

Date Submitted: 02/17/25 4:17 pm

Viewing: **AHAAMA : Art History in Arts of the Americas, Master of Arts**

Last approved: 09/27/24 4:24 pm

Last edit: 03/03/25 2:09 pm

Changes proposed by: nrgreen

Catalog Pages Using this Program

[Art History in Arts of the Americas \(AHAA\)](#)

Submitter:

User ID: nrgreen gdaughter

Phone:

575-3429 ~~217-419-~~  
~~5168~~

Program Status

Active

Academic Level

Graduate

Type of proposal

Major/Field of Study

Select a reason for this modification

Making Minor Changes to an Existing Certificate, Degree or Program (including 15 or fewer hours, admission/graduation requirements, Focused Studies or Tracks)

Are you adding a concentration?

No

Are you adding or modifying a track?

No

Are you adding or modifying a focused study?

No

Effective Catalog Year

Fall 2025

College/School Code

Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences (ARSC)

Department Code

In Workflow

- 1. ARSC Dean Initial
- 2. GRAD Dean Initial
- 3. Director of Curriculum Review and Program Assessment
- 4. Registrar Initial
- 5. Institutional Research
- 6. ARTS Chair
- 7. ARSC Curriculum Committee
- 8. ARSC Dean
- 9. Global Campus
- 10. Provost Review
- 11. Graduate Council
- 12. Faculty Senate
- 13. Provost Final
- 14. Registrar Final
- 15. Catalog Editor Final

Approval Path

- 1. 02/17/25 4:23 pm  
Christopher Schulte (cschulte):  
Approved for ARSC Dean Initial
- 2. 02/18/25 1:48 pm  
Jim Gigantino (jgiganti): Approved for GRAD Dean Initial
- 3. 03/03/25 10:16 am  
Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza): Approved for Director of Curriculum Review

School of Art (ARTS)

Program Code	AHAAMA
Degree	Master of Arts
CIP Code	

- and Program Assessment
4. 03/03/25 2:09 pm  
Gina Daugherty  
(gdaughter):  
Approved for Registrar Initial
5. 03/03/25 2:18 pm  
Doug Miles  
(dmiles): Approved for Institutional Research
6. 03/03/25 3:06 pm  
Rachel Debuque  
(rdebuque):  
Approved for ARTS Chair
7. 03/10/25 11:02 am  
Nik Rowan  
(nrgreen): Approved for ARSC Curriculum Committee
8. 03/10/25 11:26 am  
Christopher Schulte  
(cschulte):  
Approved for ARSC Dean
9. 03/10/25 11:29 am  
Suzanne Kenner  
(skenner): Approved for Global Campus
10. 03/10/25 2:36 pm  
Jim Gigantino  
(jgiganti): Approved for Provost Review
11. 03/21/25 3:48 pm  
Phyllis Howell  
(pahowell):  
Approved for Graduate Council

History

- 1. Oct 10, 2022 by greenhil
- 2. Mar 13, 2023 by greenhil
- 3. Dec 8, 2023 by Jean Mitchell (jem03)
- 4. Feb 21, 2024 by Gina Daugherty (gdaugher)
- 5. Sep 27, 2024 by Amanda Corbell (ac087)

50.0703 - Art History, Criticism and Conservation.

Program Title  
Art History in Arts of the Americas, Master of Arts

Program Delivery  
Method  
On Campus

Is this program interdisciplinary between two or more colleges or schools?

No

Do the proposed changes impact any specific course(s) from another college or school?

No

What are the total        36  
hours needed to  
complete the  
program?

Program Requirements and Description

Requirements

The Master of Arts in Art History in Arts of the Americas is a two-year program conceived in collaboration with the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. The program offers a solid grounding in art’s complex global histories while providing a specialty in arts of the Americas. This specialized field was chosen for a variety of reasons, including the geographical location, the growing and world-class resources in American art, broadly conceived, and the commitment to leveraging these resources to expand access to the arts, which is seen as essential to building

better futures in society as a whole. The curriculum is organized around six key themes that are deemed essential to understanding both the arts of the Americas and the social impacts of creative practice, historically and in the present. These six themes include environment, heritage, power, circulation, structures and systems, and identity and community.

The program covers the cost of tuition and provides a generous stipend to all admitted students, providing a fully funded pathway toward a wide range of careers in the arts. Educating students in a multivocal and inclusive art history, the program aims to give students the interdisciplinary training and robust work experiences that they will need to thrive with an M.A. degree in industries that value visual literacy, creativity, communication, collaboration, research, and other skills. The program prepares students for top Ph.D. programs in art history, but also facilitates other trajectories for those seeking to contribute to the arts and society with an M.A. degree.

**Application to the Degree Program:**

Application for admission is a two-step process. Each applicant must:

[Apply to the Graduate School](#) at the University of Arkansas.

Submit the following to the School of Art [using SlideRoom](#):

A personal statement explaining motivation for pursuing graduate research in art history (in general and at the University of Arkansas), personal and career goals, and relevant qualifications and experiences.

