ART AND ART HISTORY

The Department of Art and Art History is an innovative, laboratory program focused on the practice and practice of art. Courses in a variety of subject media and historical periods inspire students to consider and create art within a social, cultural, religious, aesthetic, and technological context. The catalyst of both interrelated fields is the diverse history of art and its status in contemporary society. The departmental faculty encourages students to embrace the liberal arts tradition with respect to critical thinking, self-discovery, and personal expression, while the college’s Catholic and Lasallian traditions help to deepen and broaden the student’s engagement with art.

The coursework in the practice of art ranges in approach from traditional studio work to digital, new media, and other contemporary practices. The department’s instruction in art practice integrates technical fundamentals and conceptualization, creative experimentation and critical thinking, personal expression and social responsibility. Students learn to engage in discussion and group-critiques as part of their professional preparation and as an integral way of participating in and benefiting from a community of shared inquiry. The coursework in the history of art, presented alongside courses in archeology, anthropology, religious studies and modern languages, presents the rich tradition of art in the western world, while also inviting students to experience the artistic production of many other cultures.

A degree from the Department of Art and Art History has provided alumni with an appreciation of visual art as a way of knowing. Through personalized advising, the department prepares students to further their studies at the graduate level in curatorial studies, studio art, history of art, digital filmmaking, graphic design, and other related fields.

The department offers two majors:

Bachelor of Arts: Art Practice
Bachelor of Arts: History of Art

Both Art Practice and History of Art majors undertake an inclusive series of lower-division courses in the history and practice of art. These courses are intended to give a general overview of the variety and breadth of artistic media and practices.

Art practice majors can select from courses at the upper-division level in a variety of art practices including painting, film/video, design, drawing, photography, sculpture, and new media. These upper-division classes, while allowing for further individual exploration, place higher standards on the conceptualization and execution of the student’s artistic production. In their senior year, Art Practice majors mount a solo exhibition of a coherent body of work for the thesis project under the supervision of a department faculty member. On the upper-division level, History of Art students are required to take courses that consider the history of art in its specific social, cultural, religious, and aesthetic context. In so doing, students gain a clear understanding of the role of art as way of telling the human story. They are also encouraged to acquire one or two foreign languages that would prepare them for graduate-level research.

Acknowledging the importance of direct contact with diverse artistic practices, students in both majors are encouraged to study abroad through the college’s many art-focused travel programs.

ART PRACTICE FACULTY

Peter Freund, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Art Practice
Digital Media, Experimental Film/Video, Critical Theory

Roy Schmalz, M.F.A., Professor, Art Practice
Drawing, Painting

Ana Fernandez, M.F.A., Lecturer, Art Practice
Painting, Drawing, Sculpture

Jennifer Locke, M.F.A., Lecturer, Art Practice
Drawing, Sculpture

Whitney Lynn, M.F.A., Lecturer, Art Practice
Design, Sculpture
HISTORY OF ART FACULTY

Anna Novakov, Ph.D., Professor, History of Art, Chair
   Art of the 19th and 20th Century, History of Architecture, Women’s Studies
Ellen Huang, Ph.D., Lecturer, History of Art
   Asian Art History and Non-Western Art History
Affiliated History of Art Faculty:
Costanza Dopfel, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Modern Languages
   Medieval and Renaissance Art History
Lynn Meisch, Ph.D., Professor of Anthropology
   Pre-Columbian Art History and Textiles
Thomas Poundstone, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies
   Christian Art and Baroque Art
Cynthia Van Gilder, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Anthropology
   Archeology and Art of the Pacific and the Americas

Art and Art History Department Learning Outcomes

Art Practice Learning Outcomes

When they have completed the program of study with an art practice emphasis, students should be able to:

- Mount a cohesive exhibition of their artwork and produce a comprehensive thesis document discussing the ideas, techniques, and influences in their artwork.
- Conduct independent research in the art discipline and beyond to provide critical contextualization for their own art production and development as an artist.
- Demonstrate an understanding of and facility for the use and application of several different media, especially that of their preferred medium.
- Articulate their artwork’s content and intention and visually manifest those ideas.
- Develop an ability for objective self-critique and demonstrate an understanding of their place within a larger art historical context.
- Evaluate clearly different forms of art by other artists through research and conceptualization of core art and critical sources and through class writings and discussions.
- Demonstrate a foundational knowledge of contemporary and historic artists, particularly those working in their preferred medium.

These outcomes are evidenced by the student’s research and writings on art and during critiques and class discussions.

