



Career Options in **ART HISTORY**

Art history is the study of art created in the past by individuals from various cultures and parts of the world. The art historian seeks to interpret and understand works of art of many types, ranging from the monumental to small scale, by learning about artists' lives and their societies. Art history majors study works of art--how they came about and what they mean. Students examine artworks as they appear now and also consider appearance and function in their original contexts. Through their visual analysis and extensive reading and writing, students explore the traditions of appearance and technique that guided the creation of art in different cultures. Graduates with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History are equipped for a wide range of professional careers - in museums, galleries, auction houses or publishing.

An Art History major is not only a sound preparation for any professional field, it may also provide a distinct advantage for entry into those fields, given the increasing preference of law, medical, and professional schools for students with a broad intellectual background.

SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS: Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of occupations related to this major. Specific requirements based on education level for each occupation may vary. For additional information and assistance, please speak with a Career Consultant.

Animator	Architect	Art Conservator
Art Educator	Art Historian	Art Therapist
Fashion Designer	Gallery Director	Graphic Designer
Illustrator	Industrial Designer	Interior Designer
Museum Curator	Photographer	Product Designer

SAMPLE WORK SETTINGS:

Museums	Schools/Universities/Colleges	Art Galleries
Publishing Companies	Federal/State Government	Auction Houses
Advertising Agencies	Antique Dealers	Archives
Fashion Design Companies	Historic Preservation & Firms	Historical Societies
Interior Design Firms	Libraries	Magazines/Newspapers
Media Organizations	Performing Arts Centers	Photographic Studios
Public Relations Firms	Publishing Firms	Non-Profit Organizations
Restored Communities/Estates		

RELATED MAJOR SKILLS & CHARACTERISTICS:

Good memory	Careful observation	Critical reading
Effective research skills	Strong communication	Interpretation
Creativity	Patience	Attention to detail
Command of language	Able to keep an open mind	Cultural awareness

SAMPLE GW RESOURCES

GW CAREER CENTER RESOURCES: <http://gwire.gwu.edu/career>

GWork: <http://gwire.gwu.edu/career>

Career Search: <http://careerssearch.net>

GW DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION: <http://www.gwu.edu/~art/>

Undergraduate Program Information: http://www.gwu.edu/~art/PRG_ah.html#undergrad

Graduate Program Information: http://www.gwu.edu/~art/PRG_ah.html#grad

SAMPLE WEBSITES:

Career Planning Resources:

Jobstar Career Guides <http://jobstar.org/tools/career/index.cfm>

Art & Art History Links http://www.holycross.edu/departments/dos/website/career_planning/arthistory.htm

Art History Resources <http://career.berkeley.edu/Arts/Arts.stm#arthistory>

Job Search Resources:

Museum Employment Resource Center <http://www.museum-employment.com/>

Art History Network <http://www.arthistory.net/jobs.html>

Employment opportunities in Art History <http://www.careers.ucr.edu/students/graduates/jobs/ArtHistory.html>

Museumstuff.com <http://www.museumstuff.com/links/history/employment/>

Professional Organizations & Associations:

American Association of Museums <http://www.aam-us.org/>

Association of Art Museum Directors <http://www.aamd.net/>

College Art Association <http://www.collegeart.org/>

Getty Center <http://www.getty.edu/>

International Council on Monuments and Sites <http://www.icomos.org/>

Society of Architectural Historians <http://www.upenn.edu/sah/>

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1922 F St, NW (Old Main)

202-994-6495

<http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

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