

2012-2013 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2012-2013 academic years, including the Fall Semester 2012, the Winter Semester 2013 and the Summer Semester 2013.

For your convenience the Graduate Calendar is available in PDF format.

If you wish to link to the Graduate Calendar please refer to the Linking Guidelines.

The University is a full member of:

- The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

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Disclaimer

The Office of Graduate Studies has attempted to ensure the accuracy of this on-line Graduate Calendar. However, the publication of information in this document does not bind the university to the provision of courses, programs, schedules of studies, fees, or facilities as listed herein.

Limitations

The University of Guelph reserves the right to change without notice any information contained in this calendar, including any rule or regulation pertaining to the standards for admission to, the requirements for the continuation of study in, and the requirements for the granting of degrees or diplomas in any or all of its programs.

The university will not be liable for any interruption in, or cancellation of, any academic activities as set forth in this calendar and related information where such interruption is caused by fire, strike, lock-out, inability to procure materials or trades, restrictive laws or governmental regulations, actions taken by the faculty, staff or students of the university or by others, civil unrest or disobedience, Public Health Emergencies, or any other cause of any kind beyond the reasonable control of the university.

The University of Guelph reaffirms section 1 of the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1981, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, handicap, age, marital status or family status.

The university encourages applications from women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and members of other under-represented groups.

Introduction

Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information

Personal information is collected under the authority of the University of Guelph Act (1964), and in accordance with Ontario's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/DBLaws/Statutes/English/90f31_e.htm. This information is used by University officials in order to carry out their authorized academic and administrative responsibilities and also to establish a relationship for alumni and development purposes. Certain personal information is disclosed to external agencies, including the Ontario Universities Application Centre, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and Statistics Canada, for statistical and planning purposes, and is disclosed to other individuals or organizations in accordance with the Office of Registrarial Services Departmental Policy on the Release of Student Information. For details on the use and disclosure of this information call the Office of Registrarial Services at the University at (519) 824-4120 or see <http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/registrar/index.cfm?index>.

Statistics Canada - Notification of Disclosure

For further information, please see Statistics Canada's web site at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca> and Section XIV Statistics Canada.

Address for University Communication

Depending on the nature and timing of the communication, the University may use one of these addresses to communicate with students. Students are, therefore, responsible for checking all of the following on a regular basis:

Email Address

The University issued email address is considered an official means of communication with the student and will be used for correspondence from the University. Students are responsible for monitoring their University-issued email account regularly.

Home Address

Students are responsible for maintaining a current mailing address with the University. Address changes can be made, in writing, through the Office of Graduate Studies.

Name Changes

The University of Guelph is committed to the integrity of its student records, therefore, each student is required to provide either on application for admission or on personal data forms required for registration, his/her complete, legal name. Any requests to change a name, by means of alteration, deletion, substitution or addition, must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation.

Student Confidentiality and Release of Student Information Policy Excerpt

The University undertakes to protect the privacy of each student and the confidentiality of his or her record. To this end the University shall refuse to disclose personal information to any person other than the individual to whom the information relates where disclosure would constitute an unjustified invasion of the personal privacy of that person or of any other individual. All members of the University community must respect the confidential nature of the student information which they acquire in the course of their work.

Complete policy at <http://www.uoguelph.ca/policies>.

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Art History and Visual Culture

The MA program is intended to provide students with core knowledge about Art History and Visual Culture within an interdisciplinary research context beneficial for transition to higher levels of Art History-related education and research and/or for careers in a variety of Art History-related fields, for instance in art publishing, museums and galleries, or government agencies.

The MA in Art History and Visual Culture is the first MA in this country which will provide a much-needed critical perspective fundamentally engaged with the history, politics, ideology, theory, and discourse not only of art, but, more significantly, the critical practices which inform how art's history is taught, marketed, and disseminated. What makes the program unique, dynamic, and exciting is its self-reflexivity, that is, its investigation of the discipline itself. By critically exploring a wider purview of objects, the program will be structured so as to provide maximum flexibility, introducing students to interdisciplinary inquiry and holistically engaging with objects in their multidimensionality. In other words, students will learn to discuss and critically write about objects in their material, critical, theoretical, and contextual totalities. Students will also explore the concept of identity, the power of visual rhetoric, and the shifting power dynamics inherent in art and its disciplines both in historical and contemporary contexts.

