



History of Art and Archaeology

From performance masquerade in West Africa to the visual cultures of China and Japan; the archaeology of Morocco and Ethiopia to the temples of South East Asia; and from the sophisticated book cultures of South Asia and the Middle East to questions of identity in museums and contemporary art exhibitions, our programmes cover a plurality of themes and theoretical approaches, providing extensive coverage of the arts, archaeology, architecture and material culture of Asia, Africa and the Middle East from ancient times to the present day. Throughout their programme of study students also now benefit from School of Arts modules that cross the disciplines of Music, Media and the History of Art, emphasising a combined approach to theory and practice. No other university in the world offers such a range of teaching or such a concentration of research specialists in these areas.

SOAS is renowned as an alternative voice to Eurocentric art history, challenging the categories often taken for granted in the study of other cultures. Conventional distinctions between archaeology and art history, or historical past and present, often dissolve, and our programmes present students with exciting new approaches to the subject.

Structure and assessment

Students take taught modules to the value of 120 credits per year – unless stated otherwise

Minimum entry requirements

A-Levels: AAB-ABB (from three A-levels excluding General Studies)

IB: 35 points with 6/6/5 at Higher level

See p160 for more on entry requirements, application assessment, Widening Participation and joint degrees.

English language requirement

Overall IELTS grade of 6.5 with 6.5 in writing and speaking and 6.0 in reading and listening. Visit www.soas.ac.uk/english-requirements for alternative acceptable qualifications

Duration

Three years, or four years when combined with another subject.

Skills gained

A degree in the History of Art and Archaeology prepares you for a number of careers both within and outside of the art world. Recent graduates have gone on to work in auction houses and galleries or moved into careers within the media, publishing and other commercial organisations. Graduates acquire subject specific knowledge, including a specialist background in Asian and African art as well as transferable skills such as:

- communicating information, arguments and ideas effectively to particular audiences
- synthesising research from a variety of primary and secondary sources
- critical and creative thinking and problem solving
- oral, written and visual communication skills
- visual and critical awareness

What do History of Art and Archaeology graduates do?

Assistant Editor
Auction Administrator
CEO and Founder
Freelance Media Analyst
Freelance Journalist
Fashion Designer
Gallery Assistant
Junior Project Manager
Non-Profit Organisation Executive Director
Public Relations Assistant

Employers include

Barbican Art Centre
Christie's
Hali Publications (leading publication in the world of antique carpets, textiles and Islamic art)
Japanese Gallery
Platform China (contemporary art institute)
Somerset House Trust
Sotheby's
Victoria and Albert Museum



