

## PhD Program in Art & Architectural History, University of Virginia

### Program of study for students entering with BA – 42 total graded credits

<b>Year 1</b>	6 graded courses 5 seminars 1 methods seminar First language exam (as necessary)
<b>Summer</b>	Qualifying paper / language preparation
<b>Year 2</b>	4 graded courses 2 seminars 2 independent study courses Qualifying paper preparation (fall) PhD examination preparation (spring) Teaching Assistantship (2 semesters) Second language exam (as necessary) Qualifying paper (by the end of fall semester)
<b>Summer</b>	continue PhD examination preparation
<b>Year 3</b>	4 graded courses 2 seminars 2 independent study courses: PhD examination preparation (fall) Dissertation prospectus preparation (spring) Teaching Assistantship (2 semesters) PhD examination (by the end of fall semester/beginning of spring semester) Dissertation prospectus (by the end of spring semester)
<b>Summer</b>	Dissertation research
<b>Year 4</b>	Dissertation research Teaching Assistantship (2 semesters) Apply for fellowships (Fulbright, Chateaubriand, Carter Manny, etc.)
<b>Summer</b>	Dissertation research
<b>Year 5</b>	Dissertation research Apply for fellowships (CASVA, Kress Institutional, etc.)
<b>Summer</b>	Dissertation writing
<b>Year 6</b>	Dissertation writing Dissertation defense Submit completed dissertation

*note:* The scheduling of Teaching Assistantships may be somewhat flexible, as long as students fulfill their necessary 6 semesters

**PhD Program in Art & Architectural History, University of Virginia**

**Program of study for students entering with MA – 30 total graded credits**

<b>Year 1</b>	6 graded courses 4 seminars 1 methods seminar 1 independent study course PhD examination preparation (spring) First language exam (as necessary)
<b>Summer</b>	PhD examination preparation / language preparation
<b>Year 2</b>	4 graded courses 2 seminars 2 independent study courses PhD examination preparation (fall) Dissertation prospectus preparation (spring) Teaching Assistantship (2 semesters) Second language exam (as necessary) PhD examination (by end of fall semester/beginning of spring semester) Dissertation prospectus (by the end of spring semester)
<b>Summer</b>	Dissertation research
<b>Year 3</b>	Teaching Assistantship (2 semesters) Apply for fellowships (Fulbright, Chateaubriand, Carter Manny, etc.) Dissertation research
<b>Summer</b>	Dissertation research
<b>Year 4</b>	Dissertation research Apply for fellowships (CASVA, Kress Institutional, etc.)
<b>Summer</b>	Dissertation writing
<b>Year 5</b>	Dissertation writing Teaching Assistantship (2 semesters) Dissertation defense Submit completed dissertation

*note:* The scheduling of Teaching Assistantships may be somewhat flexible, as long as students fulfill their necessary 6 semesters

### **Language Requirement**

Reading knowledge of at least two foreign languages is required. These languages are to be appropriate to the dissertation field and should be defined in consultation with the dissertation director and the Director of Graduate Studies.

### **Qualifying Paper**

Students who enter the program with a BA will be asked to develop one of the seminar papers they write during their first year of coursework into a polished piece, based on original research.

### **PhD Examinations**

Students will undertake a PhD examination prepared by three faculty members in their area of study within the history of art and architecture that demonstrates their mastery of foundational primary sources, historiographical issues, and scholarship broadly related to the dissertation. The PhD examination will include both written and oral components. Students should submit a brief description and bibliography for each of the three fields to the Graduate Committee for approval.

The following is a template for PhD exams. Advisors and committee members are free to alter this as necessary in dialogue with their advisee.

### **Written Exam**

Day 1: Answering two questions for two hours each.

Day 2: Answering one question for four hours.

### **Oral Exam**

The oral exam should include three faculty members and should be scheduled within one month of the written exam. Typically students will be asked about portions of their written exam and then about the state of the field and their own research.

### **Dissertation Prospectus**

In consultation with the dissertation director, students write a dissertation prospectus of no more than ten pages (excluding bibliography) that includes an abstract; a project statement outlining the project's scope, situating it historiographically, and identifying its contributions; a program and schedule of research; and selected bibliography. Once the dissertation director has approved the prospectus, it should be submitted to the Graduate Committee for final approval (by the end of spring semester, Year 2, for students entering with an MA or by the end of spring semester Year 3 for students entering with a BA). The Graduate Committee will meet four times per academic year and will approve the prospectus in two stages. Students should submit a polished draft to the Graduate Committee by one of the four submission deadlines. The Graduate Committee will offer the student suggestions for corrections and revisions. The student will then submit a revised prospectus to the Graduate Committee by the next submission deadline at which point the Graduate Committee will approve or reject the prospectus. Once approved, the dissertation prospectus is circulated among the faculty.

### **Dissertation Presentation**

In the midst of advancing their research and writing, each student is asked to give a forty-minute talk based on the dissertation to an audience of faculty and graduate students. A typical presentation begins with a concise outline of the project as a whole, followed by an illustrative excerpt taken from a single chapter. The presentation concludes with a question

and answer period. Neither an examination nor a defense, this is an occasion for students to share their scholarship in a formal venue, to learn how to engage with historians of art and architecture from different areas, and to practice the kind of presentation usually demanded by a job talk.