History of Art Learning Outcomes

When they have completed the program of study with an art history emphasis, students should be able to:

- Complete a senior thesis — an in-depth study of one or more works of art in the permanent collection of the Hearst Art Gallery.
- Acknowledge and be able to discuss the diverse history of art and its status within a social, cultural, religious, and aesthetic context.
- Understand the role that art has played and can play in encouraging positive social change.
- Demonstrate a foundational knowledge of facts and accepted art historical terminology through the successful application of art historical terminology and factual information to critical discussions.
- Engage in oral and written work, the similarities and differences between works of art from different periods and cultures including how people’s lives throughout history have been influenced by visual art production.
• Identify a variety of art historical methodologies that include the use of biography, stylistic analysis, iconography, social history, and feminism.

**Art Practice: Major Requirements (14.5 courses total)**

**Lower Division (6 courses)**

ART 1 Studio Foundations 1: Drawing, Painting, Photography  
ART 3 Basic Design  
ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, and Sound  
ART 80 Art Theory  
AH 1 Survey of World Art: Europe and the United States  
(or AH 2 Survey of World Art: Africa, Asia and the Americas)

• *And a choice of one lower-division courses:*

ART 2 Studio Foundations 2: Sculpture and Installation  
ART 4 Basic Photography  
ART 65 Digital Foundations 2: Web Design and Interactive Art

**Upper Division (8.5 courses)**

ART 195 Gallery Exhibitions (.25 CR)*  
ART 196 Senior Thesis Project*  
ART 198 Senior Portfolio in Art Practice (.25 CR)*

*NOTE: Students entering Saint Mary's College prior to academic year 2011/12 may substitute Art 199 for Art 195, 196 and 198.*

• *And a choice of seven upper-division courses:*

ART 101 Advanced Drawing  
ART 102 Advanced Painting  
ART 103 Advanced Sculpture  
ART 104 Advanced Photography  
ART 155 Experimental Film/Video  
ART 165 Experimental Interactive Media  
ART 180 Seminar in Art Theory & Practice  
ART 194 Special Topics in Art  
AH 117 Art Criticism, 1900 to the Present  
AH 118 Art since 1930  
AH 193 Museum Internship Project

**Art Practice: Minor Requirements (8.5 courses total)**

**Lower Division (3 courses)**

ART 1 Studio Foundations 1: Drawing, Painting, Photography  
ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, and Sound

• *And a choice of one lower-division course:*

ART 2 Studio Foundations 2: Sculpture and Installation  
ART 3 Basic Design  
ART 4 Basic Photography  
ART 65 Digital Foundations 2: Web Design and Interactive Art  
ART 80 Art Theory  
AH 1 Survey of World Art: Europe and the United States  
AH 2 Survey of World Art: Africa, Asia and the Americas
Upper Division (5.5 courses)

ART 195 Gallery Exhibitions (.25 CR)*
ART 198 Senior Portfolio in Art Practice (.25 CR)*

*NOTE: Students entering Saint Mary's College prior to academic year 2011/12 may substitute Art 199 for Art 195, 196 and 198.

• And a choice of five upper-division courses:
  ART 101 Advanced Drawing
  ART 102 Advanced Painting
  ART 103 Advanced Sculpture
  ART 104 Advanced Photography
  ART 155 Experimental Film/Video
  ART 165 Experimental Interactive Media
  ART 180 Seminar in Art Theory & Practice
  ART 194 Special Topics in Art
  AH 117 Art Criticism, 1900 to the Present
  AH 193 Museum Internship Project

Art Practice: Split Major

Split majors between Art Practice and other disciplines are available by arrangement. For more information, please email Professor Peter Freund: pjf2@stmarys-ca.edu.

History of Art: Major Requirements

Lower Division

AH 1 Survey of World Art, Europe and the United States
AH 2 Survey of World Art, Africa, Asia and the Americas
ANTH 5: Introduction to Archeology

And a choice of three lower-division courses:

ART 1 Studio Foundations 1: Drawing, Painting, Photography
ART 2 Studio Foundations 2: Sculpture and Installation
ART 3 Basic Design
ART 4 Basic Photography
ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, and Sound
ART 65 Digital Foundations 2: Web Design and Interactive Art
ART 80 Art Theory

Upper Division

AH 199 Senior Special Study

And a choice of four upper-division courses

AH 144 Issues in the Art of Asia, Africa and the Americas
AH 145 Issues in European Art
AH 165 Issues in American Art
AH 166 Issues in Twentieth-Century Art
AH 193 Museum Internship Project
AH 194 Special Topics in Art History
AH 197 Independent Study Project
ART 180 Seminar in Art Theory & Practice
And a choice of three upper-division affiliated courses:

