

## **The History of Art and Visual Culture Major**

The History of Art and Visual Culture (HAVC) Department at UC Santa Cruz directs its study of visual culture encompassing the production, use, and reception of images past and present, incorporating the painting, sculpture, and architecture traditionally defined by art history and extending it throughout the fields of visual imagery beyond the conventional boundaries formerly drawn by the academy. The History of Art and Visual Culture department offers courses covering a wide variety of representations from the cultures of Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific Islands, including areas as diverse as ritual, performative expression, bodily adornment, landscape painting, installation art, and video games.

### **Study and Research Opportunities**

- B.A.
- Undergraduate minor in history of art and visual culture
- Concentration in Religion and Visual Culture
- The Education Abroad Program (EAP) provides the opportunity for study at more than 140 host universities and colleges in 34 countries, including Ghana, Japan, China, and Mexico.

### **High School Preparation**

High school students planning to major in HAVC at UC Santa Cruz need no specific preparation beyond the courses required for UC admission. Writing skills, however, are particularly useful to history of art and visual culture majors. Please note that AP courses are not applicable to the HAVC requirements.

### **Transfer Preparation**

As preparation, transfer students are encouraged to fulfill at least three of the lower-division history of art and visual culture requirements prior to transfer. Refer to the ASSIST articulation agreements at [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) for approved lower-division courses. A student may transfer up to six art history courses toward the major, only three of which may be upper division. Upper-division transfer credit is evaluated on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the department. Transfer students are strongly encouraged to contact the History of Art and Visual Culture department prior to enrolling at UCSC. While it is not a condition of admission, students from California community colleges may complete the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) in preparation for transfer to UC Santa Cruz. However, the history of art and visual culture major requires additional courses for admission to the major (see Declaring the Major section).

Transfer course agreements and articulation between the University of California and California community colleges can be accessed on the ASSIST <link to <http://www.assist.org>> web site.

### **Lower-Division Requirements For The HAVC Major**

Five courses, as follows:

- Three 10-series: 10D, 10E, and either 10F or 10G
- Two courses selected from the following:
  - additional 10-series courses

- 80-series courses
- Visual Practice courses: Art 20–40, 70; Theater Arts 14, 17, 18; approved transfer courses (see Transfer Preparation section)

### **Upper-Division Requirements For The HAVC Major**

Ten courses, as follows:

- HAVC 100A (recommend during the sophomore or junior year)
- Courses numbered HAVC 101-189 (6 required)
- Courses numbered HAVC 190-191 (2 required, 1 of which must satisfy the senior comprehensive requirement)
- 1 upper-division from another discipline. This course, taken outside of the History of Art and Visual Culture Department, should complement a student's history of art and visual culture program focus. Courses from the following departments are especially relevant: American studies, anthropology, film and digital media, history, Latin American and Latino studies, literature, philosophy, sociology, theater arts, and feminist studies. Courses from other departments may be considered with faculty approval. (The department maintains a current list of recommended courses that satisfy this requirement.)
- Students must take courses with at least four different faculty members and in at least in two different historical eras and two different cultural settings to ensure methodological and disciplinary breadth.

### **Declaring the Major**

Prospective majors must complete two of the lower-division 10-series courses in HAVC or equivalent transfer coursework before declaring the major. All considering this major are encouraged to complete these courses early in their studies and consult with the history of art and visual culture undergraduate adviser to develop a plan of study.

### **Double Majors**

History of art and visual culture may be studied as part of a double major. Students must complete a minimum of eight upper-division courses in each of the two major departments. Upon completion of the minimum required number of courses, the undergraduate advisers and faculty advisers must approve any substitution request to share a course from the other department.

### **Minor Requirements**

Completion of the minor requires three lower-division introduction to visual culture courses from the HAVC 10-series or transfer course equivalent and a reasonably comprehensive program of study in the required six upper-division courses, that is typically planned in consultation with a HAVC faculty adviser.

### **Concentration in Religion and Visual Culture**

This program is for students who wish to pursue the study of religion in conjunction with studies of visual culture. It consists of an individually planned sequence of courses, including a core set of lower-division courses to provide grounding in issues, methods, and a general history of visual culture; upper-division courses from within the

department; and at least four upper-division courses from other departments that focus on the study of religion.

A student enters the concentration by proposing, in consultation with their faculty adviser, a sequence of upper-division courses to fulfill the Religion and Visual Culture requirements. The declaration of major requirements for the concentration in religion and visual culture are the same as listed in the Declaration of Major section. The faculty adviser for religion and visual culture is Raoul Birnbaum.

### **Study Abroad**

The University of California's Education Abroad Program (EAP) operates in countries throughout the world. Students may receive transfer credit for a maximum of three upper-division art history courses taken through the EAP program (see Transfer Preparation section). Many EAP programs require competency in a language besides English and may require course preparation in advance. Students should make every effort to consult with a faculty member about their course of study before going abroad.

### **Faculty Recognition**

Associate Professor Elisabeth L. Cameron was appointed the Patricia and Rowland Rebele Endowed Chair in History of Art and Visual Culture (2008-2013).

### **Careers**

The preparation students receive from the baccalaureate of arts degree in history of art and visual culture provides skills that can lead to successful careers in law, business, and social services, in addition to a more specific focus on museum curating, art restoration, studies in architecture, and studies in art history leading to a graduate degree.

### **Graduate Study**

There are many graduate programs of visual culture that lead to the M.A. and Ph.D. in fields such as art history, cultural history, semiotics, rhetoric, history of religions, comparative arts, theory and criticism of art, and so forth. Most graduate programs require a reading knowledge of one or two languages other than English (see Language above). Students who are contemplating graduate study should consult with their adviser as early as possible in their undergraduate career.

The History of Art and Visual Culture department is in the final stages of developing an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in visual studies and anticipates matriculating the first class of students within two years.

### **Alum Focus**

Jeremy Strick (B.A., art history, '77) is director of the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in Los Angeles; Karen Moss (B.A., art history, '77) is curator at the Orange County Museum of Art; Gordon Knox (B.A., art history, '78) is director, Lucas Artists Programs at Montalvo; Dr. Janet Grossman (B.A., art history, '85) is the associate curator of antiquities at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles; Carolyn Gray Anderson (B.A., art history, '89) is editor of special projects at The Getty. Dr. Kelly Donahue-Wallace (B.A., art history '90), is and associate professor and chair, Division of Art Education and

Art History, School of Visual Arts, University of North Texas; Dr. Aaron Kerner (B.A., art history, '94) is an assistant professor of cinema at San Francisco State University; Lisa B. Dorin (B.A., art history and art, '96) is assistant curator of contemporary art, Art Institute of Chicago; Jennifer A. Garpner (B.A., art history, '96) is assistant registrar of exhibitions at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA); Jennifer J. Harbster (B.A., art history and anthropology, '98) is a digital reference specialist in the Science, Technology and Business Division of the Library of Congress.

**For More Information**

For further details about the history of art and visual culture major please go to

Catalog Description<link to

[http://reg.ucsc.edu/catalog/html/programs\\_courses/havcPS.htm](http://reg.ucsc.edu/catalog/html/programs_courses/havcPS.htm)>

or check the department's web site at History of Art and Visual Culture site<link to

<http://havc.ucsc.edu>>

If you have any other questions please contact:

The HAVC Department

(831) 459-4564

[havc@ucsc.edu](mailto:havc@ucsc.edu) <live mailto link>

Office hours: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m, 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m., M–F