Art History

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Admission Requirements

Any student presently registered and enrolled at the University of Oulu is entitled to study Art History.

Study Guidance

Study guidance is provided by the Lecturer of Art History, tel. +358 29 448 3334, Office HU336. The office hour is on Thursdays 2-4 P.M., but an appointment can be made to meet at other times.

The updated versions of the teaching materials are published every autumn and can be obtained from the lecturer. The materials include useful information, for example guidance and pictures necessary for completing the courses.

Art History

Why is Paavo Nurmi depicted running naked, but Eero Mäntyranta is portrayed skiing dressed? Why is the ornamentation on the ceiling and dome in Oulu Cathedral similar to that in the Pantheon in Rome? What is an academic icon like? These are good questions for Art History.

Art History is the history of images (visual arts) and architecture (the art of construction). Art History is interested in history from prehistory to modern times and cultures inside and outside of Europe.

Of course Art History examines pictures and architecture also from other perspectives than historical. Recently, questions regarding the observer of the picture or the work of architecture have become increasingly common in the research in the field.

Despite the name, Art History can also examine contemporary art. However, without knowing the past, especially the myths of Classical Antiquity and Judeo-Christian tradition, Art History could not be studied.

Studies in Art History add to our knowledge of our European roots, from the perspective of both Western and Eastern traditions. Therefore Art History also bears notable cultural significance.

At the University of Oulu, Art History can only be studied as a subsidiary subject, comprising courses worth 60 ECTS credits in total. As a subsidiary subject, Art History is useful to many subjects in the Faculty of Humanities (for example, History, Literature, Cultural Anthropology, Archaeology, languages, and so on).

Additionally, there are always people outside the Faculty of Humanities interested in completing the Basic Studies (25 ECTS credits).

The lecturer of Art History is responsible for the programme. In addition to basic conventional lectures and examinations, the studies consist of different projects, lecture diaries, analyses, essays, seminars and excursions.

Practical Information
Book exams are taken on the examination dates of the Faculty of Humanities by signing up for them in WebOodi. Both the dates of the Faculty and the dates of the subject can be used.

The picture and lecture exam for the course Elementary Course in Art History will be taken on a date agreed on during a lecture instead of the usual exam dates.

The Elective studies as well as the essays in the Intermediate Studies package have to be separately agreed upon with the lecturer.

It is recommended that students complete the Basic and Intermediate Studies in the given order. Thus the understanding of the subjects will be developed coherently. On the other hand, after starting the studies different topics progress side by side.

Courses in the Basic Studies and the Intermediate Studies packages are assessed by the Lecturer of Art History.

Often courses provided by other subjects (such as History, Classical Archaeology, Ancient Languages and Culture, Literature) can be used in the students’ Art History studies. A suitable course may support the development of Art History knowledge, and therefore it may be accredited as an elective course.

Study Packages and Learning Outcomes

Basic Studies

Upon completion of the Basic Studies package in Art History, students will have informational and conceptual expertise and the skills needed to critically examine visual arts and architecture and related research. They will understand the nature of thinking in Art History and acknowledge the characteristics and approaches of scholarly research on Art History.

Intermediate Studies

Upon completion of the Intermediate Studies package, students will have a versatile understanding of the perspectives, methods and sources of research as well as an understanding of the scope of the field and complexity of research in Art History. Additionally, students will be aware of the most essential conventions and methodological approaches of Art History, and they will understand the methodological fundamentals of research in Art History.

Upon completion of the Intermediate Studies package, students will have the skills required for Master Level studies, scholarly problem formulation, use of information resources and source materials, for documentation of information as well as academic problem solving, argumentation, critique and dialogue. Students will have the skills needed to plan and conduct independent projects concerning research and application of scholarly knowledge. In addition, students will have the skills to compose small theses and presentations as well as other written and oral projects based on their expertise.