ANTH 127 Historical Archeology: Material Culture and Ethnicity
ANTH 129 Ancient Civilizations
ML 126 Film
ML 186 Culture and Civilization in Italy
TRS 160 Topics in Religion and Culture (only when pre-approved)
TRS 167 Seeing Salvation: Christian Art and Architecture

History of Art: Minor Requirements

Lower Division

AH 1 Survey of World Art, Europe and the United States
AH 2 Survey of World Art, Africa, Asia and the Americas
ANTH 5 Introduction to Archeology

A choice of one lower-division course:

ART 1 Studio Foundations 1: Drawing, Painting, Photography
ART 2 Studio Foundations 2: Sculpture and Installation
ART 3 Basic Design
ART 4 Basic Photography
ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, and Sound
ART 65 Digital Foundations 2: Web Design and Interactive Art
ART 80 Art Theory

And a choice of three upper-division courses:

AH 117 Art Criticism, 1900 to the present
AH 118 Art since 1930
AH 144 Issues in the Art of Asia, Africa and the Americas
AH 145 Issues in European Art
AH 165 Issues in American Art
AH 166 Issues in Twentieth-Century Art
AH 194 Special Topics in Art History
ART 180 Seminar in Art Theory & Practice

History of Art: Split Major Agreements

History of Art and Italian Studies, History of Art and Archeology. Other split majors are available by arrangement. For more information, please email Department Chair Anna Novakov at:
anovakov@stmarys-ca.edu

COURSES

Art Practice

Lower Division

ART 1 Studio Foundations 1: Drawing, Painting, Photography
This course introduces beginning students to basic two-dimensional art forms such as drawing, painting, collage, and digital photography. In order to explore essential characteristics of visual expression, the class examines basic two-dimensional (2d) design elements and techniques as well as the psychological implications of creative composition in relation to various media. The class functions
as a laboratory for experimentation with multi-media work, collaboration, and documentation and includes drawing from live figures and local landscapes. Fee $60. *Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

ART 2 Studio Foundations 2: Sculpture, Installation, Performance
This course is an introduction to three-dimensional art forms including sculpture, installation, and performance. Assignments include the use of classical materials such as clay and plaster, as well as found objects, public interventions, and 2d/4d methods. Presentations of various artists’ work and assigned readings provide a springboard for discussion of theory, practical application, and critical thinking, in both historical and contemporary terms. Students are encouraged to apply this material to their own work, with a focus on process rather than results. Fee $60. *Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

ART 3 Basic Design
This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of design underlying a wide variety of visual art forms. Topics will include composition, design principles, layout, color and light theory, and typography as applied to two-dimensional formats. Techniques will be contextualized by relevant discussions of psychology and politics, rooted in the study of representative examples and project work. Fee $60. *Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

ART 4 Basic Photography
This course provides an introduction to the art of digital photography, production techniques and theory. Students will study the expressive power of light, composition, contrast, depth, angles, patterns, texture, and subject matter. Technical skills will include digital input from scanning (flatbed & slide/negative), digital cameras, video and internet sources; and output to digital printing systems. Computer assisted manipulation of imagery will be explored for correction and abstraction. Fee $60. *Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, and Sound
This introductory course investigates the digital editing tools, processes, and concepts through which digital technology extends traditional 2d and time-based art practices. Students will develop digital imaging, video, and sound projects using Adobe Photoshop and Apple Final Cut Suite. The course will combine extensive software demonstrations, hands-on exercises, theoretical and technical readings, discussion of a broad range of examples of media art, and group critiques. Fee $100. *Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

ART 65 Digital Foundations 2: Web Design and Interactive Art
This course introduces the digital editing tools, processes, and concepts of web design and interactive art. Students will study web layout and interface design principles, color theory, typography, information architecture, and other topics that will prepare them to produce compelling website design. The theory of interactive design and new media will help contextualize student work and broaden the creative possibilities for the use of interactive structures for the purposes of artistic expression. Students will develop projects using Adobe Creative Suite software. Fee $60. *Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

ART 80 Art Theory
This course introduces students to the conceptual terrain of 20th & 21st century critical theory and its relationship to artistic practice. The class will proceed via seminar format based on close readings of seminal texts and will traverse a broad array of interdisciplinary topics and critical approaches ranging from psychoanalysis and philosophy to anthropology and political economy. Assignments will include research and creative projects. Students majoring in art as well as other fields are equally encouraged to enroll. Fee $60. *Satisfies Area A requirement.

