

## Art History and Criticism

**Chairperson**

John Lutterbie, Staller Center 2221 (631) 632-7260

**M.A./Ph.D. Graduate Program Director**

Michele Bogart, Staller Center 4217 (631) 632-7270

**Graduate Secretary**

Lisa Perez, Staller Center 2228 (631) 632-7270

**Degrees Awarded**

M.A. in Art History and Criticism; Ph.D. in Art History and Criticism

## Art History and Criticism Department

The Department of Art's master's and doctoral program in art history and criticism occupy a unique position among graduate programs in art studies. The department's programs have been built with a strong emphasis on modern art and contemporary visual culture, comprising a range of critical, theoretical, and interdisciplinary interests. Rather than being isolated at a special or autonomous art institute or school, these programs have all the advantages associated with the intellectual environment of a major research university. Students have the opportunity to explore other fields in addition to art history and criticism, and may elect to complete one or more advanced graduate certificate programs in Cultural Studies, Women's Studies, and Art and Philosophy among others.

Because of the Art Department's extensive undergraduate programs, Stony Brook is the only major university in the New York metropolitan area to offer teaching experience to first- and/or second-year graduate students. Such experience is an invaluable asset in today's job market.

Graduate studies are facilitated by Stony Brook's ideal location half-way between the art centers of New York City and the Hamptons, along the beautifully wooded North Shore of Long Island. Classes, lectures, and conferences are also offered at the newly-opened Stony Brook Manhattan facility, at the Pollock-Krasner House in East Hampton, administered under the auspices of the Art Department and the Stony Brook Foundation, and at the Pollock-Krasner Study Center at Stony Brook Southampton. All curricula are designed to take advantage of the full range of museums, galleries and libraries of the metropolitan region as well as the facilities of a major research university campus. Thanks to the well-established ties of Stony Brook faculty to the professional art world, our students are regularly placed in internship and apprenticeship programs with artists, galleries, museums, arts agencies and other cultural institutions throughout the metropolitan area. Art history students also have the opportunity to gain valuable experience as managing and business editors for the respected semi-annual journal, *Art Criticism*, published by the Department under the editorship of Donald Kuspit.

## Degree Programs

**M.A. in Art History and Criticism**

The M.A. in Art History and Criticism is a two year 36-credit degree program that offers an integrated curriculum of art history, criticism, and theory with a particular focus on modern and contemporary art and visual culture. It presents the graduate student a unique opportunity for innovative study in art criticism and theory, as well as traditional study in art history. The goals of the program include the development of the critic or historian who can combine the various fields of art historical study with a critical consciousness and awareness of larger intellectual issues involved in such work. For example, seminars are offered on the history of art criticism; the development of alternative perspectives on art; the development of practicing art critics; and the interdisciplinary study of modern and contemporary art, among others. The program culminates in the preparation of a written thesis. Part-time study is allowed in this degree program. The M.A. in Art History and Criticism can be considered appropriate preparation for Ph.D. degrees in art history or other fields. Students also move on to careers in arts education, or gallery and museum work.

**Ph.D. in Art History and Criticism**

Stony Brook's Ph.D. program in art history and criticism is designed to encourage students to apply what they have learned at the master's level towards more intense and individual research. It is organized to allow students to further their areas of study by concentrating on major and minor fields that are a function of the individual interests of the student and the strengths of our faculty. The emphasis of the program is on integrating research and analysis into a single curriculum with a particular focus on art criticism and theory and an interdisciplinary approach to modern and contemporary art and visual culture. The program culminates in the oral defense of a substantial written dissertation on an original topic. Students are not accepted into the Ph.D. program on a part-time basis. This degree is considered essential for those intending to engage in advanced academic research, teaching, and publishing in the field of art history and criticism, and may provide a significant advantage to those entering the professional art world of museums and galleries.

