ART HISTORY (ARHT)

ARHT 100 Selected Masterpieces of World Art (3 credits)
An introduction to key works of art representing prehistoric cultures, the ancient world, the East, the Renaissance, and the Modern period; museum and gallery trips, reading and discussion. For non-art majors.

ARHT 101 Special Topics in Global Art Cultures (3 credits)
Students will learn about the development of art and design practices from different parts of the world using changing thematic lenses and geographic foci. Topics include art's intersections within a given society's political, religious, environmental, economic, and social orders, as well as local aesthetics and critical systems of thought. For specific subjects, please inquire with the department. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors. Meets Gen Ed - Global Cultural Perspectives. Meets World Cultures Requirement.

ARHT 102 Visual Culture (3 credits)
This course introduces an interdisciplinary approach to the study and research of the visual world. Students will be critically introduced to a variety of image-types (ranging from fashion and popular culture to fine art), and how those types developed throughout history. Through readings culled from the arts, sciences, humanities, and social sciences, the introductory application of varied, interdisciplinary research methods, and ongoing critical discussions, students will learn to recognize and interpret how different kinds of images produce different kinds of meaning; how images work in concert with text, sound, smell, and touch; why the study of 'visual culture' is so important in today's image-saturated world.

ARHT 105 Global Foundations in Art and Visual Culture (3 credits)
This course surveys global art and visual culture from the prehistoric period through the end of the "Middle Ages." Major topics will include: the origins and development of systems of writing in relation to the visual arts; the multiple and foundational definitions of 'art' found in various cultural contexts; material culture's relation to power and propaganda in the defining of early empires; the role of visual culture in relation to world myth, religion and ritual. Meets the Graduation Writing Requirement for majors in Animation and Illustration, Product Design, Visual Arts, and Visual Communication Design. Meets Gen Ed - Great Works and their Influences.

ARHT 106 Modern Visions 1400-1945 (3 credits)
This course will survey global art and visual culture from the Fifteenth Century through the middle of the Twentieth Century, paying special attention to the development of Modernism and its many discontents. Major topics will include: visual culture's role in modern imperialism and nation-building; art and ritual in the age of secularism; the role of technology in art and design; art and the politics of (self)-representation. Meets the Graduation Writing Requirement for majors in Animation and Illustration, Product Design, Visual Arts, and Visual Communication Design. Meets Gen Ed - Great Works and their Influences.

ARHT 190 Women and Art (3 credits)
The role and status of women in art from the Old Stone Age through the present; women artists and the visual culture of women in Western culture; depictions of women in the arts. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors.

ARHT 191 African-American Art (3 credits)
Afro-American art in the United States from colonial times to the present. Meets World Cultures Requirement.

ARHT 200 Research Methods in Art History (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 105 and ARHT 106 or departmental approval. Bibliographic and other resources necessary for scholarly research in the visual arts; the writing of the research paper; special problems and methodology of art history. Required for Art History majors.

ARHT 202 Field Trip in Art History (2-6 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 105, ARHT 106, WRIT 105, or HONP 100. Travel courses to art sources in the United States and foreign countries not to exceed twelve undergraduate credits. First-hand contact with the art forms and visual culture of the places visited; study of monuments in the field and works in museums and galleries. Subject(s) defined by the professor. May be repeated for a maximum of twelve credits. Fulfills the Special Topics required for majors.

ARHT 203 Modern Philosophies of Art (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100. Aesthetics are fundamental to a modern conception of the world. This course presents the major theories that have influenced how we think about art. Studying the structure of each philosopher's argument allows students to apply them to assorted contemporary visual culture objects from art to video games.

ARHT 205 History of Contemporary Art (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 102; and ARHT 105 or ARHT 106. This course introduces the artists, critics, and global developments that transformed art across the second half of the 20th century and into the 21st. The course will look at the historical avant-garde in order to cast pop culture and postmodernism in high relief and examine the changing roles of artists and art institutions, the shift in art practices, and the rise of theory. By developing a knowledge of the historical role that minoritized populations, capital, globalization, and technology have recently played in art, students will be prepared to grasp the issues underlying much work produced today. Equivalent course ARHT 470 effective through Spring 2020.

