

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ART HISTORY

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY, VISUAL ART AND THEORY



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The 37th annual graduate symposium exhibition, *Teaching Material* (2014)

Program Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy in Art History program encourages high scholastic achievement, original research, and a firm theoretical grounding. The program involves coursework, two foreign languages, two comprehensive examinations in minor and major fields, dissertation proposal, roundtable presentation, doctoral dissertation, and oral exam.

Admissions

Admission to the PhD program requires the completion of an MA in art history and reading knowledge of one language other than English. Students with master's degrees in related fields may be required to complete additional art history courses for their PhD program.

Entrance into the program is possible only in the fall. Although students may enroll on a part-time basis, the PhD program must be completed within six years of initial registration. For a schedule of fees, please refer to the UBC Calendar at <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/>.

Applications are completed online. Visit <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/apply-online> to begin your application.

Application Deadline

The deadline for receipt of complete applications is January 10. All supporting material must be received by the deadline. Notifications of acceptance are normally sent by late March.

Residency Requirement

Students will normally spend a minimum of two academic years in full-time attendance at UBC. During this time, students prepare to advance to candidacy by completing coursework, language requirements, comprehensive exams, and the dissertation proposal.

Language Requirement

PhD students are required to be proficient in two languages as well as English. This is demonstrated by evidence of foreign languages on transcripts and/or proficiency by passing a reading knowledge exam (translation with dictionary) administered by either the Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory or a UBC language department. Language exams are normally held in October and February each year.

Students who do not have proficiency in two languages, other than English, should register in a language course. Completing a language course at a level of 200 or above (not including conversation courses) with a grade of not less than 72% fulfills the language requirement. Students should note that courses designed specifically for reading a language are at the 300 level and usually do not assume prior knowledge of the language. If students prefer, they can register in a language course as an auditor and write the scheduled departmental language exam.

Students who need proficiency in a language with a non-roman script may receive special consideration. In such cases, the student may not be expected to complete the language requirement within the first academic year. As well they may elect to fulfill the requirement by obtaining an advanced proficiency in the language that fulfilled their admission requirement.

Program Requirements

Entering the Program

Once a student has entered the department, a meeting will be arranged with members of the Graduate Advisory Committee to review the student's academic record and her/his proposed direction through the program. All of our programs are designed to provide a grounding in a broadly based and methodologically diverse art history. If it appears that the incoming student's experience at the master's level has been more narrowly focused than required, he/she may be advised to take a further seminar (in addition to the three required seminars) to achieve an equivalent diversity/balance.

Coursework

All graduate students are required to take ARTH 571, the Methodology of Art History seminar (6 credits). Students continuing from a UBC MA in art history do not repeat this course if they have taken it within the past five years. This two-term seminar, taught by two members of the art history faculty, deals with both "Western" and "non-Western" issues and engages students with current debates in the field. This is an intensive course and students should take advantage of any readings suggested for advanced preparation.

** Students must achieve a 78% average in all coursework and no lower than 72% in any single course or they may be required to withdraw from the program.*

Graduate Courses

PhD students are required to take 9 credits of graduate-level seminars in addition to ARTH 571. Three credits of this coursework can be from outside of the department. The department normally offers four or five graduate seminars per academic year (in addition to ARTH 571).

All graduate (500-level) courses—with the exception of CCST 503—are open to all graduate students.

** Not all courses are offered every year.*

ARTH 531 (3/6)	Studies in Early Medieval Art
ARTH 533 (3/6)	Studies in Medieval Art
ARTH 535 (3/6)	Early Modern: Renaissance
ARTH 537 (3/6)	Early Modern: 17th Century
ARTH 539 (3/6)	Studies in 19th Century Art
ARTH 540 (3/6)	Studies in 20th Century Art
ARTH 543 (3/6)	Studies in Canadian Art
ARTH 548 (3/6)	Studies in Architecture
ARTH 551 (3/6)	Studies in Chinese Art
ARTH 553 (3/6)	Studies in Japanese Art
ARTH 555 (3/6)	Studies in South and Southeast Asian Art
ARTH 561 (3/6)	Studies in the Indigenous Arts of the Americas
ARTH 571 (6)	The Methodology of Art History <i>(a rigorous two-term required methodologies seminar led by two professors who are specialists in divergent areas)</i>
ARTH 577 (3/6)	Directed Reading <i>(permitted only in the special case that the student's supervisor is not teaching a research seminar for the two consecutive years of the PhD coursework)</i>
ARTH 649 (0)	PhD Thesis
CCST 500 (3)	Historical Frameworks in Critical and Curatorial Studies
CCST 501 (3)	Contemporary Contextual Issues for Critical and Curatorial Practice
CCST 502 (3)	Case Studies in Exhibitions and Institutions

Committees and Supervision

During the course of the program, students are advised by three departmental committees in addition to the doctoral thesis research supervisor.

