

Architectural Studies in Art History Academic Program

Major, Minor, and honors in Architectural Studies

Program information can also be found on the Art History and Architectural Studies (History Track) webpage at <https://www.swarthmore.edu/art-history/requirements-architectural-studies-major> or by scanning the QR code below:



The architectural studies major prepares students well for graduate school in architecture, landscape architecture, industrial design, urban planning, historic preservation, and architectural history and theory, as well as for many jobs in those fields open to students with nonprofessional bachelor's degrees.

The architectural studies history track is ideal for students interested in the multidisciplinary study of the built environment and with a keen interest in the historical development of buildings, cities, and landscapes. Alongside coursework on historical topics taken through the art history program, an essential component of the curriculum comprises studio coursework in architecture and three-dimensional design. Additionally, students will complete credits toward the major outside the Department of Art and Art History that meet the student's particular interests in the built environment (these could include sociology & anthropology, environmental studies, philosophy, Black studies, theater, and engineering, among many possibilities). Majors will craft their program of study in consultation with their advisor to

meet the general distribution requirements and define their trajectory inside architectural studies.

Requirements for Admission to the Major

Overall average of C or better in all courses taken during the two semesters preceding the time of application. Completion of at least 2 of the following courses at Swarthmore with grades of B or better. For a double major, the grade minimum is also B. Students pursuing the architectural studies major in the history track must take at least one ARTH course from this list.

NOTE: Courses listed below will vary based on offerings.

ARTH 001D. First-Year Seminar: Architecture of Philadelphia

ARTH 001N. First-Year Seminar: Indigenous Art, Land, and Environment.

ARTH 072. Global History of Architecture: Prehistory to 1750 CE

ARTH 073. Global History of Architecture: 1800-Present

ARTT 005A. Sculpture I: Form, Material, Process

ARTT 006A. Studio Arch. I: Turning Corners

ARTT 006B. Studio Arch. I: Monuments and Public Space

ARTT 006C. Studio Arch. I: Architectures of Air

ARTT 006F. ARCH Design: Dwelling and Inhabitation (A Room Of One's Own)

ARTT 006G. ARCH Design: Collective Living

ARTT 006H. ARCH: Mapping and GIS (Mapping Infrastructural Movements)

ARTT 006I. ARCH Design: Civic Realm/Public Home

ARTT 006J. ARCH Design: Cities, Territories Infrastructure: (Crum River Futures)

ARTT 006K. ARCH: 2D: Experiments In Drawing

ARTT 023C. 3D Design II: Exploration of Wooden Structures

ARTT 054C. Sculpture and the Environment

ARTT 054D. Sculpture II: Installation

Requirements for Completion of the Major

Architectural studies, course and honors, is a 12-credit major. 6 credits must comprise courses selected from pool A (includes those taken for admission to the major) and 3 credits comprise courses selected from pool B (or on related topics, with advisor's approval). A capstone and preparatory coursework, described further below under pool C, comprises the remaining 3 credits.

Students in the history track must complete at least 4 pool A credits focused in history and 2 pool A credits focused in studio. They must additionally complete a two-credit seminar in their area of interest *and* ARTH 100 as their capstone.

Students are required to take pool A courses with at least three different faculty members, two of whom must be in art history for students in the history track.

NOTE: Courses listed in pools A and B will vary based on course offerings.

Pool A:

ARTT 003. Painting I: Drawing Into Painting

ARTT 005A. Sculpture I: Form, Material, Process

ARTT 006A. Studio Arch. I: Turning Corners

ARTT 006C. Studio Arch. I: Architectures of Air

ARTT 006F. ARCH Design: Dwelling and Inhabitation (A Room Of One's Own)

ARTT 006G. ARCH Design: Collective Living

ARTT 006H. ARCH: Mapping and GIS (Mapping Infrastructural Movements)

ARTT 006I. ARCH Design: Civic Realm/Public Home

ARTT 006J. ARCH Design: Cities, Territories Infrastructure: (Crum River Futures)

ARTT 006K. ARCH: 2D: Experiments In Drawing

ARTT 033. Painting II: Color and Structure

ARTT 054C. Sculpture and the Environment

ARTT 054D. Sculpture II: Installation

ARTT 060B. ARCH 3D: Full Scale Fabrication

ARTT 060C. ARCH 3D: The Analytical Model

ARTH 001D. First-Year Seminar: Architecture of Philadelphia

ARTH 001N. First-Year Seminar: Indigenous Art, Land, and Environment.

ARTH 003. Asian Art: Past and Present

ARTH 010. Art and Climate Change

ARTH 040: Michelangelo to Mussolini

ARTH 046: Social Engaged Art in the Americas

ARTH 051. Art of Florence and Environs

ARTH 060. Building New Worlds: The Arts and Architectures of Liberation

ARTH 061. Art and Culture of Indigenous Philadelphia: From Shackamaxon to the Present

ARTH 062. Land Art, Place, and Environment

ARTH 066. Race, Space, and Architecture

ARTH 067. Building Architecture from Dirt to Dust

ARTH 072. Global History of Architecture: Prehistory to 1750 CE

ARTH 073. Global History of Architecture: 1800-Present

ARTH 076: Art Museums: History, Theory, Controversy

ARTH 098: Interpreting the Classical Tradition: Neoclassicism & Romanticism

ARTH 152: Modern Histories of Craft

ARTH 153. Modern Architecture and Urbanism: Honors Seminar

Pool B:

The following are examples of the types of courses one might choose and will vary by semester. Please consult with your advisor about options that best fit your interests in architectural studies.

