HuTK - Art History 2009-2011 (2009 - 2011)

Art History

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About Art History

Why is Paavo Nurmi portrayed running in the nude in his monument, but Eero Mäntyranta is skiing with all his clothes on in his statue? Why are the ceiling and the cupola of the Oulu Cathedral decorated with the same kind of motif as the Pantheon in Rome? What is an “Academic Icon”? These make good questions for a researcher of Art history.

Art history consists of the history of images (the visual arts) and architecture (built environment). The field of art history covers periods from prehistory till the present day, and geographically both European phenomena and often also cultures outside the European borders.

Art historical research is not restricted to perceiving the visual arts and architecture from historical perspectives. Recently, an increasing interest in art historical research has been placed on issues like how to survey images and architecture as such, and how to define the role of viewer response to art.

Despite its name, it is possible to research contemporary art within the field of art history. However, familiarity with the myths of the Antiquity and the Judeo-Christian tradition is essential in art historical studies.

Art History increases students’ knowledge of the roots of European civilization, from the viewpoints of both Eastern and Western traditions, giving a significant part to students’ education in the arts.

It is not possible to major in Art History at the University of Oulu, but it may be taken as a minor subject for 60 credits. As a minor subject it can well be combined with many subjects from the Faculty of Humanities (Literature, Cultural Anthropology, Archaeology, History, languages etc.) There have always been also some students of Art History from other faculties.

The co-ordinating member of staff for Art History is the Senior Lecturer. There are also three docents in Art History. Besides the traditional modes of learning such as lectures and examinations, studies in Art History include practical work, learning diaries, analysing the visual arts, writing essays, seminar work and excursions.

Admission requirements and commencement of studies

Art History may be taken as a minor subject by any student enrolled at the University of Oulu. The best time to start the studies is at the beginning of autumn term; in practice students will simply join courses that begin in autumn term. There is no need to a register separately for studies in Art History.
Course schedules with dates and places of courses will be given at the beginning of each term. They are posted on the notice board of Art History and on the website.

**Study counselling and practical information**

Study counselling and practical information is provided by Senior Lecturer in Art History, (tel. +358-8-553 3334, room HU336). The office hour is on Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., and at other times by appointment.

Material for studies in Art History is available in digital format. An updated version comes out at the beginning of each autumn term and can be acquired from the Senior Lecturer. Study material contains a lot of useful information such as further instructions for completing courses in Art History, lists of the required readings for examinations, schedule of the latest excursion to Finnish art collections, monuments and the built environment, and photographs from earlier excursions.

N.B. Courses in Art History are in the Finnish language.

**Courses**

*Basic Studies 25 credits*

- 687600P Introduction to Art History, 5 credits
- 687601P Elementary Course in Art History, 13 credits
- 687602P Finnish Art Collections, Exhibitions, Monuments and Built Environment; 3 credits
- 687603P Optional Studies, 4 credits

*Intermediate Studies, 35 credits*

- 687604A World History of Art, 9 credits
- 687605A Art History of Finland and Neighbouring Countries, 9 credits
- 687606A Seminar, 8 credits
- 687607A Optional Studies, 9 credits

*Learning Objectives*

After completing the Basic studies, students will have the knowledge, skills and conceptual abilities to critically analyse the visual arts, architecture and studies related to them. They will have understood the mode of thinking in art history and become aware of the distinctive features and various approaches of the subject.

After completing the Intermediate Studies, students will have a multifaceted view on the methods, approaches and source materials of art history. They will also have an understanding of the variety of research questions and the breadth of this research field. In addition, students will be familiar with the most important research tradition, methodological trends and theoretical background of the methods in art history.

With reference to the master studies, students will have the skills to present and solve problems scientifically, to use existing information and sources, to document information, to propose arguments and critique and to participate in scientific dialogue. The students will be able to plan and produce small treatises, presentations and other oral or written works which are based on their own expertise and effort as well as on applying scientific information and research.
Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomat opintokokonaisuudet ja -jakset

687605A: Art history of Finland and neighbouring countries, 9 op
687601P: Elementary Course in Art History, 13 op
687602P: Finnish Art Collections, exhibitions, Monuments and Built Environment, 3 op
687600P: Introduction to Art Studies, 5 op
687603P: Optional Studies, 4 op
687607A: Optional Studies, 9 op
687606A: Seminar, 8 op
687604A: World history of art, 9 op

Opintojaksojen kuvaukset

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomien opintokokonaisuuksien ja -jaksojen kuvaukset

687605A: Art history of Finland and neighbouring countries, 9 op

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

ECTS Credits: 9 credits
Language of instruction: Finnish
Timing: After the preceding course
Learning outcomes: After completing the course students will remember and be able to name central periods and examples in Finnish art history, know how to compare them with concurrent European developments, and know how to describe the special characteristic of Finnish art history.
Contents: This course gives an insight into special phenomena within Finnish art history and their relation to Scandinavian, Baltic and Russian history of art. Students will deepen their knowledge of these areas acquired in Basic Studies. A written assignment will give students a chance to examine further some aspect of their particular interest in art history.
Learning activities and teaching methods: Book exam 6 credits
Written assignment 3 credits.
Recommended optional programme components: World History of Art
Recommended or required reading: List of readings on the Art History website and on the notice board of Art History.
Grading:
687601P: Elementary Course in Art History, 13 op

Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen oppimateriaali:
Honour, Hugh , , 2001
Shildts (toim.), , 1998
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet:
ay687601P   Elementary Course in Art History (OPEN UNI)   13.0 op

ECTS Credits:
13 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
Lectures during autumn term

Learning outcomes:
After completing the course students will be able to consider European art as a whole and recognize the significance of the Antiquity, know how to distinguish different periods, list them in chronological order, characterize them, and know and remember the essential examples of periods in the arts.

