Art is not what you see, it is what you make others see.

Edgar Degas

Works of art exist in our world as objects in three-dimensional space, even when they are flat. Seeing them for yourself is how we want you to experience them. So we will make it possible for you to discover the depth in a painting first-hand, to take up the actual viewpoints from which you can see a sculpture, and to encounter the scale and intricacies of a building for yourself.

Ideas are also involved in what an artist or architect wants you to see. Understanding what artists think is part and parcel of understanding what they see. We want you to explore the beliefs and values art expresses, and to see how they shape it.

Art history is about getting closer to art, immersing yourself in art, seeing art from the perspective of the artist. But it is also about bringing your own perspective - your knowledge and experience - to bear. Art is where you and the artist meet.

You will discover that Warwick’s campus contains exceptional paintings, prints, and sculptures in places both expected and unexpected. We also put a strong emphasis on providing you with privileged access to works of art by organising field trips to a variety of museums, galleries, and buildings throughout the UK. The pinnacle of this provision is an entire term of the second year spent at our centre near the Grand Canal in Venice - it’s your opportunity to live and breathe the art that you’re studying. Venice is famous for its Renaissance art and it’s also home to the Biennale – the most important international exhibition of contemporary art in the world.

Our lecturers bring their latest research and own distinctive skills to the subject, sharing a common philosophy that art history involves the study of the history of all things visual more generally. That’s why our modules cover a range of visual creations from famous art works to little-known caricatures, from shop window displays to exhibition designs. We strive to achieve high academic standards in the study of visuality.

By sharing our energy and passion for History of Art, you’ll develop the practical skills needed to flourish in a world where having more than one perspective matters.
IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE
art of the world

By spending a full term in Venice studying the city’s art, history and culture, you’ll be immersed in this carnival of the senses. And at the Biennale, you can experience painting and sculpture fresh from the artist’s studio, and architecture just off the drawing board.

VENICE MODULES

Exhibiting the Contemporary

We consider the importance of exhibitions for the interpretation of contemporary art and architecture. We study current exhibitions of contemporary art and architecture within and outside the frame of the Biennale, in conjunction with texts on contemporary exhibition-making, curating, and museum and exhibition history.

Topics have included: The Exhibition as Object; The Biennial as Ritual; Art, Architecture and City Branding; Site-Specificity and Public Art; The Expanded Field of Curating; and Destination Art.

To appreciate the history of art most fully, it makes sense to be where art surrounds you. Warwick’s central location in the heart of England means you’ll find art is within a stone’s throw.

As our ethos is centred around experiencing a variety of artistic forms, studying at Warwick will mean spending time off campus. You’ll engage in fascinating field trips across England, with exclusive access to impressive art collections and historic buildings.

Waddesdon Manor represents the highlight of our access to art within the UK. You will visit the Rothschild mansion and its extensive collection of art, from the 18th century to the present day. It’s a unique chance to learn about objects such as Marie-Antoinette’s writing desk, the magnificent Sévres Grande Vase, and a painting by Chardin, learning first-hand from both Waddesdon’s Curators and Warwick staff.

Waddesdon visits form part of the History of Art and Interpretation module. This encourages you to consider the relationship between art, materiality, and its historical context, while also developing the methods and approaches to inform this interpretation.

“I love the informal atmosphere of the department, the staff are so approachable and helpful. I like the way that the department organises so many trips to see works of art and buildings, and that we’re in Venice for a whole term so we really get to know the city and feel really connected with the arts found there.”

Tatty
Second Year, History of Art
Our single honours degree gives you the opportunity to explore art history from many perspectives. You will study a rich and varied range of mostly Western art from the present day back to the Middle Ages.

**FIRST YEAR**
Your first year includes three core introductory modules, which provide an overview of Western art and the ways in which it is studied today.

1. **Introduction to Art History: Classicism and the Arts of Christianity**
   - In this module, you will have the opportunity to carry out a historical survey of Western art, concentrating on Late Antique, Medieval and Renaissance art. You will learn skills and techniques that will allow you to describe accurately what you see, in terms of how an object is made, as well as its form and iconography.

2. **Introduction to Art History: The Natural World and the Arts of Modernity**
   - You will study a thematic approach to the history of Western art, stimulating comparisons across time and space and exploring a wide spectrum of images and ideas, including those related to architecture and the applied arts. You will acquire introductory analytical and communication skills required for a good understanding of the field, including areas which will be useful for the study of later modules.

