



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES,
CULTURES, ART HISTORY
AND MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY, CURATING AND VISUAL STUDIES POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

birmingham.ac.uk/historyofart

Art History at Birmingham

The Department of Art History, Curating and Visual Studies is recognised for both its high level of student satisfaction and the quality of its research output.

Teaching takes place primarily in the Barber Institute of Fine Arts – one of the finest art galleries in the country – surrounded by works from world-renowned painters and sculptors, from Botticelli to Rodin. We are also located at the heart of a thriving city with a vibrant portfolio of established and emerging art galleries and arts organisations. With such a range of resources on our doorstep, we believe there is nowhere better for you to study History of Art.

Our innovative MA Art History and Curating programme is one of the few postgraduate programmes in the country that offers you the opportunity to work in a team with academic and museum professionals to develop a curatorial project such as a public exhibition. Current partners include the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, in a unique partnership with the Royal Collection Trust, and Grand Union, an Arts Council England Portfolio organisation working with contemporary artists. You can see some of our previous student projects over on our website:

www.birmingham.ac.uk/artprojects

We are also proud of the breadth of content we are able to offer on our MA History of Art, which allows you to pursue an in-depth study

of specific artists, periods or movements.

This flexible programme will provide you with a solid foundation in History of Art, and the opportunity to choose a number of options to best suit your individual interests, including our exciting British Art pathway.

Our lively postgraduate community also offers excellent routes in to the research of the History of Art through our MRes, MA by Research and PhD programmes.

Our academic staff have a broad range of expertise from medieval to contemporary global art and architecture. They are actively engaged in research on a number of principal themes, including art, gender and sexuality, the politics of exhibitions, and the classical tradition in the visual arts.

Most of our programmes are available to study full-time or part-time, with some research programmes via distance learning.



Programmes

- Art History and Curating MA
- History of Art MA
- History of Art (British Art Pathway) MA
- History of Art MRes
- History of Art PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)

98%

OF OUR HISTORY OF ART
POSTGRADUATES WERE IN
WORK OR FURTHER
EDUCATION WITHIN SIX
MONTHS OF GRADUATING

DLHE 2012–2017





STUDENT PROFILE

'I chose the MA Art History and Curating since it was a combination of hands-on experience and theoretical knowledge. The MA also combined Art History and Curatorial practice which makes it one of the few MAs in the world which include art history and curatorial practice in the same programme.'

'The highlight of my course was the module 'Placement: Art history in the Field'. I was working with Wolverhampton Art Gallery's team who let me curate a whole exhibition on my own by providing me with their help and their knowledge. It was an amazing experience.'

'As a student at the University of Birmingham I always felt safe to express my opinion both to my fellow students and to my professors. The academic environment was inspiring and encouraging. Even by doing a full-time MA for a year I felt really quickly a part of the University.'

RAFALIA THIRAIYOU,
MA Art History and Curating



Your career prospects

Our History of Art graduates develop a broad range of transferable skills, including: the ability to manage large quantities of information from diverse sources; the ability to organise information in a logical and coherent manner; the expertise to write clearly and concisely and to tight deadlines; critical and analytical ability; the capacity for argument, debate and speculation; and the ability to base conclusions on detailed research.

Employers that our graduates have gone on to work for include: Barber Institute of Fine Arts; Birmingham Museums Trust; National Portrait Gallery; Royal Birmingham Society of Artists; University of Birmingham; and the Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust.

Scholarships

Each year, the College of Arts and Law offer a number of funding opportunities for History of Art students. For more information, please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/calfunding

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts

Teaching mainly takes place in the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, which houses the Barber Institute Gallery, and is used by members of staff on a regular basis as part of your learning.

The Gallery features an excellent and representative collection of post-medieval European art, including paintings, engravings and drawings by artists such as Rembrandt, Turner, Van Dyck, Veronese and Vigée-LeBrun, as well as a major collection of 19th and 20th century works by artists such as Degas, Gauguin, Käthe Kollwitz, George Grosz, Manet, Miró, Picasso and Whistler.

This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be discontinued and new ones offered in their place.

Please note the information in this brochure is correct at time of publication but may be subject to change (November 2019).

The Barber Institute is home to an on-site research library which, in conjunction with the holdings of the University Main Library and the Special Collections of the Cadbury Research Library, makes Birmingham one of the best resourced History of Art departments in Britain.

Find us on social media by searching for 'artsatbham'



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