Graduate Advisory Committee

The Graduate Advisory Committee consists of art history faculty members and is chaired by the art history graduate advisor. The committee oversees the entire art history graduate program to ensure students' timely progress in fulfilling program requirements. The committee offers general assistance in planning coursework, fulfilling the language requirement, selecting a thesis research supervisor, and PhD committees. The student will meet with the graduate advisor, the graduate program coordinator, and a committee member at the beginning of each academic year. The graduate advisor is available for regular consultation throughout the program.

Doctoral Thesis Research Supervisor

Students select a doctoral thesis research supervisor in the second term of their first academic year in preparation for the comprehensive exams and the thesis proposal. The student will work with his/ her research supervisor until graduation. The research supervisor chairs both the Doctoral Examination Committee and the Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee. Annually, the research supervisor submits the Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee's report on the year's progress, which is held in the student's file in the graduate program coordinator's office.

Doctoral Examination Committee

The Doctoral Examination Committee is constituted by the student at the end of the first academic year to supervise his/ her preparation for the comprehensive exams. The committee consists of the research supervisor and two other faculty members, at least one of whom must be in the department.

Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee

Before completing the major field comprehensive exam, the student constitutes her/his Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee, which oversees the dissertation proposal and supervises thesis work to graduation. The committee generally consists of the research supervisor and two other faculty members, at least one of whom must be in the department.



The 38th annual graduate symposium exhibition, *Le(s) Temps* (2015)

Comprehensive Exams

Major and Minor Field Comprehensive Exams

Students identify major and minor fields of study upon entering the program, so that an appropriate Doctoral Examination Committee may be constituted to include advisors in both fields as well as a third faculty member. The student will select a doctoral thesis research supervisor by the second term of the first academic year and begin the formation of his/ her Doctoral Examination Committee. The Doctoral Examination Committee will supervise the preparation of a bibliography for both the major and minor fields as well as administer and evaluate the comprehensive exams written for each field. The exams are pass/fail; in the unlikely event that the student does not pass, the exam may be rewritten once. The comprehensive exams are expected to be completed by the end of the second academic year.

PhD Minor Field Comprehensive

The minor comprehensive must take up an area of study that is geographically, historically, and theoretically different from the major field. The student will solicit a minor field advisor from the art history faculty. Ordinarily, the minor requires the student to:

- Develop a syllabus for a fourth-year undergraduate seminar in consultation with the minor field advisor
- Develop a bibliography of approximately 30 to 50 sources from which the syllabus will draw and that incorporates a review of the literature
- Complete the syllabus, which includes:
 - a) Course title
 - b) Short summary of course content
 - c) Full account of course with description of historical parameters, debates in the field, forms of visual imagery, themes, issues and goals for the course, and an introductory lecture (six to eight pages in total)
 - d) 12 weeks of classes (approximately one page for each week)
These should include: topic, argument, images, historical context and issues, readings (required and recommended), and discussion points
 - e) One- to two-page summary

Once approved by the minor field advisor, the student sends the syllabus electronically to the graduate program coordinator, who files a paper copy and circulates the syllabus to the PhD supervisor and the third reader. The third reader will have been solicited by the student for both the minor and major exams.

PhD Major Field Comprehensive Exam

The major comprehensive is normally held after the student has completed all required coursework and is intended to test the student's grasp of the chosen field of study as a whole. The major comprehensive requires the student to:

- Develop a bibliography of approximately 40 texts (articles, chapters, books) on a topic in consultation with the PhD supervisor, which will be circulated to the minor field advisor and the third reader.
- Develop out of this bibliography a short list of 20 to 40 titles, in consultation with the supervisor, and write annotations for each title, approximately 200 to 400 words, to be circulated to the Doctoral Examination Committee members. The organization may be chronological, thematic, or alphabetical as required. In advance of the exam, the supervisor will provide a question or questions on the topic to the graduate program coordinator, who will send the question to the student. The student chooses an exam of four hours (closed book, at the university, using a department computer) or eight hours (open book, using the student's computer), sending the essay to the graduate program coordinator upon completion who will forward it, with the question, to the Doctoral Examination Committee.

