INFORMATION SHEET

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES - ART HISTORY AND VISUAL STUDIES

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.

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