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MA Program

The MA in Art History and Visual Culture examines the production and consumption of images, objects, and spaces from varied cultures. It challenges many ideas about cognition and perception, and includes the study of the ocular. Because the visual is crucial to our understandings of cultural difference, Art History and Visual Culture Studies is vitally concerned with the manner in which the interdependent elements of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class construct identity. It demands that we think across cultures and national boundaries, and within a global context. Intercultural visual analysis necessarily questions conceptions of "high" and "low" culture and requires that we substantially change the ways in which we practice the discipline of Art History.

Towards this end, the objectives of the MA program are:

1. To enable students to gain a command of visual literacy through global and critical understandings of art and its cultures and histories;
2. To combine art historical methodology and visual and material culture perspectives in the study of objects—both past and present;
3. To explore critically the assumptions underpinning writing about art history and visual culture.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the MA program in Art History and Visual Culture may be granted on the recommendation of the School of Fine Art and Music to:

- the holder of a BA degree (honours equivalent), or an honours BA (or its equivalent in art history) with a minimum of a 75% average; or
- in exceptional cases, the holder of a degree in another field who has completed a minimum of six one-semester courses in art history; or
- a student who has satisfied the requirements for transfer from the provisional-student category.

It is highly recommended that applicants complete at least eight semesters of courses in art history, cultural studies, or related areas prior to applying. Serious interest in, and substantial familiarity with, historical and contemporary issues in Art History and Visual Culture is expected.

Degree Requirements

The program is a five semester MA in Art History and Visual Culture for students with a four-year undergraduate honours degree in the arts or social sciences. The MA program has a 2.0 credit course requirement, as well as a thesis for the completion of the program. The thesis consists of an extensive piece of research and an oral examination (defence).

Each degree candidate is required to complete the course work, colloquium oral presentation, and a thesis, which consists of an extended piece of research, and an oral examination. The three components represent a significant body of research and production, and demonstrate a thoroughly engaged investigation into the historical and conceptual considerations of the thesis topic. The thesis topic is subject to the approval of the MA Examination Committee, which includes an examiner from the profession. The thesis is a project of publishable quality. In essay form, it discusses the critical, historical, and theoretical aspects of the student's subject of research. Students are expected to present and defend their work orally in a manner appropriate to a professional art historian's public presentation.

A total of 2.0 credits are required for the completion of this program. In addition to individually oriented Critical Methods I and II courses, students are required to complete two MA seminars. A maximum of one course outside Art History may be substituted for courses in Art History and Visual Culture graduate offerings. The courses selected must be acceptable to the school and the Board of Graduate Studies for graduate credit. There are 4 'substantive' courses that comprise the candidate's prescribed studies, and in which the student must obtain an overall average grade of at least 'B-' standing.

Courses

AVC*6100 Proseminar: Critical Methods I F [0.50]
This proseminar explores the histories, theories, and methodologies of the fields of art history, visual culture, and material culture.
AVC*6200 Proseminar: Critical Methods II W [0.50]
This seminar is a multi-disciplinary survey of critical theory. The aim is to consider which bodies of theory have been—and continue to be—lively options for the practice of critical thought in relation to visual culture, especially post-1968. The course explores issues which also possess cultural, social and political relevance, theories which affected all the humanities and social sciences, and themes that are also deeply relevant outside the academy. These include: the institutions and networks of knowledge, identity politics, race, sexuality, gender and class, amongst others.
<i>Prerequisite(s):</i> AVC*6100
AVC*6300 Special Topics in Art History and Visual Culture F [0.50]
This seminar explores issues of historical and critical method by focusing them through the lens of a particular area of concern within the fields of art history, visual culture, and/or material culture.
AVC*6400 Practicum: Art Institutions W [0.50]
The practicum provides students with an opportunity to gain practical experience through work with an artist, curator, or other museum or arts professional.
AVC*6500 Directed Reading U [0.50]
Each student establishes, in consultation with the faculty member chosen, the content of this special study within the instructor's area of expertise. Faculty varies.