Students are expected to complete their comprehensive examination within 24 months from the date of initial registration. A student who is not admitted to candidacy within 36 months of the date of initial registration must withdraw from the program. Extension of this period may be permitted by the dean of Graduate Studies in exceptional circumstances.



A performance from the 36th annual graduate symposium, *Resonating Existence* (2013)

Dissertation Proposal

The PhD thesis is the student's opportunity to research and analyze primary sources, to make an original contribution to the field, and to develop and present a substantial argument roughly the scale of a scholarly book. A PhD thesis should make a contribution that significantly affects an existing research field and its debates. An appropriate topic would therefore involve investigating the structure of that field. Archival research is generally appropriate and normally involves travel in the third year of the program.

Normally, upon completion of the major field comprehensive exam, the student finalizes the dissertation proposal. If one of the comprehensive exam readers will be substituted by a new committee member for the dissertation, the student should be in contact with the new committee member before completing the major field exam for feedback in advance of writing the proposal.

The proposal should include:

- a) Working title
- b) Summary of proposed research
 - One-page abstract
- c) Program of Research
 - Description of the object(s) of analysis
 - Hypothesis
- d) Context for the proposed research in the relevant scholarly literature
- e) Objectives
 - Proposed contribution to the advancement of knowledge
- f) Relevance of the proposed research
 - What are the historical, art historical, and critical contributions you envision?
 - With which debates does the project engage?
- g) Methodology
 - Where will you pursue your research (archives, collections)?
 - What will you do? How will you approach your sources? And why?
 - What is your theoretical contribution?
- h) References
 - Relevant bibliography

The thesis proposal will be read and evaluated by the student's Thesis Supervisory Committee. The thesis supervisor or graduate program coordinator will inform the student of the result of this review within two weeks of the thesis proposal's formal submission. As the thesis proposal is being developed, the student will meet with the committee members to discuss recommendations for refining the topic, goals, and methods. This gives the student the opportunity to reframe and resubmit the proposal in consultation with the Doctoral Thesis Supervisory Committee.

During the period of work on the thesis, students are registered in ARTH 649 until program completion. Students should also consult the Guidelines for the Various Parties involved in Graduate Student Thesis Research available from the Faculty of Graduate Studies at <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/>.

Advancement to Candidacy

Students advance to candidacy once they have successfully completed all of the requirements outlined above: residency period, coursework, language requirement, major and minor comprehensive exams, and the thesis proposal. It is expected that a student will be admitted to candidacy within 24 months from the date of initial registration. A student who is not admitted to candidacy within a period of 36 months must withdraw from the program. In exceptional circumstances, extensions may be granted by the dean of Graduate Studies.

Roundtables

At the mid-stage of thesis research, normally in November of the fourth academic year, a roundtable is held in order for the candidate to share research findings and to receive feedback from other students and faculty. The graduate program coordinator schedules the roundtable in consultation with the Thesis Committee. Once a date has been established it cannot be changed without the Thesis Committee's consent and on less than four weeks' notice. Moreover, postponements of the roundtable must be scheduled at least four weeks after the original date.

Shortly after the roundtable, the candidate will meet with the Thesis Supervisory Committee for a follow-up discussion which will be facilitated by a member of the Graduate Advisory Committee.

The candidate will submit a two-page abstract of the roundtable presentation and a tentative table of contents of the thesis, which has been approved by all Thesis Committee members. The approved abstract and table of contents is submitted to the graduate program coordinator at least ten days before the scheduled presentation to allow time for distribution and proper consideration by faculty and graduate students. At the same time, the presenter should name a student moderator.

The roundtable oral presentation should be 40 minutes long (approximately 16 typed, double-spaced pages) and accompanied with a visual presentation. The oral presentation should convey the central arguments and issues being addressed in the thesis. The presentation will be followed by questions and a discussion facilitated by the student moderator. The candidate should expect to be asked about the feasibility of the thesis and should be open to alternative points of view. The discussion is open to all graduate students, faculty, and others who wish to attend.