Advanced Graduate Certificate (AGC) in Art and Philosophy (ArtPHIL)

[For information of this advanced certificate program](#)

Admission to the M.A. and Ph.D. Programs in Art History and Criticism

In addition to the requirements of the Graduate School, the following information and prerequisites should be noted:

Admission for full-time study may be for either the Fall or Spring semester, though the former is advisable, both for financial awards (at the Ph.D. level) and for organizing the course of study. Part-time study is permissible for qualified M.A. candidates only. Admission into the M.A. and Ph.D. programs is at the discretion of the art history and criticism faculty with the final approval of the Graduate School. Admission to the

program assumes a minimum of a B average in undergraduate work, meeting the standards of admission to the Graduate School, and taking the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test, as required for all applicants to the Graduate School. The minimum TOEFL score for admission is 550 (paper), or 213 (computer), or 90 (internet-based test); OR an IELTS total score of 6.5. In order to teach, any graduate student whose native language is not English must score 55 or above on the TSE or SPEAK test OR obtain a score of 7.0 or better in the speaking component of the IELTS test. The website for ETS (TOEFL & GRE) is [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org).

It is recognized that M.A. and Ph.D. applicants may come from a wide variety of backgrounds that will require individual structuring of their programs to suit their needs. Applicants will ordinarily have a bachelor's degree with an art history major or minor; however, this requirement may be waived at the discretion of the graduate faculty. Those without a demonstrated background in art history may be advised to take undergraduate courses in the department prior to admission to the program. All applicants are encouraged to submit a sample of written work with their application.

#### Facilities of Art History and Criticism Department

Since 1976, the Department of Art has enjoyed the resources of the Staller Center for the Arts. This 226,026-square-foot building includes the Departments of Art, Music, and Theatre and is a vibrant hub of lectures, concerts, performances, and other cultural activities. The complex includes faculty and staff offices, art history classrooms, and a graduate lounge. The first floor of the Art wing features a magnificent art gallery space devoted primarily to exhibitions of contemporary art, including the annual M.F.A. show. In addition, the department has substantial graduate studio space available at other locations on campus. Studio facilities in the Staller Center include full foundry, metals, and wood shops; a ceramics and ceramic sculpture studio; spacious painting, drawing, and studio classrooms; printmaking studios with etching, stone lithography and photo plate making and screen printing facilities; extensive digital facilities; and a shooting studio with gang and individual darkrooms. The Visual Resources Library offers an extensive slide and digital image collection to support the teaching and research needs of the department, videos and print journals, as well as computer equipment for the ongoing development of a database and digital imaging capacity. Art history classrooms are equipped with slide projectors and data projectors. The main library houses extensive collections of scholarship on the arts, including recent exhibition catalogues and the most important art history and criticism journals. Proximity to New York City makes available the numerous libraries, museums, galleries, ateliers, and publishing institutions of the greater metropolitan area. Classes, lectures, and conferences are also now offered at Stony Brook's Manhattan facility, conveniently located at 28th Street and Park Avenue South, and easy to reach by bus, train, and subway. Finally, the Pollock-Krasner House and the Pollock-Krasner Study Center, in East Hampton and Southampton, Long Island, are affiliated with the University. Once the home and studio of Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner, the Pollock-Krasner House is now a both a landmark museum and a forum for lectures, seminars, and other academic activities. The Study Center comprises extensive reference materials and archives, including books, photographs, oral histories, and journals available for research.

#### Requirements for the M.A. Degree in Art History and Criticism

##### A. Course Requirements

The student will be required to complete successfully 36 credits of graduate work, as outlined in the list of courses below. A student must achieve a 3.0 overall grade point average to receive a degree from Stony Brook.