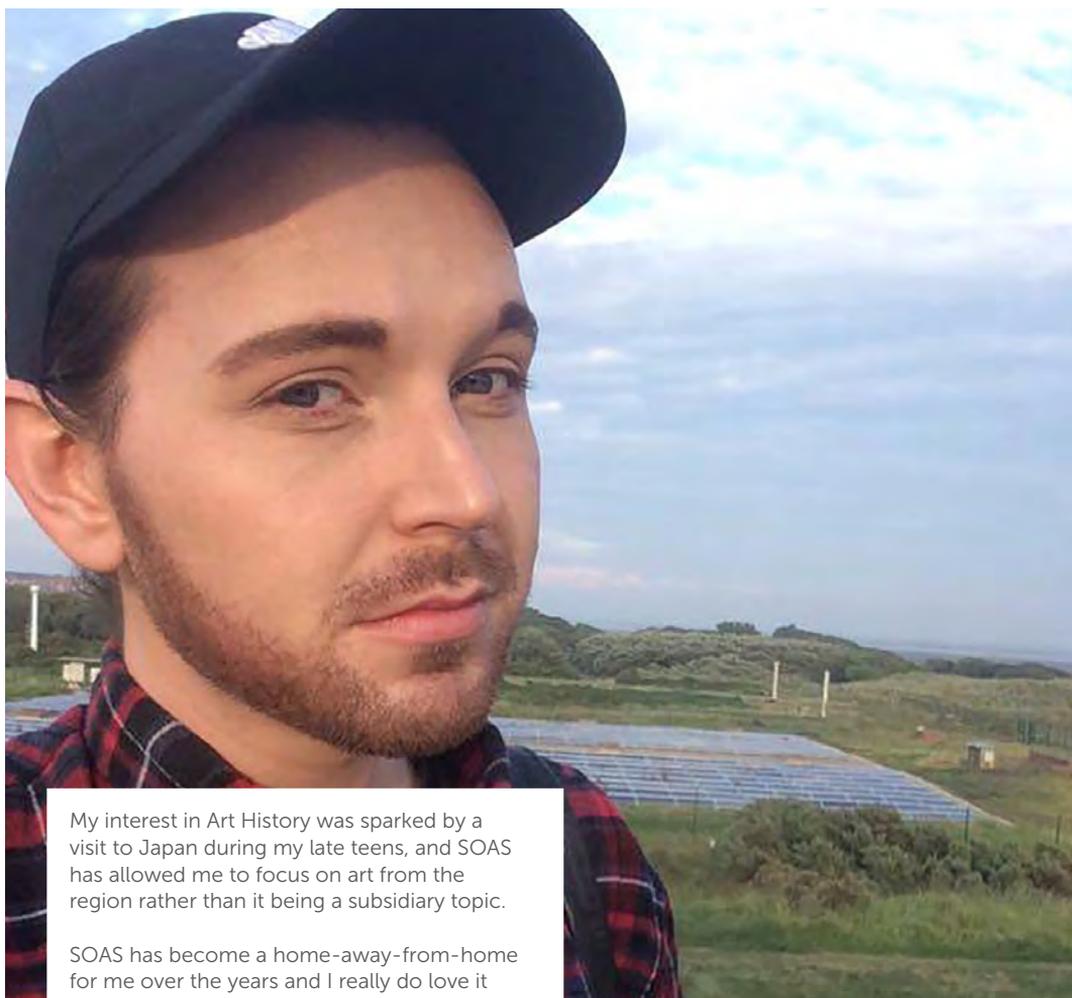
Taught Programmes

- BA History of Art
- BA History of Art (Asia, Africa and Europe)
- BA History of Art and Archaeology
- BA History of Art and Archaeology and...



More Information

www.soas.ac.uk/art



My interest in Art History was sparked by a visit to Japan during my late teens, and SOAS has allowed me to focus on art from the region rather than it being a subsidiary topic.

SOAS has become a home-away-from-home for me over the years and I really do love it here. People at SOAS are very engaged in their subjects and live and breathe their passions. My interests primarily lie in Queer Theory and SOAS has been an amazing place to explore this, with reference to non-Western art and culture.

Initially, I found it quite hard to find people from a similar background, especially within Art History. I wholeheartedly encourage more working-class people to apply for the programme – Art History is always in need of a diverse range of voices!

I've been very fortunate to be an inaugural recipient of the Hettie Elgood Scholarship in order to study a PG Diploma in Asian Art. After that, I'll hopefully carry on with a Master's or a PhD at SOAS as it's the best place to study the subjects I'm passionate about.

James Hallett
BA History of Art



BA History of Art

UCAS code: V350

This programme provides an unrivalled opportunity to study the visual arts, architecture and material culture of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. In the first year, students are introduced to the art and archaeology of different regions while receiving training in art historical theory and methods. In years two and three students broaden and deepen their knowledge and have the chance to specialise in particular regions or themes. An emphasis is placed on training students' visual literacy through close analysis of images. Students are also provided with a critical introduction to the creative and cultural industries, such as museology, curatorial practice, and heritage studies.

Structure

(Typical course content)

Core modules

Year 1

- Theory in Art History and Archaeology (15 credits)
- Great Works: Recordings, Objects, Films (15 credit)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of Africa (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of East Asia (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of South and South East Asia (15 credits)

PLUS

- A 30 credits open option module (or two equivalent 15 credits modules) from another department

Year 2

- Modules selected from the list of optional modules.

Year 3

- The selection of modules in the third year is normally intended to develop the chosen specialisations of the second year. In addition, all third-year students are encouraged to write a 10,000-word Independent Study Project essay (on a subject of their choice), which counts as 30 credits.

