appropriate level
- Familiarity with essential ICT skills
- Ability to collaborate effectively with others
- Show understanding of diverse viewpoints
- Ability to find, select, organize and synthesize evidence
- Ability to formulate a sustained argument
- Think conceptually and independently at an appropriate level
- Sophisticated textual analysis
- Bibliographical skills at an appropriate level
- Critical analysis of historical ideas in their context

## Indicative reading list

Bryson/Holly/Moxey, Visual Theory: Painting and Interpretation (Polity, 1991).  
Bryson/Holly/Moxey, Visual Culture: Images and Interpretations (Weslyan University Press, 1994).  
Cheetham, M, Subjects of Art History: Historical Objects in Contemporary Perspectives (CUP, 1998).  
Edwards, S, Art and its Histories: a Reader (Yale University Press, 1999).  
Ferney, E, Art History and its Methods (London, Phaidon, 1995).  
Frascina/Harrison, Modern Art and Modernism: a Critical Anthology (Harper & Row, 1982).  
Gombrich, E H, Ideals and Idols (Phaidon, 1979).  
Harrison/Wood, Art in Theory 1648-1815; Art in Theory 1815-1900; Art in Theory 1900-1990,(Blackwell, 2000, 1998, and 1997).  
Harrison, C/Orton, F, Modernism, Criticism, Realism (Harper & Row, 1984).  
Hatt/ Klonk, Art History: An Introduction to Its Methods (Manchester, 2004).  
Mirzoeff, N, The Visual Culture Reader (Routledge, 1998)  
Nelson, R/Shiff, R, Critical Terms for Art History (Chicago, 1996).  
Podro, Michael, The Critical Historians of Art (Yale University Press, 1982).  
Preziosi, D, The Art of Art History: a Critical Anthology (OUP, 1998)

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

## Subject specific skills

- Command a broad knowledge of the main theories of art and its history
- Apply theories to the interpretation of art and its history
- Understand the ways in which the interpretation of works of art is determined by theory and method.
- sophisticated textual analysis
- critical analysis of historical ideas in their context

## Transferable skills

- initiate and sustain group discussion through intelligent questioning and debate at an appropriate level
  - ability to undertake research and to write up the results in the form of a well-structured argument at an appropriate level
  - familiarity with essential ICT skills
  - ability to collaborate effectively with others
  - Show understanding of diverse viewpoints
  - ability to find, select, organize and synthesize evidence
  - ability to formulate a sustained argument
  - think conceptually and independently at an appropriate level
  - bibliographical skills at an appropriate level
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## Study

### Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	7 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Seminars	7 sessions of 2 hours (5%)
Tutorials	3 sessions of 2 hours (2%)
Project supervision	1 session of 1 hour (0%)
Private study	272 hours (91%)
Total	300 hours

### Private study description

Required and recommended reading for seminars, research for presentation, research for written assessments.

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

### Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
1,000 Reflective Writing	20%	
Reflective writing on approach to dissertation		
Engagement	10%	
1,500 Word Analysis of an Artwork	30%	
Analysis of an Artwork		
2,500 Critical Comparison	40%	
Critical comparison of a pair of articles		

### Feedback on assessment

Written feedback and dedicated feedback tutorials.

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## Availability

### Pre-requisites

n/a

## Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 3 of UHAA-V401 Undergraduate History of Art