School of Art History

Head of School Professor B Cassidy

Taught Programmes

Postgraduate Diploma: Art History

History of Photography Museum and Gallery Studies

M.Litt.: Art History

History of Photography Museum and Gallery Studies

M.Phil.: Art History

History of Photography Museum and Gallery Studies National Trust for Scotland Studies

Programme Requirements

Art History

Postgraduate Diploma: 120 credits from AH5076 - AH5195

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus AH5099

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than

40,000 words

History of Photography

Postgraduate Diploma: 120 credits from AH5076, AH5086, AH5100, AH5101, AH5102,

AH5111, AH5113, AH5101, AH5102, AH5140, AH5141, AH5143

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus AH5099

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than

40,000 words

Museum and Gallery Studies

Postgraduate Diploma: 120 credits: AH5504, AH5505 and AH5506

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus AH5099

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000

words based normally on research taken in close conjunction with a

Museum or Gallery

National Trust for Scotland Studies

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma in Museum and Gallery Studies

plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words based on research undertaken

in close conjunction with the National Trust for Scotland

Modules

AH5079 Thomas Chippendale and Scotland

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional Module for Art History Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School.

Description: Thomas Chippendale the Elder is not known to have visited Scotland but it can be argued that his impact is more concentrated here than in any other country. This module will introduce Thomas Chippendale against the background of the eighteenth century cabinet making world, analyse the commercial enterprise that was 'Chippendale & Rannie' and then turn attention to the publication, promotion and influence of the Gentleman and Cabinet Makers Director in Scotland. Field visits will be made to the sites of important early commissions and documentary evidence of the firm's activity in Scotland will be studied. The lasting influence of the designs into the 1960s will be addressed.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5083 Giorgione

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional Module for Art History Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School.

Description: The module will focus on the work of the important but highly problematic Venetian Renaissance painter Giorgione, as a case study for the investigation of a range of art-historical approaches. These include: formal analysis; iconography; the investigation of pictorial technique; analysis of literary evidence; consideration of the relationship between art and society; typology.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5085 Art and Politics in the Trecento

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional Module for Art History Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School.

Description: Art in Italy in the period ca. 1230-1400 was sometimes employed to promote the political agendas of the city states. The kings of Naples, oligarchies such as Florence and Siena, and despotic regimes such as those of Milan and Verona employed imagery to express their ideals and achievements and to manipulate public opinion in their favour. This module will investigate the relationship between late medieval Italian art (but mainly sculpture) and competing political ideologies. It will also explore how regimes sympathetic to the Pope or to the German emperor employed art to declare allegiance to one or other of these two 'universal' powers.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar per fortnight.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s

Credits: 60

Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 13.5 in course work.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for all M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes within the School.

Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.

Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

AH5100 Art Historical Resources and Methods

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Strongly advised for Art History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module, designed for those enrolled for the M.Litt. and M.Phil., will introduce students to the resources (textual, visual, and electronic) available in St Andrews and elsewhere in Britain for research into the history of art. Emphasis will be placed on electronic resources accessible through the web. As far as possible instruction will be geared to the precise interests of students in order to provide them with a thorough preparation for the writing of their dissertations. Among the topics covered will be the collecting and recording of bibliographic information, the use of visual and documentary archives, note taking and the presentation (oral and written) of scholarly research. Each two hour class will include instruction by the tutor and practical exercises undertaken by students.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar class.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5101 Readings in Art History or History of Photography

Credits: 30 Semester: Either

Programme(s): Optional module for Art History Postgraduate students intending to proceed to Ph.D. and

Central & East European Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module is a detailed study of an Art Historical or History of Photography topic agreed between tutor and student. Taught on a one-to-one basis, this reading course will allow postgraduate students to acquire a detailed knowledge of an area of art history in preparation for further research. It will allow them also to develop their research bibliographic skills.

Class Hour: To be arranged. Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5102 Bibliography for Art History or History of Photography

Credits: 30 Semester: Either

Programme(s): Optional module for Art History Postgraduate students intending to proceed to Ph.D.

Description: This module is an exercise in the bibliography and historiography of an aspect of the history of art or the history of photography which in appropriate cases can serve as a useful preparation for a research dissertation.

Class Hour: To be arranged. Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5118 Paragons of Northern Baroque: Rubens and Rembrandt

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Anti-requisite: AH4076

Programme(s): Optional module for all Art History Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School

Description: Rubens and Rembrandt are the two most important Northern artists of the seventeenth century and any developed understanding of Netherlandish art during this century relies on a sound acquaintance with their work. The differences between Rubens and Rembrandt (which were socio-economic and biographical, as well as artistic) render a joint study of them unusually instructive and also involve students with some of the most outstanding works of seventeenth century art. (Paintings by both are available for first hand study in Edinburgh and Glasgow.) This module examines the two artists in sequence, and thematically: the art of Rubens is explored first, followed by that of Rembrandt. Themes studied include religious, mythological, allegorical and historical iconography, landscape and portraiture.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One class.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5122 Bernini

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Art History Postgraduate students.

Description: This module examines the career of Gianlorenzo Bernini, sculptor, architect, painter, stage designer and playwright, the premier artist of the popes. It will examine his cultural, political and religious milieu and lay particular emphasis on the theoretical relations between the arts that his oeuvre is seen to embody. In the process it will also review the genre of artistic biography, the historiography of the baroque and the myths of dynamism, theatricality, eroticism (and others) always associated with the period, and Bernini's work in particular.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5141 Imperial Lens: Readings in Nineteenth-Century Asian Photography

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for Art History Postgraduate students.