Courses

Basic Studies (25 ECTS credits)

687600P Introduction to Art History (5 ECTS credits)
687608P Elementary Course in Art History, Lectures (5 ECTS credits)
687609P Elementary Course in Art History, Book Exam (5 ECTS credits)
687610P Excursion in Finland (5 ECTS credits)
687611P Elective Studies (5 ECTS credits)

Intermediate Studies (35 ECTS credits)

687612A Art History, Book Exam (6 ECTS credits)
687613A Art History, Essay (5 ECTS credits)
Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomat opintokokonaisuudet ja -jaksot

687614A: Art History of Finland, Book Exam, 6 op
687615A: Art History of Finland, Essay, 5 op
687612A: Art History, Book Exam, 6 op
687613A: Art History, Essay, 5 op
687616A: Elective Studies, 5 op
687611P: Elective Studies, 5 op
687609P: Elementary Course in Art History, Book Exam, 5 op
687608P: Elementary Course in Art History, Lectures, 5 op
687610P: Excursion in Finland, 5 op
687600P: Introduction to Art History, 5 op
687606A: Seminar, 8 op

Opintojaksojen kuvaukset

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomien opintokokonaisuuksien ja -jaksojen kuvaukset

687614A: Art History of Finland, Book Exam, 6 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits: 6 ECTS credits
Language of instruction: Finnish
Timing: After completing the courses Art History, Book Exam and Art History, Essay
Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course *Art History of Finland, Essay* and this course, students will be able to name the essential time periods and examples of Finnish visual art, and to compare them with other European equivalents. Students will also be able to describe the characteristics of Finnish art.

**Contents:**
Together with the course *Art History of Finland, Essay* this course will familiarise students with the specific phenomena of the Art History of Finland, and to deepen their knowledge of the relation between the Art History of Finland and the Art Histories of Scandinavia, the Baltics and Russia.

**Mode of delivery:**
Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
Book examination

**Target group:**
Students minoring in Art History

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**
Completion of the courses *Art History, Book Exam* and *Art History, Essay* is required.

**Recommended or required reading:**
The following passages of the book series *Ars Suomen taide*:

- a) Ars 1, pp. 116-225: Keskiajan maalaustaide, Keskiajan puunveisto ja maalatut alttarikaapit
- b) Ars 2, pp. 256-319: Kuvataide 1600- ja 1700-luvulla
- c) Ars 3, pp. 50-149: Ruotsin ajan perinne kuvataiteessa, Kuvataide autonomian alkuajalla, Maalaustaide 1860-1880
- d) Ars 4, pp. 200-287: Maalaustaide 1880-luvulla, Maalaustaide 1890-luvulla
- e) Ars 5, pp. 60-83, 174-269: Kuvanteistoa 1800-luvulla, Maalaustaide vuosisadan vaihteesta itsenäisyysen aikaan, Maalaustaide 1918-1940, Kuvaneisto 1900-1950

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Book exam

**Grading:**
0–5

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer of Art History

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**687615A: Art History of Finland, Essay, 5 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2015 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuysikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opettajat:** Jorma Mikola

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Voidaan suorittaa useasti:** Kyllä

**ECTS Credits:**
5 ECTS credits

**Language of instruction:**
Finnish

**Timing:**
After completing the course *Art History of Finland, Book Exam*

**Learning outcomes:**
Upon completion of the course *Art History of Finland, Book Exam* and this course, students will be able to name the important time periods and examples of Finnish visual art, and to compare them with European equivalents. Students will also be able to describe the characteristics of Finnish art.

**Contents:**
Together with the course *Art History of Finland, Book Exam* this course will familiarise the students with the specific phenomena of the Art History of Finland, and to deepen the knowledge of the relation between the Art History of Finland and the Art Histories of Scandinavia, the Baltics and Russia. The essay enables the student to familiarise themselves with a topic they find interesting.

**Mode of delivery:**
Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
A written assignment

**Target group:**
Students minoring in Art History

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**
Completion of the course *Art History of Finland, Book Exam* is required.

