ARH

Art History

ARH 501: Criticism, Theory, Practice: From Artes Mechanicae to Artes Liberales
An introduction to the history of art criticism and theory from Greek and Roman antiquity through the High Renaissance. The writings of artists, historians, theologians, philosophers, and theorists will be considered not as abstract and independent concepts but in relation to artistic practice. Changing aesthetic values, whether expressed verbally, or in patronage acts, will be explored. Attention will be given to such theoretical concerns as the paragone, the disegno-colorito debate, the nature of artistic creation, and aesthetic values reflected in basic principles regarding form, color, composition, etc. In addition, we shall investigate the particular strategies, if any, employed by artists over the centuries to elevate their social, economic and intellectual status, in short, to promote the shift from simple craftsmanship to divine genius.
Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 502: History of 19th-Century Art Criticism and Theory
A study of European art criticism and theory of the 19th century stressing relationships between art and the history of ideas. Readings concentrate on primary sources, including reviews of art exhibitions (Diderot, Stendhal, Zola), artists’ letters (Constable, Delacroix, the Impressionists), and treatises relating to art (Winckelmann, Proudhon, Ruskin). Special emphasis is given to Baudelaire. Comparisons are made between ways of seeing art as well as between critical and theoretical attitudes to artists’ intentions.
Fall, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

ARH 503: History of 20th-Century Art Criticism and Theory
The literature of art has expanded enormously in the 20th century-far beyond attempts to organize it developmentally or conceptually. An attempt is made to define types of criticism both in relation to the critics and their relation to the support system for the arts of which they are part.
Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

ARH 540: Methodologies of Art History
This graduate seminar is designed to engage students with the history and methods of the discipline of art history. Through close readings and focused discussions, the course examines issues raised by aesthetics, the problems of biography and ‘periodization’, and the role of canon formation. Particular focus is directed towards the interpretive tools that have developed from within the discipline of art. In addition, also stressed is the interdisciplinary nature of art history through readings that discuss how lines of thought and critical inquiry emerging within other disciplines have had enormous influence on art history and criticism in the last two decades: semiotics, feminism theory, psychoanalysis, anthropology and post colonial theory, cultural studies, theories of mass culture and the post-modern, and the current debates about visual culture.
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

ARH 541: Topics in Ancient Art
This course deals with a variety of topics relating to ancient art and its influence on later European art and artistic theory. Areas explored include ancient art history, aesthetics, and comparative criticism; Roman uses of Greek art; pagan imagery in early Christian and medieval art; antique art and the Renaissance (use of prototypes); collecting antiquities (from the Medici to Getty); archaeological exploration and publication in the 18th and 19th centuries; French neoclassicism; and the calligraphy of Greek vases (Hamilton, Blake, Flaxman, Ingres, Picasso).
Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 542: Topics in Medieval Art
A topic in medieval art or architecture, such as early medieval manuscript illumination, ornament and design, or the Gothic cathedral, is selected and explored during the semester in lectures, discussions, and student reports or papers.
Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 543: Topics in Renaissance Art
This course, usually a seminar, deals with one or several of the following aspects of Renaissance art: iconographic problems, style and connoisseurship (including the study of individual works at the Metropolitan Museum or the Frick), patronage and its effect on the form and content of a work, the exchange of artistic ideas between northern and southern Europe, and Renaissance sources in antiquity and the Middle Ages.
Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 544: Topics in Early Modern Art
This seminar examines methodological developments and historical issues related to the art and visual culture of the early modern period. Though we are concerned with objects, discourses, and practices emerging in the seventeenth century, we also approach these through the perspective of contemporary critical tools (for example, theories of urban space, spectacle, and representation; psychoanalysis, sexuality and subjectivity; coloniality and the encounter with New World others; semiotics and the construction of absolutist power). Students are encouraged to engage with these issues through the study of traditional high art objects as well as through other forms of representation emerging in the early modern period—for example, scientific illustration, more ephemeral forms of print culture, and even urban and courtly spectacle.
Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 545: Topics in 19th-Century Art
Selected topics in 19th-century art with an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to interpretation. Possible topics include politics and art during the French Revolution; English landscape painting and the theory of the picturesque; and French realism and mid-19th-century social thought.
This course is co-scheduled with ARH 400 for Spring 2012.
Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 546: Topics in 20th-Century Art
Twentieth-century art considered as an international movement, European and American, although national groups may be studied. Emphasis varies with topics ranging over stylistic analysis, iconographical interpretations, and theoretical studies. Students are expected to undertake original research and interpretation.
Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

ARH 547: Topics in Global, Colonial, and Diasporic Art
This course examines various issues in the appreciation, interpretation and appropriation of non-Western art. Emphasis is on developing a critical approach to these arts and the manner in which they have been represented and
The histories and theories of performance are explored. Topics may be the performing body, performance and political action, avant-garde performance, performing and artifact, virtual performance, performance and identity. Depending on the topic, there may be a performance and/or computer based projects.