A writing sample demonstrating preparedness for advanced research in art history (15-20 pages). The writing sample should be a piece of scholarly writing that demonstrates the student's research and writing skills, analytical abilities, and capacity for original argumentation. The writing sample should read as a complete piece of work (and not an incomplete section of a larger text). Students may attach up to five additional pages of illustrations and/or bibliography.

Curriculum vitae or résumé.

Three letters of recommendation addressing the applicant's preparedness for graduate education. The application is not considered complete until all recommendation letters are received.

A pdf of unofficial transcripts from all previous colleges and universities attended. Successful applicants will have an undergraduate degree in art history, or significant coursework in art history or a related discipline relevant to art history and/or the arts of the Americas focus of the program. Relevant work experience will also be considered as preparation for graduate work in art history.

The application deadline is [January](#) ~~February~~ 15 for fall admission. The application portal on [SlideRoom](#) will close after 11:59 p.m. (Central Standard Time) on [January](#) ~~February~~ 15. It is recommended that applicants submit their applications at least two weeks prior to the deadline to allow ample time for the submission of letters of recommendation.

**Requirements for the Degree**

A total of 12 courses (36 graduate credit hours) from the following:

Five courses (15 credit hours) in core courses:		
<a href="#">ARHS 60003</a>	Art History's Histories: Critical Historiography and Methodology	3
<a href="#">ARHS 60403</a>	Art History Practicum	3
<a href="#">ARHS 60103</a>	Immersive Travel	3
<a href="#">ARHS 60203</a>	Graduate Art History Writing Workshop	3

<a href="#"><u>ARHS 60303</u></a>	Art History Qualifying Paper	3
<p>Five courses (15 credit hours) must be selected in one or more of the six themes listed below, which are fundamental to understanding the arts of the Americas in a global context. Students are required to touch on each one of these six themes in coursework by the end of their second year in the program. Although most courses will address multiple themes, each course may count for no more than two themes. Students may petition to have up to two courses outside of art history count toward the theme requirement.</p>		15
<b>Environment Theme</b>		
<p>This theme speaks to land, nature, climate change, resource extraction, migration, space, empire, region, territory, stewardship.</p>		
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 61003</u></a>	Seminar in Spatial Practices in Mesoamerica and New Spain	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62103</u></a>	Seminar in Visual Legacies of the American West	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62203</u></a>	Seminar in Monuments and Public Space	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 63103</u></a>	Seminar in Contemporary Native American Art	
<b>Heritage Theme</b>		
<p>This speaks to ancestral lineages and legacies, invented traditions, the life of objects and ideologies, questions of authenticity, materials and making.</p>		
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62003</u></a>	Seminar in Art and Artifice of Americana	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62103</u></a>	Seminar in Visual Legacies of the American West	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62403</u></a>	Seminar in Mining Museums	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 63103</u></a>	Seminar in Contemporary Native American Art	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66403</u></a>	Seminar in Imagining Africa	
<b>Power Theme</b>		
<p>This theme speaks to rights issues, social and political imbalances and inequities, race relations and racism, imperialism and national building, colonization and decolonization.</p>		
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62103</u></a>	Seminar in Visual Legacies of the American West	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62203</u></a>	Seminar in Monuments and Public Space	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62403</u></a>	Seminar in Mining Museums	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 63003</u></a>	Seminar in Culture Wars: Politics, Protest, and Activism in the Arts	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 63103</u></a>	Seminar in Contemporary Native American Art	
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66503</u></a>	Seminar in Cross-cultural Artistic Production in the Atlantic World	

## Circulation Theme

This theme speaks to the movements and migrations of peoples, objects, and ideas across space and time; transculturation and globalization; value and mobility; markets.

<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62003</u></a>	Seminar in Art and Artifice of Americana
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62303</u></a>	Seminar in Making and Unmaking the "Modern"
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62403</u></a>	Seminar in Mining Museums
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 63103</u></a>	Seminar in Contemporary Native American Art
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66403</u></a>	Seminar in Imagining Africa
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66503</u></a>	Seminar in Cross-cultural Artistic Production in the Atlantic World

## Structures and Systems Theme

This theme speaks to institutions and the mechanisms that organize and legislate experience; systemically maintained social privileges and oppressions; systems of signification; intersections between art and science.

<a href="#"><u>ARHS 61003</u></a>	Seminar in Spatial Practices in Mesoamerica and New Spain
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62003</u></a>	Seminar in Art and Artifice of Americana
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62303</u></a>	Seminar in Making and Unmaking the "Modern"
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62403</u></a>	Seminar in Mining Museums
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66503</u></a>	Seminar in Cross-cultural Artistic Production in the Atlantic World

## Identity and Community Theme

This theme speaks to identity formation, individual subjectivities, intersectionalities, kinship networks, social world making, community protocols, imagined and real communities.

