

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate

Resolution to Recommend Art History and Museum Studies BA Program
02-23/24-ICC October 24, 2023 - Curriculum Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends to the Provost that the Art History and Museum Studies BA program detailed in proposal [22-2136](#) be approved.

RATIONALE: The Art History and Museum Studies BA program is an elevation of the current Art History and Museum Studies concentration within the Art BA. The Art History and Museum Studies major gives students an opportunity to study the visual culture of the world, from prehistoric cave paintings to works being produced by artists active today. Majors learn about works of art and about the different geographies, histories, social and political contexts and cultural traditions that informed their making. Our program is particularly strong in the study of art from the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Latin America, United States, 20th and 21st centuries.

The art history curriculum focuses on the analysis and interpretation of art, with a particular emphasis on developing critical thinking and writing skills. Lower division courses take broad views of particular movements and periods while upper division classes examine issues and themes in greater depth. In the major capstone course, students conduct advanced art historical research and craft a scholarly research paper.

Students take classes in studio art and language to learn about the creation of art and how language and culture influence the creative act. They study the history and theory of museums as well the function of museums within contemporary culture, and gain hands-on experience in museum practices.

Bachelors of Art in Art History and Museum Studies Program Learning Outcomes

1. Distinguish and comprehend diverse forms of visual culture in their aesthetic, historical and cultural contexts using discipline-specific terminology
2. Develop effective oral and written art historical arguments using established art historical methodologies and supported
3. Understand the impact of visual art and arts institutions in addressing ethical issues, implementing positive social change and promoting equity and inclusion.
4. Apply art historical and museological skills and knowledge toward professional practices in museums, galleries and arts

Bachelors of Art in Art History and Museum Studies Program Curriculum

Lower Division

- ART 103A - Prehistoric to Medieval Art **Units: 3**
- ART 103B - Renaissance to Contemporary Art **Units: 3**

Complete one course (**3 units**) from the following list:

- ART 104B - Ancient Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104C - Medieval Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104F - Renaissance Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104G - Baroque Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104H - 19th Century Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104I - 20th Century Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104J - American Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104K - Africa, Oceania, the Americas **Units: 3**
- ART 104M - Latin American Art **Units: 3**
- ART 104N - Asian Art **Units: 3**

Complete two courses (**6 units**) from the following list:

- ART 105B - Fundamentals of Drawing
- ART 105C - 2D Foundations
- ART 105D - 3D Foundations
- ART 106 - Painting I
- ART 107 - Printmaking I
- ART 108 - Graphic Design I
- ART 109 - Sculpture I
- ART 112 - Scientific Drawing I
- ART 122 - Life Drawing I
- ART 250 - Darkroom Photography
- ART 251 - Photography I
- ART 273 - Illustration I
- ART 282 - Jewelry/Small Metals I
- ART 290 - Ceramics I

Language

- Complete one year (**8 units**) of a language other than English at the college level (French, German, and Spanish are recommended).

Upper Division

- ART 305 - Museums and the Politics of Display **Units: 3**
- ART 356 - Museum and Gallery Practices **Units: 3**
- ART 482 - Museum and Gallery Practices Internship **Units: 3**

- ART 410W - Art History Seminar **Units: 4**

Complete **12 units** from the following list:

- ART 301 - Topics in Western Art History **Units: 3**
- ART 301M - Topics in Western Art History Depth Experience **Units: 1**
- ART 302 - Topics in Global Art History **Units: 3**
- ART 302M - Topics in Global Art History Depth Experience **Units: 1**
- ART 303 - Global Contemporary Art **Units: 3**
- ART 303M - Global Contemporary Art Depth Experience **Units: 1**
- ART 304 - Topics in American Art **Units: 3**
- ART 304M - Topics in America Art Depth Experience **Units: 1**
- ART 354 - Problems in Art History **Units: 1-4**

48 units total