##### 1. Required Courses (6 credits)

ARH 540 Methodologies of Art History (3 credits)

ARH 592 Teaching Practicum (3 credits)

##### 2. Art History and Criticism Electives (15-21 credits)

ARH 501 Theory and Criticism: From Antiquity through the Renaissance (3 credits)

ARH 502 History of 19th Century Art Criticism and Theory (3 credits)

ARH 503 History of 20th Century Art Criticism and Theory (3 credits)

ARH 541 Topics in Ancient Art (3 credits)

ARH 542 Topics in Medieval Art (3 credits)

ARH 543 Topics in Renaissance Art (3 credits)

ARH 544 Topics in Early Modern Art (3 credits)

ARH 545 Topics in 19th-Century Art (3 credits)

ARH 546 Topics in 20th-Century Art (3 credits)

ARH 547 Topics in Global, Colonial and Diasporic Art (3 credits)

ARH 548 Museum Studies Seminar (3 credits)

ARH 549 Topics in American Visual Culture (3 credits)

ARH 550 Inquiries into Art Criticism and Theory (3 credits)

ARH 551 Topics in Performance (3 credits)

ARH 552 Topics in Contemporary Art (3 credits)

ARH 554 Topics in Visual Culture (3 credits)

ARH 570 Issues in Architectural History and Criticism (3 credits)

ARH 591 Practicum in the Writing of Art Criticism (3 credits)

3. Humanities and Social Sciences Electives (3-9 credits)

Two or three courses in the humanities and/or social sciences, to be chosen in consultation with a faculty advisor and with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies. These courses may be in literary studies or criticism, history, musicology, dramaturgy, sociology, anthropology, etc., but cannot be in studio art.

4. Other (0-12 credits)

Students can take optional thesis credits, for example ARH 598 Thesis (3-6 credits), as well as up to 3 credits in Directed Readings, Internship, or a Studio seminar.

### **B. Comprehensive Examination**

This test of basic competency is designed to assess the student's knowledge of individual artists and works of art, and of particular periods and dates in the history of art. It will include slide identifications and definitions of terms relevant to the history of art and art criticism. The student must take this examination before the end of the third semester of study in order to continue in the program. An extension will be allowed to part-time students.

### **C. Foreign Language**

A reading knowledge of French or German must be acquired before graduation. Students planning to advance to doctoral work will be encouraged to master both of these languages.

### **D. Teaching Requirement**

All graduate students will be expected to assist in teaching a minimum of one semester, usually during their second year of residency. The course in which the student will assist shall ordinarily be an introductory-level undergraduate course. Competency in teaching will be judged through teacher evaluation questionnaires and classroom visits by the course's faculty supervisor.

### **E. Thesis**

At the beginning of the third semester, the student, together with his or her directing committee, which shall consist of the student's advisor and one or two other faculty members, will jointly agree on a thesis topic. The student must at that time submit a prospectus outlining the nature and aims of the thesis. The thesis shall be a significant original work in the form of one or more essays relevant to the examination of art history, criticism, and theory.

Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree in Art History and Criticism

### **A. Course Requirements**

The student will be required to complete successfully 60 credits of graduate work, as outlined in the list of categories and courses below. A student must achieve a 3.0 overall grade point average to receive a degree from Stony Brook.

1. Required Courses (6 -9 credits)

ARH 540 Methodologies in Art History (3 credits)

ARH 602 Practicum in Teaching (3-6 credits)

2. ARH Electives (24-36 credits)

Students are required to take at least one course from each of the following three categories: Art History; Modern and Contemporary Visual Culture; and Art Criticism and Theory

#### *Art History*

ARH 541 Topics in Ancient Art (3 credits)

ARH 542 Topics in Medieval Art (3 credits)

ARH 543 Topics in Renaissance Art (3 credits)

ARH 544 Topics in Early Modern Art (3 credits)

ARH 547 Topics in Global, Colonial and Diasporic Art (3 credits)

ARH 549 Topics in American Visual Culture (3 credits)

ARH 690 Directed Readings (3 credits)

*Modern and Contemporary Visual Culture*

ARH 544 Topics in Early Modern Art (3 credits)

ARH 545 Topics in 19th Century Art (3 credits)

ARH 546 Topics in 20th Century Art (3 credits)

ARH 547 Topics in Global, Colonial and Diasporic Art (3 credits)

ARH 549 Topics in American Visual Culture (3 credits)

