

## **Art History B.A. & M.A. Five-Year Combined Degree Program**

The Art History B.A. and M.A. Combined Degree Program admits qualified applicants who are enrolled as Art History majors at Binghamton University and wish to complete a B.A. with an Art History major in Track A: Art History concentration or in Track B: Architectural and Urban History concentration, but not Track C: Pre-Architecture, and an M.A. in Art History in five years. The program restricts admissions to students with exceptional academic records and demonstrated potential for graduate work.

Prospective students should begin the application process early in the junior year by applying to the combined degree program at the level of the art history department. Applicants will fill out the Combined Degree Program Application Form and submit an official transcript, the names of two professors who have agreed to serve as references, a statement of intent and a writing sample.

Qualified students will be conditionally admitted into the combined degree program and allowed to enroll in 500-level courses that may be double-counted to fulfill requirements for both the B.A. and the M.A. During the first semester of senior year, combined degree students must apply for formal admission to the graduate school. The combined degree student is granted M.A. student status only after all requirements for the B.A. degree are completed satisfactorily, with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 for graduate coursework. Combined Degree students may not select the Senior Honors Thesis option (ARTH 498-499).

### **Course requirements**

Combined degree students must fulfill all of the course requirements for both the Art History B.A. (Tracks A or B) and the M.A. However, all combined degree students must take ARTH 500 in the spring semester of their senior year (and not ARTH 496), which will fulfill both the B.A. requirement for ARTH 496 and the M.A. requirement for ARTH 500. Graduate-level courses (32 credits) must be taken for regular letter grades and a B average or better must be maintained.

**B.A. Track A: Art History Concentration + M.A. in Art History**

Lower level — two from 101, 102, 103 or 104	8
Intermediate level — 200 and above; 20 course credits in total, no more than eight credits at the 200 level; at least eight credits must be in each of: — Pre-1800 — Post-1800	20
Elective in fine arts (Studio Art, Cinema, Theatre or Music)	4
One 400-level seminar (other than ARTH 496)	4
ARTH 500. Theory and Methods (required in the fourth year; also fulfills ARTH 496 req for the major)	4
Seven additional 500-level courses (including at least six art history seminars, taken with at least four different faculty members in art history, 4 credits taken while still at the BA stage)	28
<b>TOTAL</b> (with 8 credits of 500-level coursework used to fulfill requirements for the BA)	<b>68 Credits</b>

N.B. Two-credit courses may be counted toward the required credit hours.

To view currently offered courses within the department please see the [Binghamton University Public Schedule of Classes](#).

## **B.A. Track B: Architecture and Urban History Concentration + M.A. in Art History**

Lower level — two from 101, 102, 103 or 104	8
Intermediate level — 200 and above; 20 course credits in total, no more than eight credits at the 200 level; 12 credits must be in the history of architecture, at least four credits in each of: — Pre-1800 — Post-1800	20
Studio Art course in drawing	4
One additional 400-level seminar (other than ARTH 496)	4
ARTH 500 Theory and Methods (required in the fourth year; also fulfills ARTH 496 req for the major)	4
Seven additional 500-level courses (including at least six art history seminars, taken with at least four different faculty members in art history, 4 credits taken while still at the BA stage)	28
<b>Total</b> (with 8 credits of 500-level coursework used to fulfill requirements for the BA)	<b>68 Credits</b>

N.B. Two-credit courses may be counted toward the required credit hours.

To view currently offered courses within the department please see the [Binghamton University Public Schedule of Classes](#).

## **Foreign Language**

Combined degree students must pass an examination demonstrating an ability to read research literature in their areas of interest in an appropriate language of scholarship in addition to English. The foreign language examination must be taken no later than one semester after formal admission to the M.A. program. Work in certain fields may require additional language skills.

## **Master's Examination**

The master's comprehensive examination has been incorporated into the mandatory seminar in theory and methods. All students are required to pass ARTH 500, Theory and Methods, with a grade of B or better. For combined degree students, ARTH 500 also fulfills the B.A. major requirement of ARTH 496. At the discretion of the art history graduate committee, students failing to achieve the required grade may be asked either to repeat the course or, in exceptional cases, to redo the examination assignment.

## **Master's Thesis**

Students are required to produce a master's thesis, finished to a professional standard and approximately 30 pages in length. The paper will be supervised by a selected art history faculty member and refereed by a second reader, assigned by the departmental graduate committee. The final thesis must be approved by both readers and submitted in accordance with Graduate School regulations. Students must be registered for at least one credit of Thesis (ARTH 599) during the semester in which the degree is completed.

## **Sample coursework schedule for a BA & MA Combined Degree student in Art History**

### **Freshman and sophomore years**

The student completes all of the basic requirements for the major with the exception of one course, ARTH 496, as well as the majority of General Education and Distribution requirements.

### **Fall or spring semester of the junior year**

The student applies to the M.A. program at the level of the department and is admitted conditionally.

### **Fall semester of senior year**

The student takes one 500-level ARTH seminar and applies for formal admission to the department through the graduate school.

### **Spring semester of senior year**

The student takes ARTH 500, which will be double-counted as ARTH 496, a requirement of the undergraduate major, and another 500-level ARTH seminar. At the end of the senior year, the student will have completed all of the requirements for the undergraduate major and will receive the B.A. degree. At that point the student will be formally accepted into the M.A. program. 12 credits of 500-level coursework done during senior year will be used to fulfill M.A. coursework requirements.

### **Fifth year**

The student will fulfill 20 remaining credits for the completion of M.A. coursework and write the MA thesis during the fifth year. The student will take the foreign language exam either at the end of spring semester senior year or at the end of fall semester of the fifth year.