

ADMISSION and DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Admission Requirements

An applicant must meet Graduate School requirements as outlined in the official Wayne State University Graduate Bulletin (www.bulletins.wayne.edu) plus these departmental requirements to be considered for admission to the Art History graduate program:

1. An undergraduate or equivalent degree in art history, and a minimum 'B' average in undergraduate art history. Applicants who do not have an undergraduate degree in art history may be asked to take one or two survey courses in the field and/or upper level courses.
2. Three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant's academic or professional activities and potential, preferably from previous art history instructors. For individuals who have been out of school for the last 10 years, letters from other professionals who are in a position to assess the applicant's potential for graduate work may be substituted.
3. Three semesters at college level (or equivalent) in an approved language with a 'B' average or better. Applicants may be admitted without having completed this requirement but must complete the requirement as soon as possible.
4. Personal statement (1-2 pages), explaining the applicant's interest in and exposure to art history and the career goals the applicant wishes to pursue
5. A sample research paper (preferably on a topic in art history)

No course credits earned in making up deficiencies may be counted as program credits required for the degree. Applicants whose overall grade point average is between 2.25 and 3.0 may take the Graduate Record Examination to be considered for admission.

Application Procedure

Applicants must complete the online Application for Graduate Admission form (www.gradadmissions.wayne.edu), including the graduate application fee and an official transcript from each college or university attended, as well as the personal statement and sample research paper. Applicants must arrange for the three letters of recommendation to be submitted online.

Applicants wishing to be admitted for study beginning in the fall semester should submit their application and materials by February 1; for admission to study beginning in the winter semester, the application procedure must be completed by October 1.

All potential applicants are encouraged to visit the campus to discuss the program and their career goals with the Graduate Advisor in Art History. Candidates are also advised to consult the Graduate School website (www.gradschool.wayne.edu) for information about university funding opportunities. The GRE must be taken in order to apply for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship or to apply for a university Graduate-Professional Scholarship.

Degree Requirements

M.A. candidates may choose either of two plans to complete the degree requirements: Plan A (Thesis), or Plan B (Essay):

Plan A: Thesis

The Thesis degree requirements include 32 graduate credits, of which 24 are credits in the Art History program, with 8 credits granted for the MA Thesis. The thesis is expected to be a more in-depth and original contribution to art historical studies. This option must be approved by the student's essay/thesis advisor, and a special form must be submitted to the Graduate Office. Students may concentrate in one of the following areas, but must take at least one course in four of the five core areas, for a total of four core courses (12 credits): African Arts, Classical, Medieval, Renaissance-Baroque, and Modern-Contemporary; two courses must be taken at the 7000-level (6 credits). Students must fulfill the language requirement and pass the MA Comprehensive Exam before completing their Thesis.

Plan B: Course Work and Essay

The Essay degree requirements include 33 graduate credits, of which 24 credits must be in the Art History program, with an option of 6 credits in elective or cognate (related) areas (e.g. classics, English, history, film, anthropology), or in Directed Study. Students may concentrate in one of the following areas, but must take at least one course in four of the five core areas, for a total of four core courses (12 credits): Classical, Medieval, Renaissance-Baroque, Modern-Contemporary, and African Arts; two courses must be at the 7000-level (6 credits). The MA Essay counts for 3 credits. Students must fulfill the language requirement and pass the MA Comprehensive Exam before completing their Essay. Up to six graduate credits (two courses) in Art History may be transferred from a graduate program at another institution.

Thesis: 32 credits (24 credits required within the Art History program)

12 credits in four of the five core courses at the 5000 level

6 credits at 7000 level

6 credits elective

8 credits MA Thesis

Essay: 33 credits (24 credits required within the Art History program)

12 credits in four of the five core courses at the 5000 level

6 credits at 7000 level

6 credits elective

6 credits elective or cognate courses

3 credits MA Essay

Language Requirement

Students must submit a statement of reading proficiency in one foreign language for approval by the faculty as appropriate to scholarly study. Students who have not completed this requirement upon admittance to the program must fulfill the language requirement as quickly as possible, and must do so by the end of coursework and before registering for the MA Essay or Thesis credits. Students may demonstrate reading proficiency in the selected foreign language by one of the following two methods:

1) Completion of three terms of university-level coursework in an approved language with a 'B' average or better, as recorded on submitted transcripts. These courses do not count toward the

degree credit requirement.

2) Passing the Reading portion of a Language Proficiency Exam administered in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, with a grade of 70% or higher.

Students who plan to pursue a Ph.D. in Art History should be aware that admission to such programs often requires reading ability equivalent to four terms of coursework in at least one of the languages of German or French, and are encouraged to pursue these languages.

Graduate Record Exam and Funding Opportunities

While GRE scores are not required for admission to the program, students wishing to apply at any point in the course of their studies for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship offered by the department or for the Graduate-Professional Scholarship offered by the University must have their GRE scores reported to the appropriate representative at that time.

The Art History program offers a one-year Graduate Teaching Assistantship. The GTA may be renewed for second year. The program also offers the Alice L. and Albert W. Steinbach Endowed Scholarship Fund for Art History Graduate Students. This fund may vary but generally offers approximately \$1,500 to two students for travel/research or for tuition assistance. In addition, approximately five graduate students are hired as Graders for the 1000-level Survey courses each semester. The pay varies but is approximately \$1,300 per semester.

Progress toward the MA

In order to progress to candidate status in the graduate program, a student must file a Plan of Work by the time they accumulate 12 credits in the program and have attained a minimum GPA of 3.00. Students achieve candidacy when they file a Plan of Work that is approved by the art history Graduate Advisor and the college/school Graduate Office.

A candidacy hold is automatically generated for students who have not attained candidacy by the time they accumulate 12 credits. Students will not be able to register until they file a Plan of Work.

Students should therefore meet with the Graduate Advisor in their first semester to complete a Plan of Work, insuring that they will meet program requirements. The Plan of Work will be adjusted to reflect any changes in the final semester. All courses applied to the MA degree need a grade of not less than *B*. Earning a grade of *B-* or less in any course may be cause for probation, which would require raising the average to *B* in the immediately following term. A subsequent grade of *B-* or less could, at the discretion of the art history faculty, be grounds for dismissal from the program. Each student will be assessed during a first year review by the art history faculty.

Additionally, a part-time student must complete a minimum of one course in each academic term until completion of course work. A student may request a leave of absence from the program should circumstances make continued progress towards the degree impossible. Requests must be made in writing to the Graduate Advisor. No more than two consecutive semesters of leave will be granted at any one time.

It should be noted that the art history Graduate Advisor works with all art history graduate students and may be separate from the essay/thesis advisor. Once a student has achieved candidate status and has determined a primary area of study, he or she may petition for an essay/thesis advisor.

Time Limit

The student must complete all degree requirements within six years of initial enrollment (including approved leaves of absence). It is expected that a full-time student will normally complete all of the requirements for the degree within three years, but that part-time students will require more time.