

Accelerated Master of Arts in Art History (European and American/Global Modern and Contemporary)

Only current KU undergraduate students with a major GPA of at least 3.50 and cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 are eligible to apply to the Accelerated M.A. program. If you are not a current undergraduate student at KU, please review the M.A. and Ph.D. program catalog pages.

The Accelerated M.A. program enables qualified KU students to earn B.A./B.G.S. and M.A. degrees in art history in 5 years. 12 hours of 500-level-or-above coursework in the major completed in Year 4 of study count towards both the B.A./B.G.S. and M.A. degrees. The M.A. degree is completed in Year 5 with 18 additional hours of coursework.

The M.A. provides students with a broad and deep knowledge of the visual arts, as well as study of the basic concepts, theories, and methods of the discipline. The M.A. may be pursued as a terminal degree or as preparation for subsequent doctoral studies.

Only current KU undergraduate students with a major GPA of at least 3.50 and cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 are eligible to apply to the Accelerated M.A. program. If you are not a current undergraduate student at KU, please review the admission requirements for History of Art's M.A., M.A./Ph.D., and Ph.D. programs.

Application Deadline

Careful course selection (e.g. prioritizing 500-level courses taught by faculty members in Art History by the second semester of the sophomore year) and steady progression through the undergraduate career is necessary to ensure all requirements for both the B.A./B.G.S. and M.A. degrees may be completed within 5 years. All prospective students should discuss their interest in applying to the Accelerated M.A. program with both the Undergraduate Advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies **no later than the first semester of the student's Junior year.**

Prospective students must apply to the Accelerated M.A. program by **May 15th of their Junior year.** The following program requirements must be met by this time:

- Major GPA of at least 3.50 and cumulative GPA of at least 3.00
- On track to complete the fourth semester of a language by the spring semester of the Senior year
- On track to complete all requirements for a B.A. or B.G.S. degree in History of Art from KU by the spring semester of the Senior year

Required Application Materials

- Three letters of recommendation (preferably from professors in the major). You will be asked to enter the names and e-mail addresses for your recommenders while completing the online application.
- Résumé or curriculum vitae

- A statement of personal and educational interests and career objectives. Address how the graduate program/faculty in Art History at KU would help you to achieve your goals. Please do not exceed 750 words.
- A writing sample, preferably from an art history course, of between 5-10 pages of text (not including the bibliography, endnotes, or images following endnotes) that you feel best represents your research, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Upon review of the Application for Admission, the History of Art Department will notify the student of their eligibility to begin graduate-level coursework. Final admission to the graduate program for Year 5 will be contingent upon the following:

- Successful completion of all requirements for the bachelor's degree
- Grades of B+ or above in all Art History graduate-level coursework taken during the student's Senior year. Accelerated M.A. students are graded at the graduate level in their double-counting classes in Year 4.

The course requirements for this accelerated program are fulfilled by a combination of graduate-level courses taken for both undergraduate and graduate credit in Year 4, and graduate credit courses taken in Year 5. Numerous graduate-level courses are regularly offered that fulfill distribution requirements for both the B.A./B.G.S. and M.A. degrees.

The student must be approved to begin coursework toward the Accelerated M.A. prior to enrolling in any 500 level or above courses that are to count for both undergraduate and graduate credit.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

Please review the requirements outlined in the B.A. or B.G.S. Major section (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/history-art/ba-bgs/#requirementstext>) of the Academic Catalog. Twelve hours of graduate-level coursework taken in Year 4 of the undergraduate degree will double count toward the M.A. These courses, selected in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies, fulfill 12 hours of the M.A. Plan of Study requirements outlined below.

Requirements for the M.A.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Course		
HA 719	Art Histories: Theory and Methodology	3

M.A. Plan of Study

Undergraduate Course Work Counting Towards M.A. (Year 4)	12
Graduate Course Work Counting Towards M.A. (Year 5)	15

The student develops a unique plan of study in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies according to the established distribution requirements. The full 30 hours must include at least 4 graduate courses (12 credit hours) at the 500 level or above, at least 4 graduate seminars (12 credit hours) at the 700 level or above, and at least 2 graduate seminars (6 credit hours) at the 800 level or above. HA 719 counts toward the seminar requirement.

The student must take at least 1 art history course numbered 500 or above in 3 of the following 4 areas. A course cannot fulfill multiple distribution requirements.

1. 400-1400: Europe

HA 505	Special Study: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
--------	----------------------	--------------------------------------

