

The St. Ambrose Art History program fosters an energetic exploration of art, architecture, and material culture through the study of primary visual and literary sources, with an emphasis on historical understanding, critical thinking, written and oral communication, and professional development.

Here, you'll find lively, dynamic classes with charismatic professors who genuinely care about students' academic and professional success. We encourage our students to explore the ties between art history and complementary areas. Our discipline can accommodate a wide variety of career interests, and all of our art history majors pursue second majors or minors; for example, our students have also studied marketing, criminal justice, history, art, psychology, sociology, English, classical studies, philosophy, political science, international studies, international business, graphic design, book arts, women and gender studies, and foreign languages. Not surprisingly, our students and graduates have a wide range of career goals. We sincerely enjoy helping students find ways to make their interest in art history relevant in today's job market.

Ambrose Advantages

Odysseus to Luke Skywalker. In our program, you'll have the opportunity to take both traditional and non-traditional classes. Our more unique traditional course offerings include classes on Russian Art History and Museum Studies; we also offer standard survey classes, including Greek, Roman, and American art history, and courses on 19th century and Modern art.

Our students also particularly enjoy topics classes like the History of Comics, and The Mythic Image. These non-traditional art history courses will provide you with the opportunity to study topics ranging from Odysseus to Luke Skywalker, and from Neil Gaiman to Dante. Our faculty also encourage creative research projects, such as creating an ancient Greek pot or investigating themes in modern game and film.

Hands-on career development. The Art History program takes a very proactive approach to professional and career development. When you enter our program, you'll meet with an adviser who will help you plan the best combination of majors, minors, and internships to progress toward your unique career goals.

All art history students are guided through the resume-writing process in a classroom setting, and they learn interviewing skills and study career options in a required, upper-level course. These skills provide a strong foundation for students as they pursue their internship experiences. We help students find ways to make their unique educational experiences relevant in today's job market, and we encourage and facilitate volunteer, internship, and paid work experiences at local museums and institutions.



The League of Art History Enthusiasts. We have a very active art history student club that provides community and support, even after graduation. The group organizes art history themed parties, trips to museums and galleries, and dinner and movie nights.

100% acceptance into graduate programs. St. Ambrose art history majors pursue either a capstone track for students planning on graduate school, or an internship track for students planning on entering the workforce immediately after graduation.

The program's high academic standards have resulted in our art history majors earning a 100% acceptance rate into graduate programs—with fellowship funding! We take a hands-on approach in preparing our majors for graduate school, and we assist students

in finding advanced degree programs that suit their diverse career goals and interests. Our alumni have been accepted into graduate school programs in museum studies, archival studies, art history, history, art therapy, library science, and fine arts.

Internship Opportunities

Our internship track is unique within the discipline, and this is an excellent option for students who are primarily interested in gaining professional experience for a future career. Internship track students complete six credits of internship (at least 225 total experiential learning hours), and students can choose to do their internship hours at a variety of sites, or at a single site, depending on their career goals. The Art History program takes an active role in helping students find internships at museums, galleries, historical societies, and federal agencies.

Since the program's inception, art history students have interned or held positions at more than 15 sites throughout the Quad Cities area, including the Figge Art Museum, the Putnam Museum, the Rock Island Historical Society, the Arsenal Museum, the John Deere Archives, the German-American Heritage Center, Antique Archaeology ("American Pickers"), and the Family Museum. Students have also pursued internships on campus in the Catich Gallery and the St. Ambrose University Archives. These internships give our students the practical experience they need to be competitive in today's job market.

Career Opportunities

If you love art history but aren't sure how you'd like to use it in a career, check out our "Career Opportunities in Art History" webpage. For additional career ideas, we also encourage you to check our "Art History Alums" page. Both can be accessed from www.sau.edu/arthistory.

Art history students' career goals range from **art theft investigator, gallery owner/manager, art appraiser, art therapist, art historian, art librarian, art lawyer, curator**, to **art critic**. The art history faculty enjoy having majors with diverse interests, and we take an active role in helping students pursue career opportunities.

Career Outlook

The career outlook for the wide variety of professions related to art history is very positive:

- > According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the annual median wage for a post-secondary teacher (including art history professors) in the arts and humanities was \$72,470, with a 13% projected growth rate in the industry through 2024.

- > The employment outlook for archivists, curators and museum workers is projected to grow 7% through 2024, and the median salary for archivists, curators, museum technicians, conservators and museum workers ranged from \$46,710 to \$59,870 in 2015.
- > Fundraisers (including museum fundraisers) earned a median salary of \$52,970 in 2015 with a projected 9% growth rate in the industry through 2024. Fundraising managers earned a median salary of \$104,140 in 2015 with a 7% growth rate through 2024.
- > The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects job growth of 3% for appraisers (including art appraisers), claims adjusters, examiners and investigators through 2024. The median salary for these professions was \$63,060 in 2015.
- > Librarians earned a median salary of \$56,880 in 2015.
- > The average annual salary for recreational therapists (including art therapists) was \$45,890 in 2015 with a 12% project growth rate through 2024. Art therapists with graduate degrees will earn significantly more than the median salary.
- > The average annual salary for lawyers (including those specializing in art law) was \$115,820 in 2015.
- > According to ArtNet.com, the global art market was worth upwards of \$63 billion in 2015, with the U.S. controlling a majority market share of 43%. The average salary for art dealers (and auction house specialists) is \$58,210.

Your Career: Networking, Internships and Jobs in the Quad Cities

The Quad Cities is a welcoming and fun place to live as a college student. More than that, it offers a great community to help you prepare for—or even start—your career. The Quad Cities has a reputation as a vibrant center for the arts, and provides exceptional opportunities for networking, internships and jobs.

Get in Touch With Us Today

We invite you to visit St. Ambrose, when you are welcome to sit in on an art history class and talk to students and our faculty to learn first-hand what makes our program so unique. Our quality academic programs provide one of the best private education values in the Midwest. Check it out for yourself: contact our Admissions Office, 563/333-6300 (toll-free 800/383-2627) or admit@sau.edu, or go online to www.sau.edu.

St. Ambrose University offers a Bachelor of Arts in Art History degree. A minor also is offered in this discipline. For complete curriculum information and course descriptions, consult the Course Catalog at www.sau.edu/catalog.