Thesis Completion and Oral Exam

Students should expect that more than a single draft will be necessary for an acceptable thesis. Thesis Committee members are allotted two weeks to read and comment on each draft. Students must allow for this time when preparing to meet deadlines for the oral exam. When the Thesis Committee members agree that the thesis is acceptable with only minor, editorial changes, the research supervisor will appoint an external examiner and schedule an oral exam. The external examiner is appointed at least three months before the final version of the thesis is submitted. At least six weeks before the anticipated exam date, the candidate submits the following to the Faculty of Graduate Studies:

- Two cerlox-bound copies of the thesis
- An approval memo from department head/graduate advisor stating that departmental requirements have been met, that the student is registered in good standing with fees paid in full, and that the Supervisory Committee has read and approved the thesis for submission to the external examiner.

The thesis is then distributed to the external examiner, two university examiners, and a defense chair appointed by Graduate Studies, none of whom will have advised the student in researching or writing the thesis. The oral defense may take place only if the thesis is approved by the external examiner.

The oral defense of the doctoral thesis is regulated and coordinated by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. It provides the final opportunity for candidates to share results of their thesis research and receive feedback. A program is circulated to advertise this public event, which may be attended by students, faculty, and other interested persons. For detailed information regarding oral defense scheduling, procedures, and thesis preparation, it is imperative that the student refer to the Faculty of Graduate Studies website to ensure that the most current regulations are met.

The candidate is required to complete an application for graduation for the term in which the successfully defended thesis is to be deposited at the Faculty of Graduate Studies. This application is available from the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Enrolment Services, or online at www.students.ubc.ca/.

Once final revisions to the thesis have been approved and the title page signed by Thesis Committee members, the thesis may be submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. To ensure that the document is prepared in appropriate form for deposit, the candidate should refer to the leaflet Instructions for the Preparation of Graduate Theses, which may be obtained from the Faculty of Graduate Studies by visiting <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/dissertation-thesis-preparation/resources-thesis-preparation-checking/>.

Maintaining Student Status

Students register in ARTH 649 (PhD thesis) for each session until they have completed the program. Those who fail to register by the deadlines indicated in the UBC Calendar must pay a late fee, forfeit their status, and be required to reapply to the program. If the PhD degree is not awarded within six years of initial registration, the student's status may be terminated and the student may be required to withdraw from the program. Extensions will be granted only under exceptional circumstances. For provisions relating to "On Leave Status," see the entry for Graduate Student Status in the UBC Calendar.



A student presenting at the semi-annual graduate student roundtables

Financial Support

Grant-writing workshops are scheduled in the department during September and October. All students are urged to participate.

Opportunities for financial support in the PhD program include the following:

Graduate Support Initiative Awards (GSI)

Graduate Support Initiative Awards (GSI) are offered to the best and brightest incoming PhD students for full-time graduate study. All applicants to the program are automatically considered for this award. In the event that a student receives another funding offer, in excess of the GSI allocation, the department reserves the right to withdraw the offer so that another student can receive funding.

University Affiliated Fellowships

The university offers a limited number of Affiliated Fellowships to students with a minimum first-class standing. Awards are based on academic excellence and are open to any graduate student regardless of citizenship or visa status. Applications for Affiliated Fellowships are available to students upon their acceptance to the program, from the graduate program coordinator, and are normally due in November of the first year. Students who are awarded these highly competitive fellowships receive funding for their second year of study. These fellowships are valued between \$8,000 and \$16,000.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS)

This prestigious award is based on academic excellence and valued between \$20,000 and \$35,000. Students who are either Canadian citizens or landed immigrants are eligible and are required to submit applications for the award in order to be included in the adjudication for Affiliated Fellowships. Applications are due in the fall. Further information is available at http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/apply-demande/resource_centre-centre_de_ressources-eng.aspx/.

** Students applying to UBC are encouraged to apply for the CGS during the final year of their undergraduate degree.*

Teaching Assistantships

The department has a number of TA positions available every year. TA positions are normally offered to students entering the second term of the first year of the program, and these teaching assistantships will continue to be offered to students until they have completed their degree (conditional on satisfactory performance, availability of positions, enrolment, and funding). Notice of teaching assistantships are posted in the department by March 31. Duties include leading tutorial sessions and grading exams and papers for undergraduate courses for up to 12 hours per week.

Art History Travel Research Scholarship

The department has a fund designated to support travel for the purpose of thesis research. Preference is given to PhD students.

Conference Travel

The Graduate Student Travel Fund provides one-time travel support of up to \$500 for students presenting a paper at a conference or symposium. More information can be found at: <http://ahva.ubc.ca/graduate/funding-and-awards-for-grad-students/>.