ART 90 Special Topics in Art Practice
An introduction to art practice. The medium and materials vary from semester to semester and may include photography, photjournalism, video, installation art, site-specific and public projects, digital media, textiles, soft sculpture. Student assessment and evaluation is accomplished through group critiques, class discussions, peer and self-evaluations, short writings on art, and sketchbook and portfolio reviews. This class is open to all interested students without prerequisite, though prior
completion of at least one lower-division studio class is recommended. May be repeated for credit as content varies.

**Upper Division**

**ART 101 Advanced Drawing**  
Since the Renaissance, artists have looked for ways to depict the world around them in a more realistic way. In this century, some artists have sought another kind of artistic clarity, reaching into the subconscious to explore an uncharted, inner world. If drawing is visual thought, this course aims to expand thinking through the study and application of many graphic methods such as frottage, transfer, automatism, blind drawing, and collaboration and chance procedures. Fee $60  
Prereq: Art 1: Studio Foundations 1  
*Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

**ART 102 Advanced Painting**  
Continuing study of painting methods in a variety of traditional and nontraditional materials and techniques. This course challenges students’ comfort with their craft and emphasizes the development of personal issues in their work. To gain a better understanding of the state of the contemporary art scene, students are encouraged to keep current through readings, attending art lectures and exhibitions. During class, there will be slide presentations, museum and gallery visits, and critiques as necessary. Fee $60  
Prereq: Art 1: Studio Foundations 1  
*Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

**ART 103 Advanced Sculpture**  
Since the use of collage in paintings by Pablo Picasso, and the revelation of “readymade” art objects by Marcel Duchamp, artists have been free to select and use almost anything as an art material. This course is for advanced students who want to expand their knowledge and application of nontraditional materials toward more complex and poetic expression. We explore a variety of permanent and ephemeral materials and methods. The emphasis will be on determining the appropriate material needed to reinforce the concept of the work and on problem-solving the use of that material. Fee $60.  
Prereq: Art 2: Studio Foundations 2  
*Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

**ART 104 Advanced Photography**  
Continuing study of digital photography production and post-production. This course supports the advanced photography student in conceptualizing and developing their own artistic voice through series production and experimentation. Student will explore studio and field practices, digital printing, and exhibition formatting. Fee $60.  
Prereq: Art 1: Studio Foundations 1 or Art 4: Basic Photography  
*Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

**ART 155 Experimental Film/Video**  
This course investigates experimental film and video production using digital and traditional tools. Student projects will explore a variety of nonlinear modes of film/video production, such as oscillating, looping, recombinant, and remediated structures, as well as a variety of input and sourcing methods ranging from current and antiquated video camera technologies to internet archives and found footage resources. Students will use digital editing software to expressively assemble and manipulate their materials into finished results. Readings and representative examples from the rich history of experimental film and video will help students contextualize their own work. Fee $100.  
Prereq: Art 55: Digital Foundations 1  
*Does not satisfy an Area requirement.

**ART 165 Experimental Interactive Media**  
As traditional web design utilizes interactivity in its merely pragmatic navigational function, students in this course will design and produce experimental web-based interfaces and architectures in which the interactive components become the focus of artistic and poetic expression. Theories of new media and net art will provide critical context for project work. Students will work individually and collaboratively while producing projects designed for internet as well as installation formats. Fee $60.  
Prereq: Art 65: Digital Foundations 2  
*Does not satisfy an Area requirement.
ART 180 **Seminar in Art Theory & Practice**
Advanced study in critical theory and its relation to art practice. Variable topics may include psychoanalysis, semiotics, post-structuralism, cultural studies, Frankfurt School, to name a few. Assignments will integrate critical and creative process as a form of artistic "praxis."
The course may be repeated for credit as topics vary. Fee $60.
*Prereq: Art 80: Art Theory.*
*Satisfies Area A requirement.*

ART 193 **Special Study: Internship**
Work-practice program conducted in an appropriate art-related internship position. Normally open to junior and senior art practice majors. Permission of instructor and departmental chair required.
*Course may be repeated for credit.*

ART 194 **Special Topics in Art**
The topic of this course varies from semester to semester. Each course focuses on a different area of study within art history. Special emphasis is placed on the history of non-European art. May be repeated for credit as content varies. Fee $60.

ART 195 **Gallery Exhibitions** (.25 CR)
This course provides direct experience in gallery curation and installation. Under faculty supervision, students in this course manage the exhibitions in the student art gallery, Gallery 160 and the online Liquid Gallery.

ART 196 **Senior Thesis Project**
As a capstone to their studies, seniors in art practice are required to work independently with a departmental faculty member in order to complete a thesis project, typically an exhibition of a coherent body of original artwork. This course is limited to seniors in the major.
Permission of the faculty member and department chair required.

