

Honors in the Department of History of Art & Architecture

Graduation with honors in History of Art & Architecture requires at least 8 credits of specially designated honors coursework and an average grade of A- in History of Art & Architecture courses. Honors students take a graduate level seminar (500-level or above) by the end of the first semester of their Senior year, followed by a Directed Study with the Professor in whose field he/she would work. This course will result in an honors project on an original research topic written according to scholarly standards of presentation. The honors project will be defended in an oral examination before a faculty committee. All other requirements of the major remain the same, including the 400- or 500- level seminar requirement. Hence, honors students take at least two seminars.

The pathway leading to graduation with honors in the major:

- (1) Student takes the graduate methods seminar AH 802: Art Historical Writing (4 credits) or a 500-level methods course (4 credits) **OR** student takes a 500-level, 700-level, or 800-level course (4 credits) taught by any of the History of Art & Architecture faculty. No matter what course is taken, the student notifies the Professor teaching the course that he/she wants it to be part of an honors project by **October 15**.
- (2) Student submits a proposal for an honors project to the departmental Honors Committee by **November 15**. The Proposal should be a maximum of 4 double-spaced pages, and include a 1-2 page abstract, bibliography, and any other relevant materials that would give the Honors Committee a sense of the project. This might include images, lists of works of art or architecture to be considered, etc. After reviewing the proposal and the student's transcript, an interview is conducted before the end of the Fall semester. The Honors Committee consists of the Undergraduate Studies Committee and the Professor supervising the honors project.
- (3) After the interview, student will be notified of the Honors Committee's decision. Students with successful proposals will meet with the Professor supervising the honors project to plan the remainder of the project and discuss the composition of the Defense Committee. The Defense Committee consists of three readers: the Professor supervising the project and two additional faculty members in fields that complement the student's project.
- (4) Student takes a second semester, Directed Study course (4 credits), with the supervising Professor. The recommended length of the project is about 10,000 words or 30 pages inclusive of notes and exclusive of bibliography. The first draft is due to the supervising Professor **March 1**; the final, clean draft is due to the Defense Committee no later than **April 1**.
- (5) The project is defended in an oral examination before the Defense Committee by **April 15**. The Defense Committee notifies the student if honors are to be awarded before the end of the term.