THE LITTLE BOOK OF
ART HISTORY
AT BROOKES
What will I study?

In **year 1** you will gain a solid grounding in the key concepts and skills you need to study the History of Art from the Renaissance to the Modern period.

In **years 2 and 3** you’ll take modules on wider thematic issues. You will be able to give your studies a period focus by choosing modules on topics from the 15th to 20th centuries.

Our teaching team offers an excellent range of expertise, with specialists in painting, drawing, print, sculpture, architecture and art theory.
Art History in Oxford

Oxford is an inspiring location for studying History of Art. You can visit outstanding museums and galleries and take in a wealth of historical architecture.

You’ll quickly become familiar with the Ashmolean Museum, the Christ Church Picture Gallery, and Modern Art Oxford. We make full use of local museum collections and historic buildings, incorporating visits into most of our modules and placing emphasis on the importance of studying works in the original.

London is a short coach journey away, and many modules feature guided visits to London museums.
“I love my course: it literally is the history of everything - it’s art, architecture, sculpture, print, sociology, history, philosophy, anthropology, psychology and theology. The freedom to tap into my own interpretation and the numerous genres and subjects to choose from is immense.”

STEVE BLOFIELD, HISTORY OF ART GRADUATE
Field trips

The course includes regular trips to galleries, museums and architectural sites. A highlight for many students is the week-long field trip to Paris, usually taken in the second year. You’ll be immersed in intensive study of great artworks and buildings under the guidance of your tutors.

“The opportunity to take part in a field trip to Paris was something that really attracted me to the course at Brookes – and now that I am here, I really enjoy the insightful and frequent visits to museums and galleries that are organised as part of the course.”

VY TRAN, HISTORY OF ART AND FILM STUDIES GRADUATE
Our visits vary from year to year but generally include:

- The Sainte-Chapelle
- Renaissance paintings in the Louvre
- The Pompidou Centre
- The Panthéon
- The Musée Rodin
- The Musée d’Orsay
- Monet’s Waterlilies in the Orangerie
Work experience

There are many opportunities available to you in Oxford; you can gain work experience in museums, galleries, and auction houses. The University’s own exhibition space, the Glass Tank, offers two placements to History of Art students each year. Past students have found both voluntary and paid positions at the Ashmolean, Modern Art Oxford, Sanders printsellers, and Mallams auctioneers.
Our module on curatorial practice offers direct experience of the theoretical and practical work involved in curating displays and exhibitions.
78% of our research is either world leading or internationally excellent.
Source: REF 2014

We have links with the universities of Perugia in Italy and Madrid in Spain, as well as multiple universities in Canada, the US and Australia. If you’re interested in expanding your international experience you can choose to study abroad as part of your degree.

Our friendly, close-knit team will help you get the most out of the course. One-to-one tutorials are offered on each module and you’ll be encouraged to talk to us outside of class to discuss your work and ideas.

96% of History of Art students were satisfied by the overall quality of the course
2016 National Student Survey
Source: Unistats

“Why did I choose this course? It’s quite simple: I love art. I revel in looking at masterpieces and learning about their origin. An artwork gives you an insight into the time in which it was created, and what was most important to that particular society, and so in a sense looking at artwork is like looking through to a different world.”

ALICE DUDBRIDGE, HISTORY OF ART GRADUATE
Research and expertise

You will be taught by tutors who are active researchers with strong reputations. They draw on their own research to create a programme that is stimulating and enjoyable.

“The department also organises careers evenings where Brookes’ alumni come back and talk about their careers after university. The curatorial practice module also invites guest lecturers to come and talk about their experiences of working in museums or within the art world.”

VICTORIA ZICOS, HISTORY OF ART AND FINE ART GRADUATE
Our current areas of staff research expertise include:

**Italian Renaissance art and architecture, including Michelangelo**

**The classical tradition in architecture, sculpture and prints**

**British painting, sculpture and art theory in the eighteenth-century, including Reynolds and Wright of Derby**

**The reception of art**

**Nineteenth-century British painting and its social contexts, including landscape and the Pre-Raphaelites**

**The emergence of British modernism in architecture and design**

**Art and science**

We will actively encourage you to become a researcher in your own right, and by designing and undertaking your own research you will develop excellent analytical and independent study skills, adding weight to your CV.
“Combining History of Art with Fine Art means that I am well equipped with knowledge of both sides of the art world. I feel that having both a historical knowledge of the art world and an awareness of how modern day artists sell their work has given me an advantage in the career that I want to pursue.”

TEODORA BUDIMIR, HISTORY OF ART AND FINE ART GRADUATE
Combinations

You can choose to study History of Art as a single or combined honours degree. A popular combination is with Fine Art, and we are one of only a handful of universities in the UK to offer this combination.

Other combinations include Anthropology, English Literature, and History.

The flexible module approach at Brookes means that both single and combined honours students can choose to study a module from outside their course.
School of History, Philosophy and Culture

For more information about History of Art:

www.brookes.ac.uk/arthistory