ART 197 **Independent Study**
An independent study for students whose needs are not met by the regular course offerings of the department. Permission of the faculty member and department chair required.

ART 198 **Senior Portfolio** (.25 CR)
The capstone assessment course allows students to track the development of their major or minor. Art practice requires as part of this assessment measure that all majors and minors submit a portfolio of artwork and writings at the end of their SMC career. This portfolio includes a listing of their completed coursework in the discipline, representative samples of their artwork, assessment of field experiences (exhibits, internships, curation), an artist statement, samples of other relevant art-related writings and a self-evaluative essay. Fee $60.

ART 199 **Special Study: Honors**
Directed project under the supervision of a department faculty member, culminating in the production of an honors-level art project. Permission of the faculty member and department chair required.

**History of Art**

**Lower Division**

**History of Art**
**AH 1 Survey of World Art: Europe and the United States**
This course, intended for beginning students in any major, examines the evolution of art in Europe and the United States, from the prehistory until the twentieth century. The course offers students a general introduction to the history and methodology of art history in the west.
Fee $20.
AH 2 Survey of World Art: Africa, Asia and the Americas
This course, intended for beginning students in any major, examines the evolution of art in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. The course offers students a general introduction to the history and methodology of art history in non-western countries. Fee $20.

Upper Division

AH 144 Issues in the Art of Asia, Africa and the Americas
This course, for students who have taken at least one art history course, examines a variety of topics within the history of art in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Central and South America. This course provides students with a focused study of a specific movement or time period of art within the history of art. Topics include: Self-Portraiture across Cultures and The Art of the Sacred. Fee $20.

AH 145 Issues in European Art
This course, for students who have taken at least one art history course, examines a variety of topics within the history of European art. This course provides students with a focused study of a specific movement or time period of art within the history of European art. Topics include: Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Art. Fee $20.

AH 165 Issues in American Art
This course, for students who have taken at least one art history course, examines a variety of topics within the history of art in the United States. This course provides students with a focused study of a specific movement or time period of art within the history of American art. Topics include: Politics and the American Artistic Landscape and Popular Culture and the American Imagination. Fee $20.

AH 166 Issues in Twentieth-Century Art
This course, for students who have taken at least one art history course, examines the history of avant-garde art movements in the 20th century. This course provides students with a focused study of specific types of innovative, modern art. Topics include: Art and Social Change and Art between the Wars. Fee $20.

AH 194 Special Topics in Art History
This course, intended primarily for departmental majors and minors, examines a specific research topic in depth. This course provides students with a focused study of a theme within the history of art. Topics include: The History of Women Artists and Art of the 19th Century. Fee $20.

Upper Division

Theory and Criticism

AH 111 Philosophy of New Media Art
This course examines the historical, philosophical, and socio-political basis of contemporary new media art. We read theoretical and historical statements that articulate the concepts driving new media art production, coupled with studying examples of representative work, including photography, experimental film and video, installation and net art. Project assignments integrate a critical and creative exploration of concepts. Fee $20.

AH 117 Art Criticism, 1900 – the Present
This course is an exploration of the history of critical writing about art. A broad sampling of 20th-century texts from art historians, critics, philosophers, social scientists, and artists are brought together for discussion and reflection. Fee $20.

AH 118 Art since 1930
This course focuses on the major stylistic movements in Europe and the United States from the Great Depression to the Digital Age. Topics covered include existentialism, the Beat Generation, pop art, politics
and postmodernism, and art in cyberspace. Students are encouraged to
develop an understanding of the trends and debates in contemporary
art. Fee $20.

AH 193 Special Study: Museum Internship
Work-practice program conducted in an appropriate museum internship
position. Normally open to junior and senior art and art history majors.
Permission of instructor and departmental chair required.

AH 196 Senior Special Study
As a capstone to their studies, seniors in art history are
required to work independently with a departmental faculty member in
order to complete a thesis that displays their ability to think,
read, and write about art as well as create works of art which express their
own beliefs and interests. This course is limited to seniors in the major.
Permission of the faculty member and department chair required.

AH 197 Special Study: Independent Study
An independent study or research course for students whose needs are
not met by the regular course offerings of the department. Permission of
the faculty member and department chair required.

AH 199 Special Study: Honors
Directed project under the supervision of a department faculty member, culminating in the production
of an honors-level art project. Permission of the faculty member and department chair required.
Directed research under the supervision of a department faculty member, culminating in the writing of
an academic thesis.