ANTH 122. Urban Ethnographies

ENGR 006. Mechanics

ENGR 007. Art and Engineering of Structures

ENGR 062. Structural Design

ENVS 001. Intro to Environmental Studies

ENVS 013. Our Trash

GSST 035. Critical Disability Theory

HIST 056. Police, Prisons, and Protests

HIST 114. Cities and Social Movements

JPNS 036/ENVS 047. Environment, Cultural Memory, and Social Change in Japan

PHIL 011. Moral Philosophy

PHIL 012. Logic

PHIL 021. Social and Political Philosophy

PHIL 047. Utopias

PHIL 117. Aristotle: Ethics and Politics

POLS 047. Ethics and Economics

PSYC 001. Intro to Psychology

PSYC 035. Social Psychology

SOCI 007B. Introduction to Race and Ethnicity in the United States

SOCI 058C. Manufacturing Scarcity: The Housing Crisis in American Cities

THEA 004. Set Design

Pool C:

Students must complete preparatory coursework and, during senior year, a capstone that corresponds to the plan of study inside their chosen track.

Requirements include:

- A two-credit seminar on an architecture- or urbanism-oriented topic in or outside (with advisor's guidance) the art history program, such as ARTH 138, ARTH 152, ARTH 153, ANTH 122, or HIST 114, subject to offerings, AND
- ARTH 100. Senior Capstone

SENIOR COMPREHENSIVE REQUIREMENT

During senior year, course majors will complete a comprehensive project as part of the required Senior Capstone (ARTH100). Honors majors may alternately satisfy the senior comprehensive requirement through a two-credit thesis (ARTH097). Two-credit thesis writers are not required to take the Senior Capstone.

CR/NC

Except in semesters when CR/NC is required (such as a student's first semester or the spring 2020 semester), students may not take courses toward major requirements as CR/NC.

TRANSFER CREDITS FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND FOREIGN STUDY

A maximum of two transfer credits will count toward the major, either from study abroad or other U.S. institutions. Students transferring into Swarthmore from another institution should consult with the art history chair regarding their specific situation.

OVERLAPPING CREDITS

A maximum of two credits may double count for both the major in architectural studies (history track) and a student's second major. For major and minor credit overlap, the standard overlap rule applies. Because departmental policies vary, please consult with your non-ARTH advisor for questions about counting overlapping credits in your second major.

AP CREDIT

One credit for receiving a 5 in AP Art History will be given upon completion of an art history course in the department. This credit can count only for one of the Pool A requirements.

Architectural Studies Minor in the History Track

The course minor in architectural studies in the history track will consist of five credits, three of which should be in relevant ARTH courses and one in a relevant ARTT course (all under Pool A above), and one in a course that would fall under Pool B. Four of the five credits must be taken at Swarthmore. The three credits in ARTH must be with at least two different Swarthmore art history faculty members. Courses toward the minor may not be taken CR/NC (excepting those taken in semesters when CR/NC is required, such as a student's first semester).

Art Department Majors and the 20-Course Rule

It is a College requirement that 20 of the 32 credits required for graduation must be outside the major. This means that students can take no more than 12 credits in the major unless they graduate with more than 32 credits, in which case the surplus can also be in the major.

Because of the inherent interdisciplinarity of the architectural studies major, the six required credits in ARTH and ARTT (Pool A) will count as within the major for the purposes of the 20-course rule, as will the three credits taken under Pool C, but the credits taken under Pool B in other departments will count as credits outside the major (e.g. they will count toward the 20 credits outside the major required for graduation).

Off-Campus Study

We strongly encourage those with an interest in architectural studies to consider incorporating study abroad into their Swarthmore program either during a summer or a regular academic term. Important examples of architecture and art are found throughout the world, and the encounter with works still embedded in their original context is vital to an understanding of their historical and contemporary significance. Past experience has shown, however, that art history and art courses in most study abroad programs fall below the academic standards of comparable courses at Swarthmore. Students who are interested in bettering their chances of gaining a full Swarthmore credit for a course taken abroad are strongly advised to meet with their architectural studies advisor and the art history or art program chair before leaving campus to review course syllabi and determine course credit value. Please note: To receive transfer credits in architectural studies in the history track, you must have taken at least one course at Swarthmore that counts under Pool A above (normally before going abroad).

Honors in Architectural Studies (History Track)

Requirements for admission to honors do not differ from those for admission to the course major. Once admitted to the honors major,

students will be expected to maintain an average of B+ or better in all courses in art history.

HONORS MAJOR

An honors major in architectural studies in the history track requires three two-credit preparations relevant to the major, two of which must relate to topics under Pool A, one of which must relate to a linked field outside of ARTH and ARTT (related to the topics a student has pursued in Pool B). The normal prerequisite for any seminar in art history is two credits of previous art history or relevant architectural studies coursework. Each honors seminar or alternative honors preparation will be evaluated by an outside examiner. (For details on honors preparations and exam formats, see the Honors Handbook.)

An honors major in architectural studies in the history track must also fulfill the requirements for the 12-credit course major. Because an honors major in this field will require careful advance planning, potential honors majors should work closely with their advisor well in advance to map out a curriculum that will meet all necessary requirements. Because of the number of credits that honors majors may find necessary to complete all requirements, they are reminded to be attentive to the 20-course rule.

HONORS MINOR

An honors minor in architectural studies in the history track consists of one two-credit preparation and completion of at least two other courses, all of which should fall under or relate to topics in Pool A. Three of the four credits should be in ARTH coursework and one in a relevant ARTT course. Three of the four credits must be taken at Swarthmore.