

# Art History DMP Guidelines (updated 2014)

The Department's Distinguished Majors Program (DMP) is an opportunity for qualified undergraduates to undertake substantial, independent research projects while working closely with department faculty. Participants are prepared for advanced independent research and analysis by a required seminar in art historical theory, methods, and historiography. The program culminates in the submission of a DMP thesis, a significant piece of original scholarship between fifty and ninety pages in length. Students who successfully complete the program receive departmental honors, with a degree of Distinction, High Distinction, or Highest Distinction in art history.

Students should meet with the director of the Distinguished Majors Program by the end of the fall semester of their third year to discuss their interest in applying for admission to the program. In the spring of their third year, prospective program participants should enroll in ARTH 4051, Art History: Theory and Practice. This seminar introduces students to essential conceptual and methodological approaches to art history and includes a library research practicum. A formal application for admission to the program should be submitted to the director of the Distinguished Majors Program in the spring of the third year. To apply, students must have the approval of a faculty member who has agreed to direct their research. A GPA of at least 3.4 in the major and an overall GPA of at least 3.4 are required for admission. In addition to a completed application form, applicants must submit a statement and project proposal, preliminary bibliography, writing sample, and academic transcript.

In their fourth year, students in the program are required to enroll in six credits of Undergraduate Thesis coursework with their faculty advisor. ARTH 4998 is taken in the Fall semester and ARTH 4999 in the Spring semester. Once theses are submitted, a committee of department faculty determines degrees of distinction. This evaluation depends above all on the level of accomplishment the thesis has attained, considered in tandem with the students' overall performance in the major. In the case that a thesis fails to meet departmental standards, a determination of no distinction may be made. The committee passes on its recommendations to the Committee on Special Programs.

Most Art History research projects benefit greatly from firsthand examination of the objects or monuments themselves. Research and travel funds are available from the College of Arts and Sciences, Echols Scholars Program, Raven Society, Hereford College, and the Center for Undergraduate Excellence, among others. Please ask the DMP coordinator for details. Ideally, prospective DMP students begin planning to submit grants in early spring of the third year in order to take advantage of the summer prior to fourth year for travel and research.

## Formatting and Submission

The thesis, including footnotes/endnotes, bibliography, and illustrations, should be formatted using 12-pt font, 1-inch margins, and page numbers inserted in the lower right-hand corners.

### ***Thesis Organization***

Table of Contents  
Acknowledgements  
List of Illustrations  
Introduction  
Chapters  
Bibliography/Works Cited  
Tables/Appendix (if needed)  
Illustrations (if needed)

### ***Citation Style***

Unless otherwise specified by their DMP advisor, students should use the Chicago Manual of Style to format all references and bibliography. The Manual is available online and at all University libraries.

### ***List of Illustrations***

This should include, in order of appearance within your text, all pertinent information regarding the image: artist, title, date, type of media, size, and location when applicable.

### ***Thesis Binding***

Three (3) bound copies of the thesis need to be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on the day of the deadline: one to the advisor, one to the 2nd reader, and one to the DMP coordinator. 'Comb' binding or the equivalent is recommended. Please allow time to have your thesis bound in order to have it ready for submission by the deadline.