3. **History of Art and Interpretation**
   - You'll explore the relationship between art and its historical and physical contexts, and the approaches to the works of art as tools for interpretation. We work closely with Waddesdon Manor, which will allow you to examine first-hand paintings and decorative arts, and learn how to interpret what you see. We also study works of art in the University Collection and the Mead Gallery.

Lastly, our Study Skills give you the important research skills you’ll need throughout the degree. You can also select optional modules on topics such as architecture, prints, sculptures, and painting techniques.

**SECOND YEAR**
In your second year you will spend the first term in Venice, before returning to Warwick to focus on specialised subjects. In Venice you will study works of art in situ with lectures, seminars and site visits in Venice itself and the surrounding area, including the islands of Murano, Burano, and Torcello.

You'll study two core modules in Venice: Venice, Rise and Myth: Art and Architecture in the Veneto (1100-1600), and Exhibiting the Contemporary.

When you return to Warwick you’ll select a long-view optional module, which could include topics such as Practical Art, Modern Art and Modernism, or The Renaissance: North and South. You’ll also take two short optional modules of your choice, varying from Art and Culture since the ‘60s to Art and Visual Perception.

**FINAL YEAR**
In your final year you will study two research-based special subject modules and the Practices of Art History, as well as working on a dissertation.

**Practices of Art History**
This module will introduce you to the history of the discipline of art history, examining a range of theoretical approaches from the discipline’s beginning in the early-nineteenth century to contemporary debates. Through exploring questions of theory and method, you’ll develop research skills, such as critical reading and evaluating evidence.

**Dissertation**
You’ll write a dissertation on a topic of your own choosing which is an opportunity to explore something you find fascinating in greater depth. You can focus on a single painting, sculpture, or building. Or you can take a broad-brush approach to a particular issue or concern. Either way, you will work closely with a personal supervisor who will help you define your topic, frame your questions, and find the appropriate tools and resources for answering them.

**Special subject modules**
Our special subject modules are research-led and allow you to specialise in the areas you prefer. Topics could include Visual Art and Poetry, Globalisation and Contemporary Art, Mannerism, or Deconstructing Medieval and Early Modern Buildings.

You will also have the option of spending an extra year abroad, in Australia or Europe, adding a year to the duration of your course.

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**BA HISTORY OF ART (V350)**

Contact time per week (in first year):

- 10 hours

Average seminar size:

- 10-12 students

10 hours contact time per week
Average seminar size

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Sculpture by Allen Jones, University of Warwick Art Collection
BA HISTORY OF ART WITH ITALIAN (V3R3)

This degree provides an opportunity to develop a high level of competence in the Italian language alongside the study of art history.

You will develop a broad understanding of Italian art and culture, alongside a good understanding of the history of art. Your home department will be History of Art, but you will also study in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures. This degree gives you the opportunity to explore art history from many perspectives. You will study a rich and varied range of primarily Western art from the Middle Ages to the present day. You will also spend a term studying in Venice at our centre near the Grand Canal.

FIRST YEAR

In your first year you will take four core modules and an optional module. The three core modules are the same as BA History of Art (page 6), plus an Italian language module.

You will study a historical survey of Western art and concentrate on late antique, medieval and Renaissance art in Classicism and the Arts of Christianity. In The Natural World and the Arts of Modernity, you will be introduced to a broad range of more recent images, ideas and approaches. Alongside these modules, your History of Art and Interpretation module will foster awareness of the relationship between art and its historical and physical context.

You will take an Italian language module, which will correspond to your level of proficiency in the language and an optional module.

SECOND YEAR

You will spend the first term in Venice, before returning to Warwick to focus on specialised subjects. You will study works of art in situ with lectures, seminars and site visits in Venice itself and the surrounding area, including the islands of Murano, Burano, and Torcello. In Venice, you will take two core modules. You’ll also take an Italian language module.

It is also possible to take a joint-honours degree (BA Italian and History of Art) which is offered by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures.

FINAL YEAR

In your final year you will study a research-based special subject module and the Practices of Art History, as well as working on a dissertation. You’ll also take an Italian language module.

Here is a list of modules that have been offered in recent years. Our optional modules are subject to change, but give you an indication of the breadth of topics you can study.

Cross- departmental modules

Here is a list of modules that have been offered in recent years. Our optional modules are subject to change, but give you an indication of the breadth of topics you can study.

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FINAL YEAR

In your final year you will study a research-based special subject module and the Practices of Art History, as well as working on a dissertation. You’ll also take an Italian language module.