**Recommended or required reading:**
To be agreed upon with the person responsible

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Essay

**Grading:**
0–5

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer of Art History

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**687612A: Art History, Book Exam, 6 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2015 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuysikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opettajat:** Jorma Mikola

**Opintoaikaa:** Finnish

**Voidaan suorittaa useasti:** Kyllä

**ECTS Credits:**
6 ECTS credits

**Language of instruction:**
Finnish

**Timing:**
After the Basic Studies, throughout the academic year

**Learning outcomes:**
Upon completion of the course *Art History, Essay* and this course, students will have been able to improve their knowledge of the time periods, coherent unities and individual examples of the Art History of Europe, and they will be able to assess them and their significance in a larger context.

**Contents:**
Together with the course *Art History, Essay* this course familiarises students with phenomena of European Art History, and students will deepen the knowledge acquired during the Basic Studies.

**Mode of delivery:**
Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
Book exam

**Target group:**
Students minoring in Art History

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**
The completion of the Basic Studies of Art History is required.

**Recommended or required reading:**
a) Michael Baxandall, *Painting and Experience in Fifteenth-Century Italy*
b) Anna Moszynska, *Abstract Art*
c) John Boardman, *The Oxford History of Classical Art*

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Book exam or a reading journal of each book

**Grading:**
0–5

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer of Art History
687613A: Art History, Essay, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
After completing the course Art History, Book Exam

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course Art History, Book Exam and this course, students will have been able to improve their knowledge of the time periods, coherent unities and individual examples of the Art History of Europe, and they will be able to assess them and their significance in a larger context.

Contents:
Together with the course Art History, Book Exam this course will familiarise students with phenomena of European art history, and they will deepen the knowledge acquired during the Basic Studies. The essay enables student to familiarise themselves with a topic they find interesting.

Mode of delivery:
Independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
A written assignment

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Prerequisites and co-requisites:
Completion of the course Art History, Book Exam is required.

Recommended or required reading:
To be agreed upon with the person responsible

Assessment methods and criteria:
Essay

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Lecturer in Art History

687616A: Elective Studies, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
After completing the Basic Studies

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to select a suitable learning method, collect materials and assess them critically. For conducting research, students will be able to select a suitable method to demonstrate their learning, so that the work can be assessed.

Contents:
Students will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the topic they find most interesting in Art History. They will also be able to consider different methods for doing so and choose the most appropriate one for themselves.

Mode of delivery:
Independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
To be agreed upon with the lecturer

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Prerequisites and co-requisites:
The completion of Basic Studies of Art History is required.

Assessment methods and criteria:
To be agreed upon with the person responsible

Grading:
0–5 or Pass/Fail

Person responsible:
Lecturer of Art History

687611P: Elective Studies, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

Leikkaavuudet:
ay687611P Elective Studies (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
After starting the Basic Studies

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to select a suitable learning method, collect materials and assess them critically. For conducting research, students will be able to select a suitable method to demonstrate their learning, so that the work can be assessed.

Contents:
Students will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the topic they find most interesting in Art History. They will also be able to consider different methods for doing so and choose the most appropriate one for themselves.

Mode of delivery:
Independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
To be agreed upon with the person responsible

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Assessment methods and criteria:
To be agreed upon with the person responsible
687609P: Elementary Course in Art History, Book Exam, 5 op

**Grading:**
0–5 or Pass/Fail

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer of Art History

**ECTS Credits:**
5 ECTS credits

**Language of instruction:**
Finnish

**Timing:**
The book exam can be taken throughout the academic year.

**Learning outcomes:**
Upon completion of this course and the course *Elementary Course in Art History, Lectures*, students will be able to assess European art in its entirety, display an understanding of the significance of antiquity, discern the different time periods and put them in chronological order, describe them and provide examples of the most important works.

**Contents:**
Together with lectures the course provides basic knowledge of the development, styles, artists and the chronology of the visual arts and architecture of Europe.

