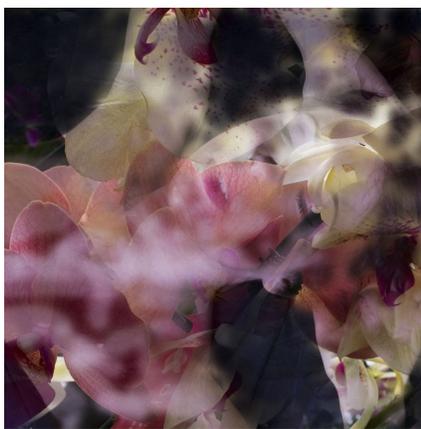


Minor in Art History

Mission

The Art History program, combines a study of visual art with study of world culture, providing students with a breadth of knowledge in contemporary art practice, philosophy, and theory. Essential to the liberal arts tradition, art history courses explore the development of cultures, the diversity of people of art and visual culture. courses that emphasize students develop visual thinking, learn to analyze pose critical questions, historical information is produced. The program embodies Ribbons of Excellence , including Caring for Humanity and the World, Learning throughout a Lifetime, Crossing Boundaries and Disciplines, Thinking Critically, and Developing Creativity and critical thinking, learn to analyze material evidence and pose critical questions, and explore ways art historical information is produced. The program embodies Ribbons of Excellence , including Caring for Humanity and the World, Learning throughout a Lifetime, Crossing Boundaries and Disciplines, Thinking Critically, and



Inside this issue:

Mission Statement	1
Analyzing Art	1
Why Study Art Hist.?	2
Curriculum	2
Upcoming Events	3
Interview with Alumna	3

Image in center
by Kristina Saeli

Fun Facts

- Picasso's full name consists of 23 words.
- Vincent van Gogh wrote over 800 letters in his lifetime.
- Venus figurines were created by women in the Upper-Paleolithic period in order to track their pregnancies.

Analyzing and Interpreting Art

Art history is the study of art and the practice of visual interpretation, both of which facilitate students' understanding of social and intellectual history. The ability to analyze a work of art is a skill every trained art historian requires. In order to understand and interpret a work of art, one must ask when was this work of art created? Knowing the historical context in which a piece was created provides insight as to why it was created in the first place. Considering all of the social, cultural, political, and religious contexts is necessary for determining the meaning of a work and the reasons the artist created it. In some cases, the art could have been used for practical purposes, not strictly to be admired or exhibited. When examining a piece of art, one must also analyze the aesthetic elements that constitute the piece (form, color, composition, texture, etc.). Knowing why a particular work of art was constructed is essential to comprehending art in a historical context. This visual and historical literacy is also essential to the development of art appreciation.

Why Study Art History?

A degree in art is very versatile. Graduates of art history programs are employable in many fields such as advertising, graphic design, photography, art therapy, animation, and teaching. Students of art history also find work as museum curators, art and estate appraisers, art preservationists, and art lawyers. Students at Adrian College minoring in art history participate in internships in various museums and galleries. For example, Adrian College students have interned with the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. Art history students study abroad; photography history students will be traveling to Rome, Florence, and Paris in Spring 2016 to further their art historical studies.

The Curriculum

◇ 22-24 Hours to complete Minor ◇

Art History Core (10-12 hours)

AHIS 209 World Art History I (4)

AHIS 210 World Art History II (4)

AHIS 401 Professional Studies in Art History (2-4)

Art History Electives (12 hours)

AHIS 232 Representations of Gender in Art (4)

AHIS 270 Western Architecture and Design (4)

AHIS 271 Modern Architecture and Design (4)

AHIS 301 Topics in Art History (3-4)

AHIS 303 The History of York (6) (Study in England)

AHIS 336 History of Modern Art (4)

AHIS 337 Contemporary Art History (4)

AHIS 338 African Art History (4)

The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.
- Aristotle

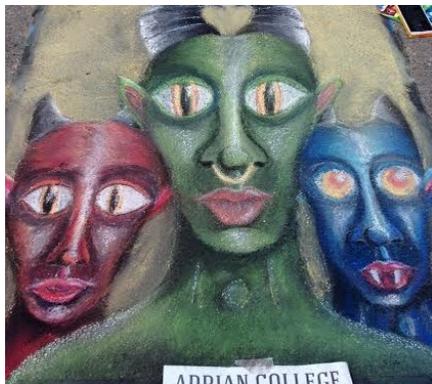


Image of student work created during Art-a-Licious this year. (The piece was created as a part of the Chalk Art Competition)

Upcoming Events

11/17– 12/12

Outstanding Art Student Solo Exhibition (Valade Gallery)

12/8

Enter Michigan Small Colleges Exhibition

Alumna Interview with Mariah Postlewait

Mariah Postlewait graduated from Adrian College in 2012 with a BFA as well as a minor in Art History and a minor in Business Administration. She went on to study at Bowling Green University in Ohio where she earned an MA in Art History, with a focus in the History of Photography.

1.) How has the Art History program at Adrian helped you to achieve a career in art history and gain knowledge in the field?

MP: Before the Art History program at Adrian College, I did not know what art history was. I thought art historians just knew the names and dates of artwork. Dr. Massey's cultural studies approach to art history makes the discipline not only more interesting and accessible to students, but easier to connect to as well. Dr. Massey's interdisciplinary approach encourages students to make connections to artworks, artists, and genres that more strictly traditional programs would discourage. My research is very interdisciplinary in nature, as a consequence. I think that this is incredibly important in a day and age when people are beginning to realize that nothing in life is black and white--crossing boundaries and studying previously liminal territory is where discoveries will arise in relation to the past, present, and future of art historical study. Because of my cultural studies leanings, I was an excellent fit at BGSU, (who has one of the top American Cultural Studies graduate programs in the country). Art history at Adrian College has been necessary for helping me to better understand my own artwork and its context within the world of photography and preparing me for future graduate studies on a career path toward higher education or curatorial work.

2.) Why do you think it is important to study art history?

MP: Too often people forget that there are other modes of understanding, expressing, and communicating beyond just speech and writing. Visual literacy is incredibly important--and cultures throughout history have utilized it to great success (really famous examples would be art and visual culture of the European Renaissance, Greek and Roman Empires, and Egyptian dynasties). Examination of artwork can provide insights to both individuals and cultures that other disciplines do not have access to. Studying artwork does not stop with the work itself, but includes the social conditions existing before, during, and after its creation. Who made it? Why might they have done so? How was it received at the time of its creation? How is it received now? Why? And on and on. A picture is worth so much more than a thousand words.

Art needs to be socialized, and you need a lot of context to understand that, and that doesn't mean having read a few art history books.
-Peter M. Brant

Contact Information

Art History

Contact Dr. Carissa Massey (Associate Professor, Art History)
(517)-265-5161 x3860
cmassey@adrian.edu
Office: Mahan IIC

Admissions

Contact Erin DeSmet (Director of Admissions)
(800)-877-2246
edesmet@adrian.edu
Office: Ward Admissions House

Any other questions?
Visit the Adrian College website at Adrian.edu