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.

ARH 552: Topics in Contemporary Art

The course will examine the latest developments in visual art and architecture, beginning with the Neo-Expressionism and Neo-Conceptualism of the 1980s and extending to installation and video art. Postmodernist and activist art will be examined in particular detail, and contextualized in terms of the broader patterns of 20th century art.

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.

ARH 553: Contemporary Art in New York

A systematic survey of contemporary art on view in museums and galleries in New York. The class would alternate between gallery/museum visits and interpretative analyses of the work in the classroom. A variety of theoretical approaches will be used and the full range of contemporary pluralism will be examined. Contemporary art will be understood as both a manifestation of contemporary society and in terms of its larger art historical context and significance. The New York art scene is the richest in the world. The class offers the student the opportunity for direct, informed contact with it.

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.

ARH 554: Topics in Visual Culture

This course examines issues in the interdisciplinary field of visual culture. Visual culture studies look at the dynamic state of visual media in contemporary life and their historical origins, seeking to relate art and film to the mass media and digital culture.

Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.

ARH 555: History, Criticism, and Theory

This course examines issues in the interdisciplinary field of visual culture. Visual culture studies look at the dynamic state of visual media in contemporary life and their historical origins, seeking to relate art and film to the mass media and digital culture.

Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.

ARH 556: Issues in Architectural History and Criticism

This course examines a series of topics that link architecture with other critical disciplines. Among the topics that may be addressed are architectural theory and the theories of language; the history of proportion and the construction of gender; and Orientalism.

Fall or Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.

ARH 557: Practicum in the Writing of Art Criticism

This course is designed as a practicum in the writing of art criticism under the supervision of the faculty.

Fall and Spring, 3 credits, S/U grading

May be repeated 2 times FOR credit.

ARH 558: Art Criticism or Gallery Internship

An internship offering practical experience in some aspect of the field of art history and criticism, such as gallery and curatorial work in an on-campus or off-campus gallery or museum, or journalistic experience with an art or criticism publication such as the Art department journal Art Criticism.

Prerequisite: Good standing in the graduate art history and criticism program

Fall and Spring, 1-3 credits, S/U grading

May be repeated 2 times FOR credit.

ARH 559: Directed Readings in Art History, Criticism, and Theory

An independent reading course to be arranged with a particular faculty member. Normally, this course is reserved for second year Masters students who have fulfilled most of their course requirements and for whom the proposed program of study cannot be completed within other existing course structures.

Fall and Spring, 1-3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated for credit.
ARH 690: Directed Readings for Doctoral Candidates
An independent reading course to be arranged with a particular faculty member. Normally, this course is reserved for advanced PhD. students who have fulfilled most of their course requirements and for whom the proposed program of study cannot be completed within other existing course structures.

*Fall and Spring, 1-9 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
*May be repeated for credit.

ARH 699: Dissertation Research on Campus
Prerequisite: Must be advanced to candidacy (G5). Major portion of research must take place on SBU campus, at Cold Spring Harbor, or at the Brookhaven National Lab.

*Fall, 1-9 credits, S/U grading
*May be repeated for credit.

ARH 700: Dissertation Research off Campus - Domestic
Prerequisite: Must be advanced to candidacy (G5). Major portion of research will take place off-campus, but in the United States and/or U.S. provinces. Please note, Brookhaven National Labs and the Cold Spring Harbor Lab are considered on-campus. All international students must enroll in one of the graduate student insurance plans and should be advised by an International Advisor.

*Fall, 1-9 credits, S/U grading
*May be repeated for credit.

ARH 701: Dissertation Research off Campus - International
Prerequisite: Must be advanced to candidacy (G5). Major portion of research will take place outside of the United States and/or U.S. provinces. Domestic students have the option of the health plan and may also enroll in MEDEX. International students who are in their home country are not covered by mandatory health plan and must contact the Insurance Office for the insurance charge to be removed. International students who are not in their home country are charged for the mandatory health insurance. If they are to be covered by another insurance plan they must file a waiver be second week of classes. The charge will only be removed if other plan is deemed comparable.

*All international students must received clearance from an International Advisor.
*Fall, 1-9 credits, S/U grading
*May be repeated for credit.

ARH 800: Summer Research