

**Department of Art**

In order to graduate with honors in Art History, the student must have at least a 3.0 overall grade point average and a 3.3 in the major, select a faculty mentor, develop a research topic, have the topic approved by the art history faculty, carry out original research, and present a final paper for approval by the art history faculty. The honors project may be developed from another course paper, but with deeper research and added methodological awareness. A student may enroll in Art 287H during **the spring semester** if she/he wishes to receive course credit for the project, but enrollment is not necessary. (Because topics are approved in the fall, it is not possible to enroll in Art 287H for the fall semester.)

Highly qualified art history majors should seek out the art history professor in the area she/he would like to research for honors and, with the professor's guidance, develop a two page research proposal (double spaced, 12-point font), with bibliography.

A preliminary meeting for rising seniors who are interested in writing a thesis will be held during the spring semester. Attendance is strongly encouraged, as it will allow students to begin developing proposals in advance of the next academic year. Students should discuss plans to submit a proposal with a faculty member by **September 10** at the latest. If the faculty member agrees that the student should proceed, she/he will serve as mentor. If a faculty member does not feel suited for a particular project, then he/she may decline.

Candidates should submit the research proposal and bibliography to the honors coordinator (curleyjj@wfu.edu) by 5:00 pm on **October 1**.

The art history faculty will decide if the student should be allowed to move forward, based on the originality and feasibility of the project. The mentor will notify the student of the decision by the registration period for the spring semester. A second reader will be named at this time.

The student should research and write an honors paper of substantial length, double spaced, with references, illustrations, and bibliography. The thesis is due to both readers on the **Monday after Spring Break**. Comments will be returned by **April 1**. Any revisions, along with an abstract, are due on **April 15**. Students will receive notification of honors status by **April 22**. (NB: Students should determine, in consultation with the advisor and second reader, whether the thesis and revised thesis should be submitted electronically or in hard copy.)

If the honors paper is passed, letters of recommendation for the distinction of honors will be forwarded to the Chair of the Art Department and the Dean of the College. The student will present a bound copy and an electronic copy to the Visual Resources Center (vrcenter@wfu.edu) by **May 1**.

Students will have the option to present a shortened version of their research to the department and peers at the end of the semester. This presentation will typically take place on the first **reading day**.

**Summary of key dates:**

- **September 10: deadline to meet with prospective thesis advisor**
- **October 1: proposal due**
- **Monday after Spring Break: thesis due**
- **April 1: comments returned to student**
- **April 15: revised thesis due**
- **April 22: notification of honors status**
- **May 1: bound & electronic copies filed with the Visual Resources Center**

**NB: When a deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline takes effect on the next business day.**