**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 craftsman to divine genius.  
*Spring, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)*

**ARH 502: Methods & Interpretation in Early Modernist Art Criticism & Theory**

A survey of European art criticism, theory, methodologies, and interpretation from 1750 to 1890, stressing relationships between art and the history of ideas. Study of visual materials will rely heavily on close readings of primary sources assigned weekly. The principal goal of the course is to familiarize students with the most important writings on art from the period as a foundation for the study of modern art. Secondary goals, pertinent to the study of art history any period, are to acquire analytic skills in interpreting source material by explicating such writings closely, to place them in context with each other (intertextuality) and the history of art and theory. This seminar examines methodological issues related to visual culture and the post-modern, and the current debates about visual culture.  
*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 541: Topics in Ancient Art**

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, feminist 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 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 otherness; 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, alternate years, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)*

**ARH 545: Topics in 19th-Century Art**

Selected topics in 19th-century art with an emphasis on  
*3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)*

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

**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 misrepresented in the Western imagination. Topics vary, but may include exploration of themes in the so-called traditional arts of Africa, Oceania, Native and Latin America, the transformations of these arts during the

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colonial period, issues of identity and the consequences of dislocation versus sense of place in the diaspora, and contemporary expressions of non-Western artists on the global scene.

ARH 548: Museum Studies
Through a combination of field trips, visiting lecturers, group discussion, and student projects, the course surveys the diverse aspects of the museum field, including management, curatorship, exhibitions, public relations, conservation, and other areas of administration and professional practice.

ARH 549: Topics in American Visual Culture
This course examines selected issues in the history of American art and material culture. The course focuses upon, but is not necessarily limited to, the United States. Topics include public art and public culture; approaches to the study of material culture; art and commercial and/or popular culture; art and regional locations; realism; imaging the West; cross-cultural exchanges in art of the United States. (May be used to fulfill 20th-century requirement when material deals with 20th-century art.)

ARH 550: Inquiries into Art Criticism and Theory
This course deals with the theoretical approaches to the study of art that cross historical boundaries. Topics vary from semester to semester. They may be an expansion of one of the areas generally covered in ARH 540, such as psychology of art or the iconography of architecture. Other investigations may focus on subjects requiring a special methodological approach, such as the theory and history of ornament and design or the role of public art.

ARH 551: Topics in Performance
This course examines different theories of performance as they relate to theatre and everyday life. Students explore ways of thinking about the performing body and different modes of cultural expression. There is a performing component to the course in addition to a final paper.

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.

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.

ARH 554: Topics in Visual Culture
This class 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.

ARH 555: Theories of Performance
The theories and histories 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.

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.

ARH 557: 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.

ARH 558: 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.

ARH 559: Thesis
Prerequisite: Completion of all degree requirements

ARH 560: Teaching Practicum, Advanced
Instruction in the department by advanced graduate students under the supervision of faculty.

3 credits, S/U grading
May be repeated 2 times 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, Spring, and Summer, 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, Spring, 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 by 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, Spring, 1-9 credits, S/U grading*

*May be repeated for credit.*

**ARH 800: Summer Research**