For additional information on financial support for graduate students, consult the Faculty of Graduate Studies website at <http://www.grad.ubc.ca/> . Financial support counselling is also available in the UBC Office of Awards and Financial Aid at (604) 822-5111 or through their website at <http://students.ubc.ca/finance/>

Facilities, Programs, and Resources

The Joan Carlisle-Irving Lecture Series

Each year the department sponsors a thematic lecture series using funds from an endowment provided by Joan Carlisle-Irving. International and Canadian critics, curators, artists, and scholars address challenging and topical themes relevant to the study and practice of art in today's world.

The Distinguished Visiting Artist Program

The Distinguished Visiting Artist Program brings senior practicing artists to the department to give a public lecture, lead an intensive seminar, participate in graduate student critiques, and assist MFA students in the development of their work and early professional career. This program is made possible by the generous support of the Rennie Collection.

The AHVA Visual Resources Centre (VRC)

The collection has holdings of over 300,000 35mm photographic slides, digital images, videos, DVDs, and films covering all areas of art history and visual art as represented by the department's curriculum. It is a vital teaching and research facility for both faculty and students; its visual contents are updated on a regular basis for Intranet usage in the Arts Multimedia Computer Labs. For the sole purpose of review and study, visual materials from 22 art history courses are temporarily stored and disseminated to students via Internet access during examination times.

The Artist and Architect Indices have been compiled and are updated regularly to facilitate searching and efficient retrieval of visual images. To provide easy access to the growing AHVA Digital Image Database, a versatile storage and retrieval system with effective searching mechanism is being developed together with Arts ISIT, focusing in the initial stage on art history courses and the post-1945 category. So far, more than 30,000 visual materials from 21 art history courses have been digitized with complementary indices accessible online during examination times.

The slide collection has well over 300,000 slides covering all areas of art history represented by the department. It is a valuable tool for both research and teaching, and may be used by graduate and undergraduate students in seminars. The VRC has also undergone renovations to offer an exciting collaborative space through the inclusion of the Film Collection from the Department of Theatre and Film.

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre: Music, Art, and Architecture Library

The Music, Art, and Architecture Library is located in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The collection includes books and journals on visual art, art history, architecture, community and regional planning, dance, design, and music. Special materials include exhibition catalogues, pamphlets, microforms, clippings, picture files, CD-ROMs, and online indexes and databases.

Circulating books are located in the open stacks of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. Most material circulates for two weeks. The library provides many areas for students to study: silent and group study spaces, a graduate research room, and a digital media commons. Library staff with specialization in visual art and art history is available to assist with reference, instruction, and tours.

<http://ikblc.ubc.ca/>

The Museum of Anthropology

UBC's Museum of Anthropology, designed by Arthur Erickson and opened in 1976, is situated on the Point Grey cliffs overlooking Howe Sound and the North Shore mountains. Both its setting and architecture are inspired by coastal First Nations settlements of British Columbia. The collections include the famous Northwest Coast First Nations collection, the Walter and Marianne Koerner Collection, an international textile collection, and archaeological findings of British Columbia and the North Pacific Rim.

<http://moa.ubc.ca>

The Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

This standalone contemporary art gallery opened in 1995. The gallery is a public facility contributing to the cultural life of the campus, the city, the province, and beyond. Throughout the year the gallery hosts a variety of informative and provocative exhibitions that confirm the creative and eclectic aspects of contemporary art. Exhibitions are generated internally or borrowed and draw on work from local, national, and international artists, other Canadian art institutions, art organizations and international sources. The gallery attempts to expose the broadest possible spectrum of visual concerns to both the university community and the public at large. It also sponsors visiting speakers as well as occasional symposia.

<http://belkin.ubc.ca>



The Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery.



The Music, Art, and Architecture Library (inside the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre).

Faculty and Staff

Associate Professor and Head

Dana CLAXTON, MA, Liberal Studies (SFU)

Visual Art

Professors

Xiong GU, BFA, MFA (Sichuan Institute of Fine Arts)

Barbara ZEIGLER, BFA, MFA (Illinois)

Associate Professors

Dana CLAXTON, MA, Liberal Studies (SFU)

Manuel PIÑA, BSc (Vladimir Polytechnic Institute)

Gareth JAMES, BA (Slade School of Fine Art, UCL)
Visual Art Graduate Advisor

Marina ROY, BA (Laval), BFA (NSCAD), MFA (UBC)

Assistant Professors

Althea THAUBERGER, BFA (Concordia), MFA (UVic), PhD (European Graduate School)