Contents:
This course will give basic knowledge of the major developments, styles, artists and chronologies in the European visual arts and architecture.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
A. Book exam I. 4 credits
B. Book exam II. 3 credits.
C. Lectures (48 h) 3 credits.
D. Image exam. 3 credits.

Recommended optional programme components:
It is recommended that students start the Elementary Course in Art History by attending lectures, and at the same time take part in Introduction to Art History.

Recommended or required reading:
A. Book exam I: Honour & Fleming, A World History of Art (Maailman taiteen historia, except chapters that cover areas outside Europe. However, to be included into the examination are the high cultures of Ancient Egypt and the Near East.
B. Book exam II: von Bonsdorff, Bengt... [et al ] , Art in Finland: from the Middle Ages to the present day (Suomen taiteen historia: keskiajasta nykyaikaan, first published in the Swedish language as: Konsten i Finland).

Grading:
1-5

Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History

687602P: Finnish Art Collections, exhibitions, Monuments and Built Environment, 3 op

Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
ECTS Credits:
3 credits
Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
Excursion takes place in May.
Learning outcomes:
After completing the course students will be familiar with the central examples of Finnish art history from different places and periods, and know them first-hand. Students will be able to describe these works of art on the basis of what they have heard, read and experienced themselves, and write a short essay.
Contents:
In the study of Art History, nothing can replace the actual process of looking at and experiencing original works of art. This course will give students possibilities for exactly this. At the same time, students will be introduced to the most central examples of Finnish art collections, museums, art exhibitions, monuments, built environment and their art historical meanings.
Learning activities and teaching methods:
Excursion, and a written assignment on the excursion. 3 credits.
Recommended optional programme components:
Introduction to Art History and Elementary Course in Art History.
Grading:
1-5
Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History

687600P: Introduction to Art Studies, 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 credits
Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
The course (24 h) is held during autumn term
Learning outcomes:
Students who have completed this course will be able to describe and analyse works of art, name the most important written sources behind European visual arts, discern Eastern and Western traditions in art and their most important differences. Students will also have some idea of the relevance of experiencing art personally.
Contents:
This course gives practical information on Art History, how to study it, a look at literature in the field, methodology of history of art, and questions about how to perceive the visual arts. The participants in this course will also write an analysis on a work of art and on art historical research.
Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lectures, two written assignments. 5 credits
Recommended optional programme components:
It is recommended that students begin their studies with this course

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

Grading:
1-5

Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History

687603P: Optional Studies, 4 op

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

Leikkaavuudet:
ay687603P  Optional Studies (OPEN UNI)  4.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
4 Credits
Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
After starting Basic Studies

Learning outcomes:
After completing the course students will be able to choose a suitable method of studying for themselves, to collect the needed material for that, and to increase their knowledge and understanding in art history. This is done with the help of their earlier knowledge in art history.

Contents:
This course gives students a chance to acquire further art historical knowledge and understanding on the basis of their own interests. The mode of this course can also be suggested by students to suit their individual needs.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Either in two parts that each give 2 credits; or in one part that gives 4 credits. To be discussed with the Senior Lecturer in Art History.

Grading:
1-5, or pass/ fail

Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History

687607A: Optional Studies, 9 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:
9 credits
Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
After beginning Intermediate Studies

Learning outcomes:
After completing the course students will be better able to choose a suitable method of studying for themselves, to collect the needed material for that, and to increase their knowledge and understanding of art history. This is done with the help of their earlier knowledge of art history.

Contents:
This course gives students a chance to acquire further art historical knowledge and understanding on the basis of their own interests. The mode of this course can be suggested by students to suit their individual needs.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
The course consists of parts that cover at least 3 credits. To be discussed with the Senior Lecturer in Art History.

Grading:
1-5, or pass/ fail

Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History

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 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
Seminar work starts at the beginning of autumn term and continues till the end of February.

Learning outcomes:
After completing the course students will be able to evaluate art historical research and its history and to discern different points of view and methods of art historical research. Students will also be able to discern meanings that they themselves, other viewers and artists attach to works of art, and to evaluate and question their own views on art and recognize what is behind them.

Contents:
Participants will study different aspects of art history, art historical research, history of art history, and possible ways to view and to analyse art. The mode of learning, seminar work, is also relevant to the content of the course: students will give presentations and take part in discussions.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Weekly seminars from September to the end of February. 80 % attendance of seminars is mandatory.

Recommended optional programme components:
Students can join the course after beginning Intermediate Studies

Recommended or required reading:
All material will be provided during the seminar

Grading:
Pass / fail

Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History

687604A: World history of art, 9 op

Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Jorma Mikola
Opintokohteen oppimateriaali:
Baxandall, Michael, , 1991
Moszynska, Anna, , 1993
Boardman John, , 1993
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
9 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Timing:
After Basic Studies

Learning outcomes:
After completing the course, students will have acquired a deeper knowledge of some periods of European art history, entities of European art and some individual examples of art, and they will be able to consider them in a wider context.

Contents:
This course gives an insight into special phenomena of the world history of art, mainly European art history. Students will deepen their knowledge on these areas acquired in Basic Studies. A written assignment will give students a chance to examine further some aspect of their particular interest in art history.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Book exam 6 credits
Written assignment 3 credits.

Recommended optional programme components:
Basic Studies

Recommended or required reading:
List of readings on the Art History website and on the notice board of Art History.

Grading:
1-5

Person responsible:
Senior Lecturer in Art History