**General Information**

The Master of Arts in Art History thesis track emphasizes training in academic scholarship and offers study in breadth through coursework and research in the preparation of a thesis. Students who plan to continue for a PhD or pursue a career in art history education typically follow the thesis track.

**Preparation**

Competitive applicants must have a good general background in art history. Applicants need not have an undergraduate major in art history, but should have a solid record of art history coursework. In our program we define a “solid record” for our undergraduate majors as 55 quarter credits of art history classes distributed among major fields of study offered in our department. This figure should serve only as a general reference point, however; we do not expect all applicants to have exactly the same background and course distribution as our undergraduate majors. Studio art classes and work experience in art-related fields can enhance your application, but in most cases will not substitute for a good background in academic coursework.

**Financial Aid**

Our main source of departmental financial support for our graduate students is a limited number of Teaching Assistantships. These, however, are rarely awarded to first-year students; exceptions are sometimes made for entering Ph.D. students with teaching experience. A majority of our graduate students have outside jobs (some within the University), at least for part of the year. Additional information and advice about financial aid can be found under [Graduate Support](https://art.washington.edu).

**More about the Art History MA Thesis**

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