Optional modules

Year 2 and 3

- African Art III: the Art and Architecture of North Eastern Africa (30 credits)
- Africans in the Americas: Identities and Representation (15 credits)
- Art and Archaeology of Medieval China (15 credits)

- Art and Archaeology of Ancient China (15 credits)
- Art and Architecture of Medieval Islamic Turkey: the Seljuks and their Neighbours (15 credits)
- Art and Architecture of Tibet (30 credits)
- Art and Culture in Imperial China (15 credits)
- Art and Culture in Modern China (15 credits)
- Art and Empire in India 1300-1800 (30 credits)
- Art and Material Culture of the Islamic World: 7th to 14th Centuries (30 credits)
- Arts, Culture and Commodification: Themes in the Global Creative and Cultural Industries (15 credits)
- Chinese Art and Modernity (30 credits)
- Chinese Contemporary Art (15 credits)
- Collecting and Collections (15 credits)
- Contemporary Korean Arts in East Asia (15 credits)
- Critical Readings in Arts and Cultures (15 credits)
- Curating Global Arts (15 credits)
- Early Indian Art (30 credits)
- Gandharan Art and its Heritage (15 credits)
- Gender, Art and Visual Culture: Explorations in the Representation of Southeast Asia (15 credits)
- Global Cultures of Chinese Ceramics (15 credits)
- Hindu Art in Medieval India (15 credits)
- House and Tomb in the Muslim World (15 credits)
- Imag(in)ing Buddhas in South Asia I (15 credits)
- Imag(in)ing Buddhas in South Asia II (15 credits)
- Islamic Art and Architecture of Medieval Iran and Central Asia (10th-13th Centuries) (15 credits)
- Islamic Urbanism: Medina to Dubai (15 credits)
- Japanese Art (30 credits)
- Mosaics, Manuscripts, and Wall Paintings in Islamic Art (30 credits)
- Mosque and Palace in the Muslim World (15 credits)
- Museums and Museology (15 credits)
- Ottoman Art and Architecture (14th-17th Centuries) (15 credits)
- Painting in Africa (15 credits)
- Paintings of Korea (15 credits)
- Representing China in Museums (15 credits)
- Royal Arts of Korea (15 credits)
- Southeast Asia in the Modern Imagination: Art, Visuality, Exchange (15 credits)
- The 'Historical' Buddha: Explorations in Southeast Asian Arts (15 credits)
- The Visual Culture of Eighteenth-Century Japan (30 credits)
- Traditional Art and Modern South Asia (15 credits)
- Undoing Asia: Artistic Perspectives from the 20th and 21st Centuries (15 credits)
- War and Peace in the Eastern Mediterranean: Art and Architecture of Medieval Syria and Palestine (15 credits)

Year 3

- Independent Study Project in History of Art (30 credits)



BA History of Art (Asia, Africa and Europe)

UCAS code: V351

This is the only degree in the UK to combine the specialist study of Asian, African and European art history. It is taught jointly by SOAS and the History of Art department at UCL. Students select modules from each institution. They receive theoretical and methodological training, which is combined with the study of particular regions, themes and critical issues.

Structure (Typical course content)

Year 1

- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of Africa
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of East Asia
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of the Near and Middle East
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of South and South East Asia
- Two UCL modules

Year 2

At least 45 credits SOAS modules from the department:

- May include one 30-credit open option module (or two equivalent 15-credit modules) from another department
- At least 45 credits UCL modules

Year 3

At least 30 credits SOAS modules from the department:

- Normally including an Independent Study Project
- May include one 30-credit open option module (or two equivalent 15-credit modules) from another department
- At least 30 credits UCL modules

BA History of Art and Archaeology

UCAS code: VV43

This degree enables students to include the specialised study of the archaeology of Asia and Africa.

Structure (Typical course content)

Core modules

Year 1

- Theory in Art History and Archaeology (15 credits)
- Great Works: Recordings, Objects, Films (15 credit)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of Africa (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of East Asia (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of South and South East Asia (15 credits)

PLUS

- A 30 credits open option module (or two equivalent 15 credits modules) from another department

Years 2 and 3

You must select from the list of optional modules below, with at least 120 credits over both years from modules that have archaeological content (this is indicated by an asterisk). The selection of modules in the third year is normally intended to develop the chosen specialisations of the second year. In addition, all third year students are encouraged to write a 10,000-word Independent Study Project essay (on a subject of their choice), which counts as 30 credits.