ARHT 250 History of Photography (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105, WRIT 106, HONP 100, HONP 101 or departmental approval. Discover photography's roots, its ongoing social and historical impact around the world, and how it is being transformed by digitalization. Learn about photography's relationship to truth and identity formation, its role in art as well as journalism and advertising, and how it revolutionized image making. Photography will be considered through technical, sociological, psychological, and political positions, while studying its significant international practitioners. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors. Equivalent course ARHT 302 effective through Fall 2019.

ARHT 255 Bad Moves: Gender, Sexuality and the Moving Image (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100. From 'bad' girls, femme fatales, and fallen women to gender queers and angry feminists, this course tracks an array of 'gender deviants' across a range of films, animations, video #installations, and video games that collectively span over 90 years and a host of cultural contexts. Along the way, students will be introduced to a series of formal, political, and theoretical topics concerning the history of the moving image and what it can teach us about the history of gender and sexuality.
ARHT 262 See What I Mean: A History of Visual Communication Design (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 102, and ARHT 105 or ARHT 106. This course considers the long history of visual communication design -- from the earliest forms of icon-making and the invention of writing to the rise and eventual industrialization of print culture, the development of modern advertising and brand identities, and the ways that ‘the digital turn’ and the proliferation of screen culture is currently affecting the field. Students will be introduced to key designers and to watershed designs, while also working to thematize and deconstruct many of visual communication design’s most central terms: type, transparency, modularity, the grid, pattern, and notions of rhythm and balance will all be considered both formally and ideologically speaking.

ARHT 272 History of Industrial Design (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100; and ARHT 102, and ARHT 105 or ARHT 106. The history of Industrial Design is traced from the industrial revolution to the present day. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors. Equivalent course ARHT 303 effective through Spring 2020.

ARHT 280 Asian Art (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100. The arts and material culture of China, Korea, Japan, India, and Southeast Asia. How Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam commerce and migration shaped traditional Asian arts and societies. Specific focus defined by the professor. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits by permission of department. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors.

ARHT 281 African Art: Sub-Saharan (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100. The art and material cultures of Africa from prehistoric remains to contemporary art: stylistic groupings; relation to ceremony and to daily life; symbolism; and relations to the arts of other cultures. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors. Meets World Cultures Requirement.

ARHT 282 History of Animation and Illustration (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 102. The history of visual communication using animation, illustration and visual effects began in the early 1800’s and has been consistently advancing. Students will examine animation and illustration styles and techniques from all over the world as well as methods used for visual effects in feature film and television. Topics include a timeline of technological advancements, individual artist styles, cultural developments and implementation with hands on projects, lectures, discussions, screenings and research.

ARHT 290 History of the United States in Art (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 105, ARHT 106, ARHT 190, ARHT 191, WRIT 105, HONP 100, or departmental approval. Art has played an important role in the history of the United States — from the prints that helped launch the Revolution, to the role of photography in revealing governmental neglect in modern tenement housing and beyond. This course proceeds through significant moments of United States history by surveying the popular images and artworks that powerfully supported ongoing fights for legal, economic, and social justice from the colonial era to today.

ARHT 304 History of Textiles (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. Great textile traditions of the world. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors.

ARHT 305 Theories of Looking: Critical Theory and Visual Culture (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 205. This course introduces students to key texts and concepts that have contributed to the critical analysis of contemporary visual culture. Advancing new analytical skills, students will encounter discourse methods that address affect, cybernatics, economy and capitalism, gender theories, globalism, pop culture, post/trans-human and the anthropocene, psychoanalysis, and others. The emphasis will be on exploring how different critical frameworks expand our understanding of art and visual culture objects in any media. Students will cultivate interdisciplinary thinking and learn to apply the rapidly expanding field of critical visual studies. Equivalent course ARHT 401 effective through Fall 2020.

