This degree provides a unique focus on works of art as physical objects. You will gain comprehensive skills in art history, together with a thorough understanding of artists’ techniques and questions of materiality, both at the time a work of art was made, and subsequently as it ages and deteriorates.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// The programme will develop your knowledge and understanding of the visual cultures encompassed by the term ‘western art’, making use where possible of artworks in London.

// The department includes well-known specialists on all periods from the medieval onwards. We have particular strengths in the study of contemporary art, material science, and conservation and preservation.

// The department houses the Material Studies Laboratory, consisting of two spaces, one dedicated to teaching and handling materials and artefacts, with the second focusing on the instrumental analysis of heritage materials.

// UCL’s central location in London is within walking distance of the British Museum and British Library and provides easy access to the National Gallery, the Tate Galleries and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

The Research Excellence Framework, or REF, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The 2014 REF was carried out by the UK’s higher education funding bodies, and the results used to allocate research funding from 2015/16.

// 85% rated 4* (‘world-leading’) or 3* (‘internationally excellent’)

Learn more about the scope of UCL’s research, and browse case studies, on our Research Impact website.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 0.5 or 1.0 credits, adding up to a total of 4.0 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 1.0 credit is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

The programme begins with introductory modules in History of Art and its Objects and a foundation module in history of art, together with thematic seminars. You will also take a basic science module for non-scientists and a Methods and Materials of Artists module, which will introduce you to the major classes of materials found within museum collections, and address their application as artists’ materials.

Modules in the second year delve deeper into the technical aspects of art. These may include History, Theory, and Practice of Conservation; and Methods and Materials II.

In the final year, all students write a research project dissertation of approximately 10,000 words. This must have a technical element, combined with art historical research. The Art/Work/Spaces module enables you to gain practical work experience outside the department while writing an independent research project reflecting critically on this experience.

You may also take modules from outside History of Art in departments such as Anthropology, Archaeology, Architecture, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, or History, with the agreement of the department concerned and your course tutors.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// History of Art and its Objects
History of European Art (1): Classical to Early Renaissance
History of European Art (2): High Renaissance to the Present Day
Methods and Materials of Artists
Science for Art Historians

Students must also take a 0.5 credit module in a modern foreign language, preferably in the first year.

Optional modules

// You will select 0.5 credits in a Thematic Seminar, chosen from a wide range of options.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Methodologies of Making
Advanced Lecture Course I: After Life: Art, Knowledge and Observation in Early Modern Europe
Advanced Lecture Course II: Histories of Photography

// (The content of the Gateway Courses changes regularly. These are the offerings for 2016-17.)

Optional modules

// You will select 2.5 credits from a wide range of optional modules including at least one of the following:
/// Methodologies of Art History
// The History of the Category ‘Art’
/// and at least one of the following:
// History, Theory and Practice of Conservation
// Methods and Materials II
/// Further optional modules can be selected from within History of Art.
**FINAL YEAR**

Core or compulsory module(s)

- History of Art and Material Studies dissertation

Optional modules

- You will select 3.0 credits from a wide range of optional modules including Art/Work/Spaces, and at least one Special Subject. Further options can be selected from within History of Art, and from fields such as anthropology, archaeology, history or philosophy.

**Your learning**

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures and seminars, and may include visits to monuments, film archives and sessions in the Material Studies Laboratory. Seminars may relate to a lecture series and involve travel within the UK or abroad. On a more frequent basis, first-year thematic seminars take place at London's many art collections and exhibitions.

**Assessment**

Coursework, essays and written examinations will all be used as means of formal assessment of your work.

**Your career**

You will gain the skills necessary to carry out historical and technical projects, communicate effectively, interpret material analysis, and to pursue academic research or take up responsible employment in a variety of contexts.

This BA provides an excellent basis for any career dealing at first hand with works of art, such as museum and gallery curators and registrars, art dealers, valuers and auctioneers. It is also a good foundation for those wishing to take up further training in any discipline within art conservation.

Any profession dealing with art would benefit from the expertise gained from this degree.

First destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) of this programme include:

- Researcher, Sotheby's
- Freelance Assistant, Jeremy Mussom Associates
- Full-time student, MA in History of Art at UCL
- Gallery Assistant, Royal Academy of Arts
- Full-time student, Master in Public Policy at Sciences Po

**Your application**

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

We welcome applicants who have a serious interest in, and enthusiasm for, the study of art history. Entry is highly competitive, but you will not be required to have studied history of art before. However, advanced study in an essay-based subject such as history or English, as well as a language, would be an advantage.

Applicants will be assessed not only on academic achievement, but on evidence of intellectual curiosity, and of critical appreciation of visual culture.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**
**Grades**
AAA-ABB

**Subjects**
No specific subjects, though essay-based subjects are an advantage.

**GCSE**
English Language at grade B, plus Mathematics at grade C. For UK-based students a foreign language at grade B is required.

**IB DIPLOMA**
**Points**
34-38 overall.

**Subjects**
A score of 16-17 points in three higher level subjects, with no score lower than 5. A minimum of grade 4 is required at standard level in a modern language.

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**
UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

**UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES**
(International foundation courses)
The Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

**TUITION FEES**
The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2017/18 academic year and are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for 2018 entry will appear here as soon as they are available.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2017/18 - see below)
// Overseas: £23,710 (2017/18)

The UK/EU fee quoted above may be subject to increase for the 2018/19 academic year and for each year of study thereafter and UCL reserves the right to increase its fees in line with UK government policy (including on an annual basis for each year of study during a programme). Fees for overseas students may be subject to an annual increase in subsequent years of study by up to 5%.

Please see the full details of UCL’s fees and possible changes on the UCL Current Students website.

**FUNDING**
Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

**CONTACT**
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Department: History of Art

**EU referendum**
For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to:
www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

**Disclaimer**
This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus