

# PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES - ART HISTORY AND VISUAL STUDIES

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Competencies are the skills, knowledge and attributes gained through every work, educational, volunteer and life experience.

UVic students in the [History in Art](#) program develop the following program-specific competencies. We worked with the Department of Art History and Visual Studies to develop this document.

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## ART-HISTORICAL AWARENESS

**Develops awareness of global artistic, aesthetic and visual traditions with a focus on Classical and European traditions before the modern period; Islamic and Asian traditions; art of the Americas, modern art and architecture**

- + Critically evaluates art-historical artifacts including painting, sculpture, architecture and text
- + Describes techniques used by artists throughout history, in western and non-western cultures
- + Develops an understanding of the relationships among art-historical artifacts

## ART-HISTORICAL METHOD

**Employs a systematic method of enquiry in order to understand and interpret art-historical artifacts**

- + Understands and employs the research methods, tools and resources as well as the theoretical and historiographical perspectives that inform current art-historical studies
- + Understands how the study of history involves interpretation of the past based on current perspectives
- + Re-evaluates existing understandings of the past as new information and new interpretations of old information arise

## HISTORICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

**Understands art-historical artifacts in their historical, social and cultural contexts**

- + Identifies the historical, social and cultural context in which art is produced
- + Understands how historical, cultural and social contexts impact the production and interpretation of art
- + Recognizes how differing social and cultural perspectives of the past and the present influence the interpretation of art
- + Demonstrates intellectual curiosity to explore historical, social and cultural perspectives
- + Reflects on issues such as nationalism, imperialism, militarism, politics, religion, ethnicity, race, gender and class in the context of the production of art