The Bachelor of Arts in Art History is a major that teaches the essential skills of critical analysis, research, and communication through examination of the social context in which art was historically - and continues to be - created. At SLU, the Art History faculty offers a broad chronological and geographical field of study that includes African, African American, Islamic, Ancient art, Medieval and Renaissance Europe, the Modern era, and the most current trends in American and global contemporary art.

Academically, art history is acknowledged as an interdisciplinary field, meaning that we incorporate essential skills from a variety of humanities disciplines such as history, music, philosophy, theology, anthropology, or economics for analyses of artworks and the societies in which they were made. In practice at SLU, our students take advantage of the active arts community at the University and in the wider Saint Louis area. Students meet with the faculty at informal sessions at a local museum, such as one of our four on-campus art galleries. They have the opportunity to participate in our successful internship program where students have held positions at the Samuel Cupples House, the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, the St. Louis Art Museum, and the National Gallery in Washington, DC. As interns, students participate in the organization and realization of exhibitions and special events and may even have the opportunity to publish in a gallery catalog.

But what does this mean for you? It means employability. Our students have been accepted into internationally recognized graduate programs and are employed at local and national art galleries and auction houses. With its wide-ranging skill preparation, the Art History Program at SLU prepares students for the demanding job markets in academia and the arts, marketing and advertising, law and journalism, and other fields that require understanding of our visually based culture and the ability to express intelligent, well-researched opinions.

The Art History curriculum consists of 36 required hours for majors. The main objective is to introduce the student to a series of courses that build a solid foundation of studying the western traditions in Art History. Of the 36 required hours, 18 of the hours must be on the 3000/4000 level.
Art History

Introductory Courses 3 hrs
ARTH 1010 History of Western Art I 3

Research 3 hrs
ARTH 4900 Research Methods in Art History (Fall of Senior year)

Internship or other 4000 level course 3 hrs

Global Arts 3 hrs
ARTH 2100 Art of Jerusalem and 3 Faiths 3
ARTH 2120 Art of Africa 3
ARTH 2130 Pre-Columbian Art 3
ARTH 2320 Art of the African Diaspora 3
ARTH 2350 Excavating Culture of 3 Faiths 3
ARTH 3140 Islamic Art and Society 3
ARTH 4810 Modern Art in Latin America (Madrid only) 3

Studio Art 3 hrs
Studio Art elective 3

21 hours in the following categories with a minimum of 9 hours in either of the following categories:

Art Produced Before 1800 9-12
Art Produced After 1800 9-12

TOTAL REQUIRED 36 hrs

Plus additional courses according to one of the following:
Completion of related upper-division, faculty mentor approved courses (15 hours minimum)
Completion of a Minor
Completion of a Double Major

Art Produced Before 1800
ARTH 1080 Masterpieces in Art
ARTH 1090 Global Masterpieces in Art
ARTH 1500 Life and Times of Michelangelo
ARTH 2100 Art of Jerusalem and 3 Faiths
ARTH 2120 Art of Africa
ARTH 2150 Saints in Art
ARTH 2300 Ancient Art Survey
ARTH 2320 Art of the African Diaspora
ARTH 2350 Excavating Culture of 3 Faiths
ARTH 2400 Medieval Art Survey
ARTH 2500 Renaissance Art Survey
ARTH 2600 Baroque Art
ARTH 2900 History of Art Media: Pre-history-Digital Age
ARTH 3300 Classical Art of Greece and Rome
ARTH 3500 Early Renaissance Art
ARTH 3510 High/Late Renaissance Art and Culture
ARTH 3520 Northern Renaissance Art
ARTH 3400 Art of Pilgrimage and Crusades
ARTH 3410 Art of Kings and Cathedrals
ARTH 3650 Northern Baroque
ARTH 4300 Greek Art
ARTH 4310 Roman Art
ARTH 4400 Illuminated Manuscripts
ARTH 4410 Medieval Women and Art
ARTH 4910 Special Topics: Medieval
ARTH 4920 Special Topics: Renaissance
ARTH 4930 Special Topics: General
ARTH 4520 Renaissance Women and the Arts
ARTH 4010 Christian Iconography
ARTH 2180 History of Spanish Art (Madrid only)

Art Produced After 1800
ARTH 1020 History of Architecture
ARTH 1070 American Masterpieces in Art
ARTH 1080 Masterpieces in Art
ARTH 1090 Global Masterpieces in Art
ARTH 1800 Abstract Art
ARTH 2020 Sculpture in St Louis
ARTH 2050 Controversy in Art
ARTH 2060 Feminism and Art
ARTH 2120 Art of Africa
ARTH 2220 African American Art
ARTH 2320 Art of the African Diaspora
ARTH 2800 Modern Art Survey
ARTH 2820 Contemporary Art Since 1980
ARTH 2700 19th c Art Survey
ARTH 2750 Art and Body
ARTH 2900 History of Art Media: Pre-history-Digital Age
ARTH 3700 American Art to WW II
ARTH 3710 American Art: WW II to Present
ARTH 3730 Realism and Impressionism
ARTH 3740 American Art Between the Wars
ARTH 3800 20th Century Art
ARTH 3820 Modern Architecture
ARTH 3880 History of Photography
ARTH 4700 19th Century Art
ARTH 4800 Contemporary Art
ARTH 4850 Religious Dimensions in Modern Art
ARTH 4940 Special Topics: Modern
ARTH 4000 Internship

Madrid Campus:
ARTH 2180 History of Spanish Art
ARTH 4190 Contemporary Spanish Art
ARTH 4810 Modern Art in Latin America
ARTH 4810 Modern Art in Latin America