

Art History and Archaeology

Art history provides the opportunity to explore the fine arts, architecture, and visual culture as well as the social, aesthetic, and personal values that helped to shape these disciplines.

Students are introduced to the study of art history and archaeology through general introductory courses that focus on American, Asian, and European art as well as world archaeology. In more advanced courses, students enjoy studying original works of art owned by Washington University's Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Pulitzer Arts Foundation, and local private collectors. Students are also invited on annual field trips organized by the faculty to visit cities with major museum collections.

A variety of career paths are available to majors in art history and archaeology. Many graduates earn advanced degrees in both related and unrelated fields and work in museums or academia or for art publishers, commercial art galleries, auction houses, nonprofit organizations, and other arts-related organizations.

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