Lecturers

Barrie JONES, BFA (UBC), MFA (York)
AHVA Gallery Coordinator

Phillip McCRUM, BFA, MFA (University of Ulster)

Instructors

Christine D'ONOFRIO, BFA (York), MFA (UBC)

Art History

Professors

Anthony SHELTON, BA (Hull), MLitt, DPhil (Oxford)

Scott WATSON, BA, MA (UBC)
Director of the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

Catherine M. SOUSSLOFF, AB, PhD (Bryn Mawr College)

Associate Professors

Jaleh MANSOOR, PhD (Columbia)

Maureen P. RYAN, BA, MA (UBC), PhD (Chicago)

Joseph MONTEYNE, MA, PhD (UBC)
Art History Graduate Advisor

T'ai SMITH, BA (Barnard College, Columbia), MA, PhD (Rochester)

Assistant Professors

Ignacio ADRIASOLA, BA (Chiba), MA (Duke), MA (Chiba), PhD (Duke)

Julia ORELL, MA (Frankfurt), PhD (Chicago)

Georgios MAKRIS, BA (University of Athens), MA, PhD (University of Birmingham)

Saygin SALGIRLI, PhD (Binghamton)

Michelle MCGEOUGH, MA (Carleton), PhD (University of New Mexico)

Erin SILVER, PhD (McGill)

Professor Emeritus

Marvin COHODAS, PhD (Columbia)

John O'BRIAN, BA, MA (York), PhD (Harvard)

Serge GUILBAUT, L es L, M es L (Bordeaux), PhD (UCLA)

Richard PRINCE, BA (UBC), RCA

Katherine HACKER, BFA (Ohio U), MS (Oregon), PhD (Pennsylvania)

Charlotte TOWNSEND-GAULT, BA (Sussex), Dip. Soc. Anth., PhD (London)

Carol KNICELY, BA (UC San Diego), MA, PhD (UCLA)

Rhodri WINDSOR-LISCOMBE, BA Hons, PhD (Courtauld Institute of Art, UCL)

Staff

Administration

Administrator
Andrea Tuele andrea.tuele@ubc.ca

Graduate Program Coordinator
Bryn Dharmaratne ahva.grad@ubc.ca

Assistant to the Head
Trey Le ahva.head@ubc.ca

Financial Processing
Specialist/Receptionist
Tracy Chiu ahva.dept@ubc

Undergraduate Advisor
Greg Gibson greg.gibson@ubc.ca

AHVA Visual Resources Collection

Curator
Michael Mao michael.mao@ubc.ca

Technical Services Library Assistant
Jane Young jane.young@ubc.ca

Studio Technicians

Photography/Digital Arts
Rob Bos robert.bos@ubc.ca

Print Media Technician
Ian Craig ian.craig@ubc.ca

Drawing, Painting, and Sculpture
Technician
Andrew Keech (Acting) ahva.shop@ubc.ca

Studio, Safety, & Facilities Advisor
Jeremy Jaud jeremy.jaud@ubc.ca

Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

Director
Scott Watson scott.watson@ubc.ca

Archivist
Anna Tidlund anna.tidlund@ubc.ca

Associate Director/Curator
Lorna Brown lorna.brown@ubc.ca

Preparator
Dave Steele david.steele@ubc.ca

Administrator
Annette Wooff annette.wooff@ubc.ca

Manager of Technical and Design Services
Owen Sopotiuik owen.sopotiuik@ubc.ca

Communications & Publications/Assistant
to the Director
Jana Tyner jana.tyner@ubc.ca

Manager of Public Programs
Naomi Sawada naomi.sawada@ubc.ca

Music, Art and Architecture Library

Art History & Visual Art Librarian
Sara Ellis sara.ellis@ubc.ca

Graduate Program Coordinator

Department of Art History, Visual Art & Theory

The University of British Columbia

Lasserre Building

400 - 6333 Memorial Rd.

Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z2

Office: (604) 822-4340

Fax: (604) 822-9003

email: ahva.grad@ubc.ca

www.ahva.ubc.ca

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The University of British Columbia
Department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory 403–
6333 Memorial Road
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
V6T 1Z2
<http://www.ahva.ubc.ca>

Disclaimer

This brochure in no way contradicts or modifies any rule laid down in the University Calendar, which should be consulted when precise information on any specific point on course program requirements is required. This is obtainable from the Office of the Registrar:

Brock Hall, 2106
1874 East Mall
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
V6T 1Z1
(604) 822-2844
<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/>