Here is a list of modules that have been offered in recent years. Our optional modules are subject to change, but give you an indication of the breadth of topics you can study.

FIRST-YEAR OPTIONAL MODULES

• Architecture
• Portraiture
• Prints
• Sacred Art
• Sculpture
• Photography
• Contemporary Art
• Painting Techniques

SECOND-YEAR OPTIONAL MODULES

• The Spaces of Seventeenth-Century Dutch Painting
• Art and Visual Perception
• Art in an Age of Revolution
• The Aesthetic Movement
• From Fortress to Country House
• British Art and Culture in the 1920s
• Italian Baroque
• Modern Art and Modernism
• The Renaissance: North and South
• Practical Art
• Islamic Art and Architecture

FINAL-YEAR SPECIAL SUBJECTS

• Deconstructing Medieval and Early Modern Buildings
• Globalisation and Contemporary Art
• Mannerism
• The Visual Arts in Colonial and Postcolonial India
• Visual Art and Poetry
• Leonardo: Art and Science
I chose Warwick because the Open Day made me feel right at home from the start. I’m really interested in architecture and the course has allowed me to choose modules to explore the subject in depth. There’s plenty of sports clubs for all levels and I’ve taken up mixed hockey as a complete beginner and I’m really enjoying it. Warwick has a really friendly environment and I’ve met people from all over the world here.”

Ravi
Second Year, History of Art

ARCHITECTURE

This module focuses on three key periods - the medieval, the 19th century and the 20th century. You will be introduced to architecture through the medium of ecclesiastical buildings. By examining form, function and the significance of architectural style together with the relationship between building and setting, and by using key buildings and significant local examples, you will explore the contrasting approaches taken by architects and patrons. You will also consider the important role and function of works of art within the buildings.

I was attracted to the course because of the wide range of options on offer, from contemporary art to castles and sculpture, and the chance to carry on with creating art through the Practical Art module. That and the chance to live in Venice and see the art in the places it was made for, that is an amazing opportunity.”

Katy
Second Year, History of Art

“ART AND VISUAL PERCEPTION

We take seeing for granted. But does what we know affect what we see? What is distinctive about the way we see things in a painting? Do we see with our eyes or our whole body? Can seeing be ‘blind’? The module aims to answer questions of this kind bearing on normal perception, and on our perception of pictures. It places emphasis on demonstrating how we see the world, and on how works of art function visually. It is not period-specific, but focuses instead on the nature of perception, and its role in representation and expression, across a wide chronological range of art.

PRACTICAL ART

You’ll explore your own practice via tutor-led workshops in a range of drawing languages and print which culminates in a body of work that expresses and reflects your ability as individuals and as independent practitioners. Our students keep a sketch book of a high standard which will be an ongoing journal of their work, as it demonstrates evidence of research, practical art developments, experimentation techniques, workshops and extra-curricular activities.

This module considers the multiple ways in which modernity has been interpreted and developed in artistic practices across the world, from the early twentieth century onwards. Adopting a comparative approach to the diversity of global artistic cultures, we examine ‘modernisms’ both within and beyond the dominant ‘centres’ of the art world in Western Europe and North America. We explore such questions as: how have modern artists imagined other cultures? How does art translate across international borders? How has it been mobilised as a form of cultural diplomacy or ‘soft power’? How have artists resisted cultural and political imperialism? And what does it mean for art to be ‘contemporary’?

CONTEMPORANEITIES
When you graduate with a degree in History of Art, you’ll be well equipped to enter a wide range of careers which require an ability to think analytically, to present ideas with clarity, and to communicate with others easily and convincingly.

We want you to feel empowered to take the subject you love and turn it into something that will help you realise your ambitions. Having a degree in History of Art means you are equipped with the knowledge, skills and perspectives essential to a career in museums, galleries and auction houses, as well as professions outside the art world. Many of our graduates have gone on to careers connected in some way with the arts as arts administrators, publishers, picture researchers, archaeologists, and curators.

We’ve helped students gain access to a number of institutions, which may be able to provide opportunities for work experience during vacations. These include the Churches Conservation Trust, The National Trust, the Fitzwilliam Museum, and the London auction houses. We also work closely with our placement learning officer who can help you prepare applications for work experience bursaries, as well as offer advice on setting objectives for placements and internships. Some of our students have also taken up part-time positions at the Mead Gallery at the Warwick Arts Centre on campus.

Grads from these courses have gone on to work in a wide range of sectors, including careers in: art galleries; museums; publishing; libraries; educational establishments; heritage and conservation charities and research.

