ART HISTORY

Note: ‘Art History and Music’ is a single academic department at Fordham, but the academic information for each subject is listed on a separate web page. Information about Music programs is listed under Music.

The art history major offers students the opportunity to study the great cultural accomplishments of human civilization within a broad historical context. Art history intersects with many different fields, including history, literature, philosophy, and theology. It is integral to a strong liberal arts curriculum that is at the heart of the Fordham education. The art history major focuses on the history of European, American, and Global art. Students are prepared for graduate school and for employment in galleries, auction houses, art publishing, and nonprofessional positions in museums. Many students pursue careers in other fields, including law and education.

No course in which the student earns a grade of D or F may be used toward a departmental major or minor.

Program Activities

Internships

We encourage students to take advantage of the many internship opportunities in New York City. Art history majors have held internships at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the Neue Gallery, the Studio Museum of Harlem, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, the International Center of Photography, El Museo del Barrio, the Drawing Center, the New York Historical Society, Christie’s and Sotheby’s, art magazines, art appraisers and many private galleries. With the approval and supervision of the department, majors may receive elective credit for one internship, graded on a pass/fail basis. Internships offer valuable experience and can lead to after-graduation employment but do not count toward requirements for the major or minor.

Awards

The department supplements its academic programs with several prizes to honor art history majors. The Stark Prize is money awarded to a junior art history major toward travel in Europe over the spring or summer break; the Marion Scholarship is awarded to a senior on the basis of documented need and academic record; the Art History prize is awarded to one senior at Rose Hill and one senior at Lincoln Center on the basis of an exceptional academic record. The department also sponsors the Vasari Symposium each spring for which one or more graduating seniors are invited to give a public lecture on the topic of their senior seminar research papers.

For more information

Visit the Art History department web page.