ARH 551 Topics in Performance (3 credits)

ARH 552 Topics in Contemporary Art (3 credits)

ARH 554 Topics in Visual Culture (3 credits)

ARH 690 Directed Readings (3 credits)

ARS 580 Visual Arts Seminar (3 credits)

*Criticism and Theory*

ARH 501 Theory and Criticism: From Antiquity through the Renaissance (3 credits)

ARH 502 History of 19th Century Art Criticism and Theory (3 credits)

ARH 503 History of 20th Century Art Criticism and Theory (3 credits)

ARH 550 Inquiry in Art Criticism and Theory (3 credits)

ARH 551 Topics in Performance (3 credits)

ARH 552 Topics in Contemporary Art (3 credits)

ARH 554 Topics in Visual Culture (3 credits)

ARH 570 Issues in Architectural History and Criticism (3 credits)

ARH 591 Practicum in the Writing of Art Criticism (3 credits)

ARH 690 Directed Readings (3 credits)

3. Humanities and Social Science Electives (6-12 credits)

These courses may be in history, comparative studies, musicology, sociology, anthropology, etc., but cannot be in studio art.

4. Other (0-12 credits)

If students are admitted without a prior MA and they decide to take write the thesis instead of the qualifying paper they have the option of taking up to 6 MA thesis credits. A PhD student can also take 3 credits for an Internship, or 3 credits for a graduate Studio seminar. Students can also take up to 6 credits of Directed Readings in preparation for the Qualifying Exams. Once the exams are completed and the student is advanced to doctoral candidacy they register in the following:

ARH 699 Dissertation Research on Campus

ARH 700 Dissertation Research off Campus (domestic)

ARH 701 Dissertation Research off Campus (international)

Credits for thesis preparation and research may be used to complete the total of 60 credits for the Ph.D.

**B. Teaching Requirement**

All Ph.D. students are expected to assist in teaching a minimum of two semesters. The first course in which the student will assist will ordinarily be an introductory level undergraduate course. An advanced doctoral student may also be assigned to assist in an upper-level undergraduate course. Competency in teaching is judged through teacher evaluation questionnaires and classroom visits by the course's supervising faculty member.

**C. Comprehensive Examination**

Information about the required comprehensive examination is found above under degree requirements for the M.A. Degree in Art History and Criticism. All Ph.D. students who enter the program without a master's degree in art history must take this examination before the end of the third semester of study in order to continue in the program. Ph.D. students who enter the program with an M.A. degree in art history will be exempted from taking the comprehensive examination.

**D. M.A. Qualifying Paper**

The M.A. qualifying paper is a paper completed in a graduate level course, and emended by the student in light of the suggestions or corrections of the faculty member to whom the paper was submitted. After the paper is revised, it will be read by another faculty member chosen by the student and the first reader (the advisor). The second reader will approve or disapprove the paper. If the second reader disapproves, the graduate program director will select a third reader to judge the paper, and the opinion of the two readers will determine the approval or disapproval of the paper. This requirement is waived for Ph.D. students who enter the program with an M.A. degree in art history. Students may also opt to complete a full Master's thesis and receive the M.A. degree prior to continuing on in the Ph.D. program.

**E. Foreign Language Requirement**

A reading knowledge of German and French is required for advancement to candidacy. In consultation with the candidate's advisor, the student may petition the Director of Graduate Studies to replace one of these two languages with a different language more suitable for the student's projected area of research. Mastery of a third language may also be recommended if it is deemed necessary for the student's research.