HA 517	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 543	Special Study in 20th/21st-Century Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 506	Early Medieval and Romanesque Art		HA 544	Manga: Histories and Theories	
HA 507	Gothic Art		HA 564	European Art, 1900-1945	
HA 510	Medieval Manuscripts and Early Printed Books		HA 567	Contemporary Art	
HA 593	Special Study in Medieval Art: _____		HA 580	History of Photography	Dependent on the topic of the research paper
HA 706	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 588	Modern and Contemporary Visual Arts of Japan	
HA 707	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 591	Special Study in Asian Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 898	Franklin Murphy Seminar in Art History: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 706	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 906	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 707	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 907	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 760	Proseminar in Korean Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 925	Seminar in Medieval Art: _____		HA 788	Proseminar in Japanese Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
2. 1300-1700: Europe and/or Americas			HA 898	Franklin Murphy Seminar in Art History: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 505	Special Study: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 906	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 517	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course	HA 907	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 528	The Spatial Arts of Urban Italy		HA 965	Seminar in American Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 531	Art of the Early Modern Hispanic World		HA 990	Seminar in Japanese Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 535	Renaissance Architecture in Italy		HA 995	Seminar in Korean Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course
HA 576	Art in the Age of Rubens, Rembrandt and Vermeer: Northern Baroque				
HA 595	Special Study in Baroque Art: _____				
HA 706	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 707	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 898	Franklin Murphy Seminar in Art History: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 906	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 907	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 940	Seminar in 17th Century European Art: _____				
3. 1700-1900: Europe and/or Americas					
HA 505	Special Study: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 517	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 533	Rococo to Realism: Painting in Europe c. 1750-1848				
HA 534	Impressionism and Post-Impressionism: 1848-1900				
HA 570	Art of the United States				
HA 573	Art and the Sea				
HA 580	History of Photography				
HA 706	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 707	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 898	Franklin Murphy Seminar in Art History: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 906	Seminar: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 907	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 955	Seminar in 19th Century European Art: _____				
HA 965	Seminar in American Art: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
4. Post-1900: Global Modern and Contemporary					
HA 505	Special Study: _____	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 517	Directed Readings	Dependent on the topic of the course			
HA 539	African American Art History				

Total Hours **30**

Progression Requirements

Given the accelerated nature of this program, each student's progress will be closely monitored at various points during the program:

1. The student applies to the Accelerated M.A. program by May 15 of Year 3. In anticipation of being approved to begin graduate coursework, the student meets with the DGS during the second semester of Year 3 to discuss their potential program of study for Year 4.
2. At the end of the final semester of undergraduate study (Year 4), the department will review the student's performance in graduate-level HA courses taken in Year 4. The student, who has been graded at the graduate level, must earn a grade of B+ or better in each of these courses to be eligible for regular admission to the M.A. degree in Year 5. In anticipation of being admitted, the student meets with the DGS during the second semester of Year 4 to discuss their potential program of study for Year 5. The student will not be permitted to enroll in additional courses for graduate credit toward the M.A. degree until the B.A./B.G.S. degree has been conferred.
3. For those students who do not meet the minimum GPA requirement of 3.0 in the first semester of Year 5, the department may, at its discretion, devise a plan of study to address the student's deficiencies, or may dismiss the student from the M.A. program.
4. The student must pass the M.A. Exam in January or May of Year 5 to graduate with the Accelerated M.A. within the 5-year period.

Students should complete all requirements for the Accelerated M.A. within one year of receiving the B.A./B.G.S. degree. If unforeseen circumstances prevent the timely completion of the M.A. degree, the student must consult with the Director of Graduate Studies to develop an alternative plan for completion.

Foreign Language Requirement

Proficiency in a foreign language is required for the M.A. degree. Students in the Accelerated M.A. program should complete at least the fourth semester of a relevant foreign language (normally a modern European language) with a grade of B or better by the end of Year 4 or be prepared to demonstrate proficiency by passing the department's language proficiency exam at the beginning of Year 5. Should the student not pass the proficiency exam, they will be expected either to enroll in the appropriate level of language study or establish a plan for passing the language exam at the start of the second semester of Year 5.

Written M.A. Examination

A general written examination in European and American/Global Modern and Contemporary art must be passed to earn the M.A. degree.

The student will write answers to two essay questions and is expected to incorporate discussion of the relevant art-historical scholarship and/or debates. The successful essay will respond thoughtfully to the question and present examples that display the student's breadth and depth of art-historical knowledge.

The M.A. exam is graded independently by three faculty readers without knowledge of the student's identity. Each essay will be graded for its accuracy, clarity, ingenuity, and cogency. The student must pass both essays to pass the exam.

Handbook for Graduate Students

A detailed presentation of departmental degree requirements and regulations is included in the department's Graduate Student Handbook (<https://arthistory.ku.edu/graduate-student-handbook/>).

Graduate Policy

Students are encouraged to review Graduate Studies' policies (<https://policy.ku.edu/office/Graduate-Studies/>) that apply to M.A. degree programs for information about other requirements that may apply.

Year 4

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
HA 500+ Breadth Course (MA Requirement) ²	3 HA 500+ Course	3
HA 500+ Breadth Course (Major Requirement/MA Requirement) ²	3 HA 500+ Breadth Course (Major Requirement/MA Requirement) ²	3
	6	6

Year 5

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
HA 719	3 HA 500+ Course	3
700+ Graduate Course	3 800+ Graduate Seminar	3
700+ Graduate Course	3 800+ Graduate Seminar	3
	9	9

Total Hours 30

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- demonstrate mastery of course material.
- read, critically analyze, and use archival/primary, contextual, and scholarly literature.
- complete quality primary/archival and secondary research.
- speak clearly, coherently, articulately, and persuasively.
- construct in writing a clear, coherent, and persuasive scholarly argument.
- use art historical methodologies and/or relevant critical theories.
- demonstrate mastery of relevant knowledge in the field of art history (M.A. exam).