**Mode of delivery:**
Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
Book exam

**Target group:**
Students minoring in Art History

**Recommended optional programme components:**
The course promotes the lectures and the picture materials of the course *Elementary Course in Art History, Lectures*.

**Recommended or required reading:**
Honour & Fleming, *Maailman taiteen historia*

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Examination

**Grading:**
0–5

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer of Art History

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687608P: Elementary Course in Art History, Lectures, 5 op

**Grading:**
0–5 or Pass/Fail

**Person responsible:**
Lecturer of Art History
Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of this course and the course *Elementary Course in Art History, Book Exam,* students will be able to assess European art in its entirety, display an understanding of the significance of antiquity, discern the different time periods and put them in chronological order, describe them and provide examples of the most important works.

Contents:
Together with the book exam the course provides basic knowledge of the development, styles, artists and the chronology of the visual arts and architecture of Europe.

Mode of delivery:
Contact teaching and independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lectures (48 hours), independent study of picture material

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Recommended optional programme components:
It is desirable to complete this course alongside *Introduction to Art History.* This course also helps with completing *Elementary Course in Art History, Book Exam.*

Recommended or required reading:
The extensive picture materials are included in the lecture materials.

Assessment methods and criteria:
Examination

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Lecturer of Art History

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687610P: Excursion in Finland, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

Leikkaavuudet:
ay687610P Excursion in Finland (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
May

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to identify essential examples of Art History from different locations and time periods in Finland, and display an understanding of the importance of experiencing them on an
individual level. Additionally, students will be able to discuss them based on what they have heard, read and experienced, and produce a short essay based on them.

Contents:
Nothing can compensate for seeing and experiencing a piece of art on a personal level. This course is designed specifically for that. Additionally, it will increase the students’ knowledge of the most important Finnish collections of art, museums, exhibitions, monuments, surroundings and the significance to Art History thereof.

Mode of delivery:
Contact teaching

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Excursion

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Prerequisites and co-requisites:
Completion of the courses Introduction to Art History, Elementary Course in Art History, Lectures and Elementary Course in Art History, Book Exam is required.

Assessment methods and criteria:
A field trip, writing a travelogue

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Lecturer of Art History

687600P: Introduction to Art History, 5 op

Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet:
ay687600P Introduction to art studies (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
Spring Term

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to describe and analyse works of art, name the most important written sources behind the European visual arts, discern Eastern and Western traditions and their most important differences, and display an understanding of the significance of experiencing art on an individual level.

Contents:
The course covers information about the subject and the studies, literature on Art History, and the methods and problems of examining art. Students will also write an analysis of pictures and text.

Mode of delivery:
Contact teaching

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lectures (24 hours), exercises

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Recommended optional programme components:
It is recommended to begin the studies of Art History with this course.

Recommended or required reading:
Vasari, Giorgio, The Lives of the Artists (Taiteilijaelämäkertoja Giottosta Michelangeloon).

Assessment methods and criteria:
Participating, writing an analysis.

Grading:
687606A: Seminar, 8 op

Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
8 ECTS credits
Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
Spring
Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to assess literature on Art History and the history thereof. They will be able to discern different aspects and methods of Art History. When examining art, they will be able to separate the significance given to the work of art by themselves, other people and the artist. Students will be able to criticise and question their opinions about art and identify where their opinions originate.

Contents:
Exploring different areas of Art History, research on art and the history of research on Art History; exploring different ways to examine and analyse art; participating in the seminar is essential.

Mode of delivery:
Contact teaching

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Weekly seminar sessions

Target group:
Students minoring in Art History

Prerequisites and co-requisites:
Basic Studies in Art History

Recommended optional programme components:
The completion of the Basic Studies of Art History is required.

Recommended or required reading:
To be handed out during the seminar

Assessment methods and criteria:
Weekly seminar session, 80% attendance required.

Grading:
Pass / fail

Person responsible:
Lecturer in Art History

Other information:
It is recommended to take this course at the beginning of the Intermediate Studies.