**F. Qualifying (Preliminary) Examination**

The Qualifying Examination should be taken no later than the end of the third year of coursework (second year for those entering with a prior master's degree) and prior to the beginning of dissertation research. It will be a written exam covering a major and minor, chosen from the following fields:

Contemporary Art and Criticism

Photography and the Moving Image

Modern European Art and Criticism

American Art and Material Culture

Early Modern Art and Visual Culture

Global, Colonial and Diasporic Art

Medieval and Renaissance Art

Ancient Civilizations

The content of the exam will vary according to the student's interests and their choice of major and minor fields, but exam preparation should ideally begin during the student's second year of coursework. The student will be expected to select two faculty members to serve as major and minor advisors, and to seek guidance from them on appropriate focus and bibliography in preparation for the exams. The Qualifying Exam committee consists of three members of the department faculty (including major and minor advisors), and is appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Director. The format of the exam shall be five questions for the major, from which the student shall choose three; and three questions for the minor, from which the student shall choose two to answer. Responses are in essay form.

**G. Advancement to Candidacy**

To be advanced to Ph.D. candidacy, the student must have:

1. Completed at least 54 graduate credits and all other degree requirements (see A-F listed above), other than the dissertation and dissertation research credits.
2. Submitted and defended a proposal outlining the nature and aims of the dissertation. The proposal must be approved by a faculty dissertation committee and by the Director of Graduate Studies (see below). When all of these requirements have been completed satisfactorily, the Director of Graduate Studies will submit a request to the Dean of the Graduate School to advance the candidate to candidacy.

**H. Dissertation**

No later than the beginning of the seventh semester, (fifth semester for those entering with a prior master's degree), but preferably by the beginning of the sixth semester, the student will prepare a written prospectus, outlining the scope, method, and aims of the dissertation. The student will submit the proposal to the dissertation advisor and two other members of the department who will serve as readers, one of whom (but *not* the advisor) will serve as Chair of the dissertation defense. After the student's advisor has conferred with the other departmental committee members and the departmental committee has approved the proposal, the advisor will submit the proposal and names of the committee members to the Director of Graduate Studies for approval. (The student may be advanced to candidacy at this point.) At least six months before the dissertation defense, the Graduate Studies Director, in consultation with student and the student's dissertation committee, will name a reader from outside the department who has specialized in related areas. The Graduate Director must then request the Graduate School for approval of the committee.

At least ten weeks before the Graduate School's deadline for submitting the completed dissertation, the student will submit to the readers what is intended to be the final draft of the dissertation. No more than four weeks after that, if the readers have agreed that the dissertation is ready to be defended, the dissertation committee chairperson will schedule the defense, an oral examination open to interested faculty and graduate students. The date of the defense must be approved by the Graduate School. All four readers on the dissertation committee must recommend acceptance of the dissertation before it can be approved by the Graduate School.

**I. Time Limit**

All requirements for the Ph.D. degree must be completed within seven years after completing 24 hours of graduate courses in the department. In rare instances, the dean of the Graduate School will entertain a petition to extend this time limit, provided it bears the endorsement of the department chairperson.

#### Faculty of Art History and Criticism Department

The faculty of the Art Department consists of artists and scholars of national and international reputation who are actively involved in the practice of art, art criticism, or art historical research. Artists on the faculty are represented in major galleries, museums, and exhibitions; critics and historians on the faculty have published numerous books and articles in major scholarly journals or presses.

#### Professors

Bogart, Michele H., Ph.D., 1979, University of Chicago: American art and visual culture.

Buonagurio, Toby, M.A., 1971, City College of New York: Ceramics; ceramic sculpture; drawing.

Guilmain, Jacques, Emeritus. Ph.D., 1958, Columbia University: Medieval art; archaeology.

Kuspit, Donald B., Distinguished Professor, Ph.D., 1971, University of Michigan; D.Phil., 1960, University of Frankfurt, Germany: Art criticism; aesthetics; 20th-century and Northern Renaissance art.

Levine, Martin, M.F.A., 1972, California College of Arts and Crafts: Printmaking.

Moskowitz, Anita, Ph.D., 1978, New York University: Medieval and Renaissance art and connoisseurship.

Pekarsky, Melvin H., Emeritus, M.A., 1956, Northwestern University: Drawing; painting; public art.

Pindell, Howardena, M.F.A., 1967, Yale University: Painting and drawing.