ARHT 306 Critical Design Studies (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 205, ARHT 262, ARHT 272 or ARHT 282. This course offers students an opportunity to consider how ‘the idea of design’ has developed historically, while they simultaneously reflect on the way this idea functions within today’s globalized world. Organized in a rough chronology, each week works to thematically introduce the different ways that ‘the question,’ ‘the practice,’ and ‘the product’ of design have all been mobilized, marketed, and theorized. The course challenges students to think across a complex, cross-cultural network of images, objects, services, interfaces, and experiences while working to determine the ever-fluctuating value that design has, as both a noun and a verb. Students will work to disentangle the idea of design from the complex webs of financial, cultural, and social capital that provide for its most practical and its most esoteric applications. Topics will include the ethics and the politics of design; the relationship between design and the arts and crafts; and how identity is shaped by design. Equivalent course ARHT 201 effective through Fall 2020.

ARHT 313 Aegean Art and Archaeology (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ENFL 208, GNED 201, GNED 202, HUMN 201, HUMN 281, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 290, ARDW 201, ARST 205, ARPH 201, MUGN 241, RELG 221 or departmental approval. This course explores the art and architecture of the Aegean region in the 3rd and 2nd millennia BCE with special attention to archaeological perspectives. Specifically, this includes the material culture of the Early Cyclades, Minoan Crete and Mycenaean Greece. The two primary methodological approaches will be art historical and archaeological. The core material of the course will be chronologically presented; however, substantial time will also be devoted to specific problems or themes in the field. Mutually Exclusive with HUMN 313.

ARHT 322 Medieval Art: Romanesque and Gothic (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. The art and material culture of the High Middle Ages: how religious reform, crusade, and pilgrimage shaped the arts of Europe and Byzantium; Christian, Jewish, and Islamic art. Fulfills the Medieval requirement for majors.

ARHT 331 Renaissance Art in Italy: The Fifteenth Century (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. Renaissance painting, sculpture and architecture during the Quattrocento; Masaccio, Mantegna, Donatello, Brunelleschi, and Alberti emphasized. Fulfills the Renaissance requirement for majors.
ARHT 332 Renaissance Art in Italy: The Sixteenth Century (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201 or GNED 202 or HONP 201 or HONP 202 or ARDW 201 or ARST 205 or MUGN 241 or RELG 221 or ENFL 208 or ARHT 200 or ARHT 202 or ARHT 203 or ARHT 280 or ARHT 281 or ARHT 290 or departmental approval. The major movements in the sixteenth century painting in northern Europe; with particular attention to Flanders and Holland; emphasis on Jan Van Eyck, Van Der Weyden, Bosch, Peter Bruegel and Matthias Grünewald. Fulfills the Medieval requirement for majors.

ARHT 336 Northern Renaissance Painting (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. Fifteenth and sixteenth century painting in northern Europe with particular attention to Flanders and Holland; emphasis on Jan Van Eyck, Van Der Weyden, Bosch, Peter Bruegel and Matthias Grünewald. Fulfills the Medieval requirement for majors.

ARHT 340 Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Art (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. The art and material culture of Western Europe from 1600 to 1800; Baroque and Rococo styles with emphasis on El Greco, Bernini, Rubens, Rembrandt, Poussin and Watteau. Fulfills the Baroque requirement for majors.

ARHT 350 Art of the Nineteenth Century (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. The major movements in nineteenth-century art: Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, as seen in painting, sculpture, prints, and objects of material culture. Relationship of the art to political, social, cultural, and economic factors during this period. Fulfills the Nineteenth-century art requirement for majors.

ARHT 352 Nineteenth Century American Painting (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. Painting in the United States during the nineteenth century; portrait, landscape and genre traditions; the Hudson River school, the genre painters, the expatriates and the independents; folk and naive paintings. Some knowledge of European painting is desirable. Fulfills the Nineteenth-century art requirement for majors.

ARHT 360 Twentieth-Century Art (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. From Picasso to the end of the Twentieth-century: Cubism, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art and Minimalism; scientific and social forces transforming the artist’s vision, including the theories of Freud and Bergson. Fulfills the Twentieth century requirement for majors.