Optional modules

Year 2 and 3

- African Art III: the Art and Architecture of North Eastern Africa (30 credits)*
- Africans in the Americas: Identities and Representation (15 credits)
- Art and Archaeology of Medieval China (15 credits)*
- Art and Archaeology of Ancient China (15 credits)*
- Art and Architecture of Medieval Islamic Turkey: the Seljuks and their Neighbours (15 credits)*
- Art and Architecture of Tibet (30 credits)*
- Art and Culture in Imperial China (15 credits)
- Art and Culture in Modern China (15 credits)
- Art and Empire in India 1300-1800 (30 credits)
- Art and Material Culture of the Islamic World: 7th to 14th Centuries (30 credits)
- Arts, Culture and Commodification: Themes in the Global Creative and Cultural Industries (15 credits)*
- Chinese Art and Modernity (30 credits)
- Chinese Contemporary Art (15 credits)
- Collecting and Collections (15 credits)
- Contemporary Korean Arts in East Asia (15 credits)
- Critical Readings in Arts and Cultures (15 credits)
- Curating Global Arts (15 credits)
- Early Indian Art (30 credits)*

- Gandharan Art and its Heritage (15 credits)*
- Gender, Art and Visual Culture: Explorations in the Representation of Southeast Asia (15 credits)
- Global Cultures of Chinese Ceramics (15 credits)
- Hindu Art in Medieval India (15 credits)
- House and Tomb in the Muslim World (15 credits)
- Imag(in)ing Buddhas in South Asia I (15 credits)*
- Imag(in)ing Buddhas in South Asia II (15 credits)*
- Islamic Art and Architecture of Medieval Iran and Central Asia (10th-13th Centuries) (15 credits)*
- Islamic Urbanism: Medina to Dubai (15 credits)*
- Japanese Art (30 credits)
- Mosaics, Manuscripts, and Wall Paintings in Islamic Art (30 credits)
- Mosque and Palace in the Muslim World (15 credits)*
- Museums and Museology (15 credits)
- Ottoman Art and Architecture (14th-17th Centuries) (15 credits)*
- Painting in Africa (15 credits)*
- Paintings of Korea (15 credits)
- Representing China in Museums (15 credits)
- Royal Arts of Korea (15 credits)*
- Southeast Asia in the Modern Imagination: Art, Visuality, Exchange (15 credits)
- The 'Historical' Buddha: Explorations in Southeast Asian Arts (15 credits)
- The Visual Culture of Eighteenth-Century Japan (30 credits)
- Traditional Art and Modern South Asia (15 credits)
- Undoing Asia: Artistic Perspectives from the 20th and 21st Centuries (15 credits)
- War and Peace in the Eastern Mediterranean: Art and Architecture of Medieval Syria and Palestine (15 credits)*

Year 3

- Independent Study Project in Archaeology (30 credits)

BA History of Art and Archaeology and...

May be combined with

<u>African Studies</u>	<u>TV53</u>
<u>Arabic+</u>	<u>TV63</u>
<u>Chinese+</u>	<u>TV13</u>
<u>History</u>	<u>VV13</u>
<u>Japanese+</u>	<u>VT32</u>
<u>Japanese Studies</u>	<u>TV23</u>
<u>Korean+</u>	<u>VT34</u>
<u>Korean Studies</u>	<u>TV43</u>
<u>Middle Eastern Studies</u>	<u>TV6H</u>
<u>Music</u>	<u>VW33</u>
<u>Social Anthropology</u>	<u>VL36</u>
<u>South Asian Studies (3 years)</u>	<u>VTH3</u>

<u>South Asian Studies (4 years)</u>	<u>TV3H</u>
<u>South East Asian Studies</u>	<u>VTJ3</u>
<u>Religions</u>	<u>VV36</u>
<u>World Philosophies</u>	<u>V352</u>

+ 4-year degree with (compulsory) 1 year abroad
++ 3- or 4-year degree with option of 1 year abroad

Structure (Typical course content)

Core modules

Year 1

- Theory in Art History and Archaeology (15 credits)
- Great Works: Recordings, Objects, Films (15 credits)

PLUS

Two modules from:

- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of Africa (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of East Asia (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)
- Themes in the Art and Archaeology of South and South East Asia (15 credits)

PLUS

- Two modules from the combined subject

Year 2

Students can pursue modules of their interest, building towards a cumulative knowledge of their chosen subject/region. Two-subject degree students take 120 credits in total, of which 60 credits must be from this subject.

- Art/ Archaeology optional modules (60 credits)
- 60 credits from other subject

Year 3

The choice of modules is presumed to build upon those of the previous year. A variety of combinations are possible: two-subject degree students normally take 30 credits from the list of optional modules, along with the Independent Study Project.

- Art/ Archaeology modules (30 credits)
- Independent Study Project in History of Art or Archaeology (30 credits)
- 60 credits of modules from other subject