Semester Department Honors Requirements – Department of Art and Art History

The Department of Art and Art History offers students who have demonstrated very strong academic ability the opportunity to engage in more advanced research and writing, or more advanced creative scholarship, than the respective standard programs require. The Honors program is not limited to students who intend to undertake graduate study or pursue careers in art or art history, but it can be of particular benefit to such students.

Students who complete the requirements described below will graduate “With Honors in Art” or “With Honors in Art History.” Students who complete these requirements and also take the requisite courses prescribed by the University Honors Program will graduate as “University Honors Scholars.”

Semester Requirements – Art History

- Between 60 and 90 credit hours in the University (ie. junior standing)
- An overall cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher
- A grade point average of 3.5 or higher in art history courses
- At least 12 credit hours of art history, including Art 2110 and Art 2120. It is recommended that students have taken at least one course with the professor who will serve as the thesis adviser.
- Sponsorship of a faculty advisor

Semester Requirements – Art (Studio)

- Between 60 and 90 credit hours at Wright State University (ie. junior standing)
- An overall cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher
- A grade point average of 3.5 in art courses
- A declared single concentration area (painting, photo, printmaking, sculpture) with at least 9 hours in that area (including the studio core requirement)
- Sponsorship of a faculty advisor

Proposal and Approval Process – Art History

- Project description and a preliminary bibliography, length to be determined and approved by the individual faculty advisor and reviewed by the Departmental Honors Committee (art history faculty) and the department chair

Proposal and Approval Process – Art (Studio)

- Project description/title with preliminary checklist to include specific requirement parameters (number of finished works, number of critiques, reading list, etc.)
- Must be approved by individual faculty advisor and reviewed by Departmental Honors Committee (studio art faculty) and the department chair

Academic Requirements – Art History
• Students will enroll in two semesters of independent study courses (4010), totaling 6 credits, during which time they will develop, research and write an original work in art history.
• The length of the thesis will be determined in consultation with the faculty advisor, but should be between 40 and 60 pages
• After acceptance of the final draft, students will undergo an oral examination on the topic of their research, conducted by the Department Honors Committee
• In order to receive honors, students must maintain the minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA and the 3.5 GPA in art history courses. Moreover, they must achieve at least a “B” on the thesis itself

Academic Requirements – Art (Studio)
• Students will enroll in two semesters of independent study courses (Art 3010), totaling 6 credits, during which time they will research and develop an original body of creative work. The independent study courses will be counted as art electives.
• Students will have a solo thesis exhibition in a suitable on-campus space (prior approval by faculty advisor)
• A 2-5 page researched artist statement
• Students must maintain an overall minimum GPA of 3.25 and a GPA of 3.5 in art courses. Moreover, they must achieve at least a “B” on the thesis exhibition itself.

Evaluation – Art History
• The Departmental Honors Committee (art history faculty) and the department chair will evaluate the thesis and determine the level of honors

Evaluation – Art (Studio)
• The faculty advisor, in coordination with the department honors committee and the chair, will critique and evaluate the body of work presented in the solo exhibition
• The faculty advisor, in coordination with the department honors committee and the chair, will evaluate the artist statement.

Project Oversight – Art History
• A single faculty member will serve as the primary supervisor of the project. The Departmental Honors Committee must approve the thesis

Project Oversight – Art (Studio)
• A single faculty member will serve as the primary supervisor of the project. The department honors committee must approve the thesis.

Timeline – Art History
• Students must apply to the program before their senior year, preferably in the second semester of their junior year
Timeline – Art (Studio)

- Students must apply no later than Spring semester, junior year.
- The program will last two semesters with a defense of the solo exhibition to occur no later than the Senior Thesis Exhibition.

Forms

1. Completed application form (available in Art office).
2. Official transcript documenting eligibility for the program.