Rubin, James H., Ph.D., 1972, Harvard University: 18th- and 19th-century art; art and politics.

#### Associate Professors

Dinkins, Stephanie, M.F.A., 1997, Maryland Institute College of Art: Digital media, installation, photography.

Erickson, Christa, M.F.A., 1995, University of California, San Diego: Director, Consortium for Digital Arts, Culture, and Technology. Electronic installation, digital media, video art.

Frank, Barbara E., Ph.D., 1988, Indiana University: African, Mesoamerican and African Diaspora art history.

Lutterbie, John, Ph.D., 1983, University of Washington: Performance and Theatre Studies.

Monteyne, Joseph, Ph.D., 2000, University of British Columbia, Canada: Early Modern art history and print culture

Nagasawa, Nobuho, M.F.A., 1985, Hochschule der Kunste Berlin, Germany: Sculpture.

#### Assistant Professors

Goodarzi, Shoki, Lecturer. Ph.D., 1999, University of California at Berkeley: Ancient Near Eastern Art.

Patterson, Zabet, Ph.D., 2007, University of California, Berkeley: Core Faculty for the Consortium for Digital Arts, Culture, and Technology; history and theory of digital media.

Uroskie, Andrew, Ph.D., 2005, University of California, Berkeley: History and criticism of late modernism, film and photography in the art of 1960s and 1970s.

#### Adjunct Faculty, Technicians, and Professional Staff

Cassidy, James, Technical Specialist and Lecturer, M.A., 1986, Adelphi University, New York: Photo/Printmaking Technician and Studios Manager.

Cooper, Rhonda, Director of the University Gallery and Lecturer. M.A., 1972, University of Hawaii: Far Eastern Art.

Harrison, Helen, Lecturer and Director of the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center. M.A., 1975, Case Western Reserve University: American art.

Larese, Steven, Technical Specialist and Lecturer. M.F.A., 1975, University of Cincinnati: Visual Resources Curator; painting and drawing.

Mafucci, John, Technical Specialist and Lecturer. B.A., 1998, Stony Brook University, Sculpture Technician and Studios Manager.

## Part-Time Faculty

Leslie, Richard, Adjunct Lecturer. Ph.D., 2003, Graduate Center of the City University of New York: 20th century, northern Baroque, and history of photography.

Nelinson, David, Adjunct Lecturer. M.F.A., 2004, Stony Brook University: Painting and drawing.

Paradis, Jason, Adjunct Lecturer. M.F.A., 1998, Stony Brook University: Painting and drawing.

Richholt, Dan, Adjunct Lecturer. M.F.A., 1994, Stony Brook University: Sculpture.

Schneider, Gary, Artist-In-Residence. M.F.A., 1979, Pratt Institute: Photography.

Semergieff, Christopher, Visiting Artist. M.F.A., 1979, CUNY, New York.

## Affiliated Faculty

Craig, Megan, Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Ph.D., 2006, New School: Levinas and aesthetics; phenomenology; painting.

Guins, Raiford, Assistant Professor, Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies; Core faculty for the Consortium for Digital Arts, Culture, and Technology; Editor of the *Journal of Visual Culture*. Ph.D., 2000, Leeds, UK: Visual and digital culture; games; politics; play.

Kaplan, Elizabeth Ann, Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies; Director, Humanities Institute at Stony Brook. Ph.D., 1970, Rutgers University: Film and cultural studies; women's studies; psychoanalysis.

Munich, Adrienne, Professor of English. Ph.D., 1976, City University of New York: Victorian literature and culture; feminist theory; material culture; fashion theory.

Silverman, Hugh J., Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies; Program Director, Advanced Graduate Certificate in Art and Philosophy. Ph.D., 1973, Stanford University: Aesthetic, cultural, and art theory; continental philosophy; contemporary European thought and cultures.

Number of teaching, graduate, and research assistants, Fall 2009: 25

*NOTE: The course descriptions for this program can be found in the corresponding program PDF or at COURSE SEARCH.*