Description: This module will explore and interpret the themes and materials relating to the dissemination of photography in nineteenth-century Asia. It will be based largely on the close interpretative discussion of readings of travel photographers and indigenous responses to the camera mainly in the contexts of India, China, and Japan. Students will consider the activities of such key photographers as Linnaeus Tripe, John Thomson, Samuel Bourne, Felice Beato, Lala Deen Dayal and Ueno Hikoma. The module aims to enhance students' critical analysis of both primary and secondary source materials, engaging in postcolonial debates on the camera's political, social and cultural uses in nineteenth-century Asia.

Class Hour: To be arranged. Teaching: One tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5142 School: Images, Spaces, Artefacts and Ideas of Learning

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for Art History Postgraduate students.

Description: This module comprises an interdisciplinary investigation into the images, spaces, artifacts and ideas of schooling. It focuses on the artistic treatment of 'learning' and the development of school architecture. Among the media considered are painting, installation, photography, graphic art, furniture, design and film. Consideration is given to the interpretation of key works by such artists/architects as Wren, Mackintosh, the Smithsons, Holbein, Brueghel, Steen, Moholy-Nagy, Vigo, Rivera, Kantor and Hirst. The module aims to enhance students' conceptualization of 'school', their engagement with contemporary debates concerning the nature of education and their critical awareness of schooling's socio-political and cultural issues.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5143 Vernacular Photography: History, Theory, Representation and Display

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for History of Photography programme.

Description: This module is concerned with the field of 'Vernacular Photography' within the broader subject area of History of Photography. It is designed to explore those categories of photographic practice that are generally ignored within the historical canon: hence, and interest in the snapshot image, the family album, and aspects of 'amateur' and illustrative photography. The module will examine the theoretical basis for the study of this area, so focusing on post-structural, semiotic, and sociological accounts of the vernacular photograph. This will be allied to empirical studies within the area relating to specific aspects of the vernacular in historical and contemporary practice.

Class Hour: To be arranged. Teaching: One tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5145 Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Seen and not Imagined. His Architecture and Design.

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Art History Postgraduate students.

Description: This module will consider the architecture and design of Charles Rennie Mackintosh between 1888 and 1928. It will explore and interpret the artistic and cultural context of the designer's home city of Glasgow before beginning to analyse his early influences, then commissions, in the fields of architecture, furniture, and general design. There are few writings by Mackintosh himself, so the course will be based principally upon visual analysis, underpinned by the great body of secondary material that has been produced since the artist's death. This corpus of material is often controversial, so we shall consider the debates, and explore the relationships between Mackintosh's work and the two important strands of Modernism and tradition. The module will contain both lectures and fieldwork, and conclude with an exploration and discussion of his position and reputation in the current century.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two lectures and one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5504 Theory and Practice of Museums, Art Galleries and Related Organisations, Part 1 : Collections in Context

Credits: 40 Semester: 1

Co-requisites: AH5505, AH5506

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Museum and Gallery Studies and National Trust for Scotland Studies

Taught Postgraduate Programmes

Description: This module is only available to students taking the Diploma, M.Litt. or M.Phil. in Museum and Gallery Studies or M.Phil. in National Trust for Scotland Studies. Together with AH5505-AH5506 it forms an essential part of a vocational training programme which combines knowledge and skills development to prepare students for work in the museums/galleries/heritage sector or for further research in this area. Subjects covered include: museum definitions and museum professions; types of museums and museum support systems; history of collecting and museums; current issues and ethics; museum registration; acquisition and disposal policies and practices; collections documentation; collections care and preventive and remedial conservation; security and insurance; collections-based research.

Class Hour: All day Tuesday and Wednesday am.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar, also practical classes and field trips.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5505 Theory and Practice of Museums, Art Galleries and Related Organisations, Part 2: Audiences and Management

Credits: 40 Semester: 2

Co-requisites: AH5504, AH5506

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Museum and Gallery Studies and National Trust for Scotland Studies

Taught Postgraduate Programmes

Description: This module is only available to students taking the Diploma, M.Litt. or M.Phil. in Museum and Gallery Studies or M.Phil. in National Trust for Scotland Studies. Together with AH5504 and AH5506 it forms an essential part of a vocational training programme which combines knowledge and skills development to prepare students for work in the museums/galleries/heritage sector or for further research in this area. Subjects covered include: understanding audiences; information services, temporary and permanent exhibitions; display and interpretation; education services and outreach; ethics and current issues; governing bodies and administration; forward planning; project management; finances and fund raising; personnel management; marketing, publicity and media relations.

Class Hour: All day Tuesday and Wednesday am.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar, also practical classes and field trips.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5506 Project Work (Museum and Gallery Studies)

Credits: 40 Semester: Whole Year

Co-requisites: AH5504, AH5505

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Museum and Gallery Studies and National Trust for Scotland Studies

Taught Postgraduate Programmes

Description: This module is only available to students taking the Diploma, M.Litt. or M.Phil. in Museum and Gallery Studies or M.Phil. in National Trust for Scotland Studies. Together with AH5504 and AH5505 it forms an essential part of a vocational training programme which combines knowledge and skills development to prepare students for work in the museums/galleries/heritage sector or for further research in this area. This module provides most of the practical skills element of the programme. The practical work undertaken can vary, depending on the particular interests of individual students, but it should normally include: (i) experience of preparing an exhibition as part of a team, including research, selection of exhibits, production of written materials, mounting of displays and provision of educational events; (ii) another, individual project, selected by the student and covering another area of museum work, e.g. collections management, museum outreach activities or museum management.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar per week and practical work.

Assessment: Assessment of student's work portfolio = 100%