They have gone onto careers such as curators; exhibition project co-ordinators; journalists; newspaper and periodical editors; business and financial project management professionals; conference and exhibition managers and organisers; office managers; public relations professionals; artists; authors and translators.

WHERE WILL art take you?

“As a Business Analyst my job varies day to day which keeps it interesting and constantly provides new challenges. I’m in tech so I work between a Product Manager and the Developers, making sure that all stakeholders’ requirements for our website are met. One of the main things that my Warwick Art History degree helped me with was my presentation and public speaking skills. Feeling comfortable talking in front of your colleagues is an important skill whether it’s explaining your point of view or actually giving a presentation in a meeting. The presentation assignments we had to complete in our seminars are great way of getting used to how this feels and enable you to develop your own presentation style.”

Jonny
History of Art Graduate

“After five years in permanent positions from in-house film distributors, PR agencies to start-ups, I contract myself out as a business development, and international film publicity consultant through my own company. In marketing it’s very important to be able to critically analyse visually when producing effective creative copy as well as being able to express a sentiment in a short sentence. Attention to detail is also key in most careers but especially anything public facing like marketing. All my art history studies have inspired new project ideas, and have given me the skills I use every day.”

Lucy
History of Art Graduate
“I’m interested in narrative and ritual, in the politics of representation and the ways art can re-shape our access to reality. I mainly study moving images, installation, and performance, crossing various fields: cinema, ethnography, popular culture, ‘post-internet’ practices, etc. This carries over in my teaching, where I encourage students to engage closely with a range of objects, helping them to develop a distinct voice and understanding of contemporary culture.”

Naomi Vogt
Assistant Professor

“My teaching is driven by the desire to communicate my enthusiasm for what I am working on, be it a particularly interesting painting or a fascinating theory. I make extensive use of detailed digital images which I have taken myself in front of paintings across the world; and I work hard to put complicated thoughts into plain English. I try to involve every student in class discussion in the belief that you will understand better if you can talk about something in your own words. And whenever possible we will have classes in front of the objects we are studying.”

Paul Smith
Professor

“In my teaching, I use group discussion, gallery visits and practical workshops to help students experience and understand works of art from a multiplicity of perspectives. Whether it’s handling printmaking tools to grasp how a woodcut print was made, analysing exhibition displays as forms of visual communication, or understanding how ideas and forms travel across different cultures, there are always new questions to be asked and fresh perspectives to be gained.”

Rosie Dias
Associate Professor

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

**TYPICAL OFFERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>A Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA History of Art (V350)</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA History of Art with Italian (V3R3)</td>
<td>ABB and a foreign language (modern or ancient) at GCSE Grade C/Grade 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The typical offers listed are indicative. For more information go to warwick.ac.uk/ug
HOW TO APPLY

Applications are made through UCAS ucas.com

When we receive your application it is considered against our entry requirements and other applications to the course. We consider your full profile and your potential as an individual, not just your actual or predicted grades. If you accept an offer that we have made to you and get the required grades in your exams we will confirm your place and look forward to seeing you at the start of your life here at Warwick. warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply

OVERSEAS APPLICANTS

With a student population from over 145 countries, you’ll be part of an international community here at Warwick. We have a dedicated team available to advise, as well as a global network of Agents and Representatives. See www.warwick.ac.uk/io for information on applying from your country.

STUDENT FEES AND FUNDING

At the time of publication (06/19) Home/EU Tuition fee levels for 2020-21 entry were not yet agreed. Our fees, once confirmed will be published online. Tuition fees for overseas students have been set for the academic year 2020-21, until the year 2021-22. warwick.ac.uk/services/academicofficefinance/fees

We want to ensure that, wherever possible, financial circumstances do not become a barrier to studying at Warwick. We provide extra financial support for qualifying students from lower income families. warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/studentfunding

ACCOMMODATION

Warwick Accommodation manages over 6,700 rooms on campus across a range of self-catered residences. There is an excellent network of support staff in the Residential Life Team, and wider University. warwick.ac.uk/accommodation

VISIT US

OPEN DAYS

The university organises four open days in early summer and in autumn for students wishing to visit the university, including opportunities to visit the academic departments of your choice. warwick.ac.uk/opendays

ART HISTORY DAY

If you receive an offer from us, you will be invited to one of our Art History Days. This day gives you the chance to visit the department, learn more about the course, experience a short lecture and take part in a seminar. You will meet members of staff and current students meaning you can ask any questions that you may have. You will also be offered a campus tour with current History of Arts students.