<a href="#"><u>ARHS 61003</u></a>	Seminar in Spatial Practices in Mesoamerica and New Spain
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62203</u></a>	Seminar in Monuments and Public Space
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 62203</u></a>	Seminar in Monuments and Public Space
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 63003</u></a>	Seminar in Culture Wars: Politics, Protest, and Activism in the Arts
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66403</u></a>	Seminar in Imagining Africa
<a href="#"><u>ARHS 66503</u></a>	Seminar in Cross-cultural Artistic Production in the Atlantic World

## Elective Courses

Two graduate courses (six graduate credit hours) that address material outside the program's key themes or emphasis on the Americas. These may be specialized seminars or courses that fall outside of art history in allied areas including (but not limited to): African and African American Studies, Anthropology,

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Architecture, Art Education, Business and Entrepreneurship, Classical Studies, Communication, Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies, English, Environmental Sciences, Gender Studies, Graphic Design, History, Journalism and Strategic Media, Latin American and Latino Studies, Political Science, Sociology and Criminology, or Studio Art. May include 5000-level courses.

Total Hours

36

### Additional Requirements for the Degree:

Language Proficiency: Reading proficiency in a minimum of one world language (other than English) is required.

Proficiency should be demonstrated before the student's second year in the program by one of these means:

Passing a translation exam offered by the World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Department at the University of Arkansas or by special arrangement in cases when the relevant language translation exam is not offered;

Receiving a grade of B or higher in a reading knowledge course taken at Global Campus at the University of Arkansas or at another approved institution; or

Having an undergraduate major or minor in a world language.

Students will be required to write a self-assessment at the end of each semester, summarizing the ways in which they have explored one or more themes in their courses and research projects during that term. Self-assessments will be evaluated by an Art History faculty committee.

Comprehensive Examination: A 20-minute public presentation, adapted from the Qualifying Paper, fulfills this requirement, in addition to a one-hour oral defense of the project, demonstrating comprehensive knowledge of the student's research area and methodologies explored in the Qualifying Paper. By the beginning of Year 2, the student will assemble an Advisory Committee (comprised of the QP adviser and two graduate faculty, one of which may be outside of Art History) to provide guidance on the QP and evaluate the comprehensive exam.

Students should also be aware of the Graduate School requirements for [M.A. degrees](#).

#### Are Similar Programs available in the area?

Yes

List institutions in  
Arkansas offering  
similar programs

There are no other M.A. programs in art history in the state of Arkansas. UALR has an MA in Art with a concentration in Art History.

List institutions in the  
surrounding region  
offering similar  
programs

There are art history M.A. programs in the region, including strong programs at the University of Oklahoma, the University of Texas at Austin, Washington University in St. Louis, Southern Methodist University, and the University of Texas at Dallas.

Why is the Program  
needed if offered at  
other institutions?

Our program will be the only M.A. program in the Southeastern U.S. with a focus on arts of the Americas. In the Southwestern U.S, the University of New Mexico (UNM) in Albuquerque offers an MA degree with two separate tracks: 1) Art History and 2) Art of the Americas. Our program is distinct in its emphasis on key “Themes” that we consider essential to an understanding of arts of the Americas in a global context. Unlike the UNM program, we do not bracket off the Americas as a concentration separate from a more general Art History track, nor do we have specific geographic or chronological distribution requirements. Our partnership with a world-class museum of American art also makes our program distinct.

Estimated Student            12-14 each two-year

Demand for Program        cycle

Scheduled Program        2028-2029

Review Date

Program Goals and  
Objectives

Program Goals and Objectives
<p>Educating students in a multivocal and inclusive art history, the program aims to give students the interdisciplinary training and robust work experiences that they will need to thrive with an M.A. degree in industries that value visual literacy, creativity, communication, collaboration, research and other skills. Providing direct access to collections at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and elsewhere in the region, the program prepares students for top PhD programs in art history, but also facilitates other trajectories for those seeking to contribute to the arts and society with an M.A. degree.</p> <p>We aim to support students in our region, and beyond, who may come to the academy through untraditional paths. We want to honor their unique trajectories and ensure their capacity to thrive by removing one of the most significant barriers that has tended to restrict access to art history: financial cost. Our program, which covers the cost of tuition and provides a generous stipend, will provide a fully funded pathway toward a wide range of careers in the arts.</p>

Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes
<p>Ability to analyze works of art, visual culture, and related material.</p> <p>Ability to conduct advanced research using primary and secondary sources.</p> <p>Ability to situate works of art and related material in historical and cultural contexts.</p> <p>Ability to formulate original ideas and clearly articulate them in a variety of forms of writing and oral presentations for diverse publics and constituencies.</p>



Learning Outcomes

- Thorough understanding of methodological approaches informing art historical scholarship, including historical and contemporary critiques of the discipline.
- Critical understanding of key diversity, equity, and inclusion theories, issues, and orientations in the field of art history, particularly as they pertain to arts of the Americas.
- Capacity to approach art, visual culture, and related material from interdisciplinary perspectives that expand the canon and take a diverse and inclusive approach to the field.
- Practical experience in areas of art history related to student career objectives.

Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
Updating the application deadline from February 15 to January 15 per department request.	Updating the application deadline from February 15 to January 15 per department request.

Upload attachments

Reviewer Comments

- Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza) (03/03/25 10:15 am):** ATTENTION REGISTRAR: Please remove Undergraduate Council from the workflow.
- Gina Daugherty (gdaugher) (03/03/25 2:09 pm):** Undergraduate Council removed from workflow.

Key: 842