ARHT 361 Modern Architecture (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. Major contributions to the development of modern architecture in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; the development of styles, structural innovations and theories of design. Fulfills the Twentieth Century/Contemporary requirement for majors.

ARHT 393 The Critical Approach (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GNED 201, GNED 202, HONP 201, HONP 202, ARDW 201, ARST 205, MUGN 241, RELG 221, ENFL 208, ARHT 200, ARHT 202, ARHT 203, ARHT 280, ARHT 281, ARHT 290 or departmental approval. Historical criticism, criteria in art criticism, and an analysis of the critical process. Fulfills the Special Topics requirement for majors.

ARHT 490 Special Topics in Art History (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 105, ARHT 106, ARHT 350 and ARHT 360. A seminar in topics such as the works of an individual artist or a particular theme in art history (e.g. the human figure) or a particular technique (e.g. sculpture); lectures, reports, museum and studio visits, discussion. May be repeated seven times for a maximum of 24 credits.

ARHT 491 Independent Study: Art History (2-8 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 350, ARHT 360 and departmental approval. Independent study. May be repeated for a maximum of twelve credits.

ARHT 499 Independent Study: Senior Thesis (BA Art History) (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 200 and any 300-level ARHT course; or departmental approval. With art history faculty advisement, each Senior Art History major will conduct a course of research in art history and complete a scholarly paper.

ARHT 501 Artists on Art (3 credits)
A selection of writings by artists on art are presented, including theoretical writings, excerpts from diaries and letters, manifestoes, interviews, etc. The class is designed as a seminar focusing on analysis, interpretation, and discussion of these primary sources.

ARHT 502 Field Trips in Art History (2-6 credits)
Travel courses to art sources in the United States and foreign countries not to exceed twelve graduate credits. Travel courses to art sources in the United States and foreign countries not to exceed twelve undergraduate credits. First-hand contact with the art forms and visual culture of the places visited; study of monuments in the field and works in museums and galleries. Subject(s) to be defined by the professor. May be repeated for a maximum of twelve credits.

ARHT 536 Northern Renaissance Art (3 credits)
15th and 16th century paintings in northern Europe - especially Italy, Flanders and Holland; the development of Realism and style in relation to social change and the general ideas of the period, including contemporary music. Jan Van Eyck, Van der Weyden, Bosch, Peter Breughel and Matthias Grünewald.

ARHT 540 European Art of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries (3 credits)
Principal developments in painting, sculpture, architecture and related arts during the Baroque and Rococo periods as affected by contemporary political, religious and economic factors. Artists include Caravaggio, Bernini, Poussin, Velazquez, Rembrandt, Rubens, Watteau and Hogarth.

ARHT 590 Modern Philosophies of Art I (3 credits)
Major writers in art in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The nature of the creative experience; art in the life of the individual and of society; the creative process; new materials; institutions and sentiments affecting current thinking in the field. Discussions based on readings of philosophers, poets, social scientists and psychologists.

ARHT 600 Graduate Methods of Research in Art History (3 credits)
Introduction to the approaches, methods and goals of art-historical research, including descriptive, bibliographic, stylistic, and iconographic analysis.
ARHT 601 Special Topics in Art History (3 credits)
Art problems, iconographic topics and themes of a historic, social and philosophical nature. Topic selection will depend upon the special areas of the professor or guest professor invited for the semester. May be repeated for a maximum of 24 credits.

ARHT 603 The American Collector and New York Museums (3 credits)
The history of American art collecting is studied using the private collections that are now incorporated into museums in New York City. The contents of these collections, the ways they are housed, and the role of museum as educational institution will be examined in light of social and cultural ideals. Discussions based on readings and field trips.

ARHT 698 Master's Thesis (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. Independent research project done under faculty advisement. Students must follow the MSU Thesis Guidelines, which may be obtained from the Graduate School. Students should take ARHT 699 if they don’t complete ARHT 698 within the semester.

ARHT 699 Master's Thesis Extension (1 credit)
Prerequisite(s): ARHT 698. Continuation of Master's Thesis Project. Thesis Extension will be graded as IP (in Progress) until thesis is completed, at which time a grade of Pass or Fail will be given.