

Art History

UCAS Code: Combined Honours only (please see website for details)

Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Creative Campus | 2026/2027

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

Liverpool has more museums and galleries than any UK city outside London. It also hosts the country's largest contemporary art biennial. This makes it a lively place for studying art history.

In your three years, you'll explore art and visual culture from a wide historical range. You'll focus on modern and contemporary art. Hope's partnership with Tate Liverpool and National Museums Liverpool enriches the course. You'll hear from guest speakers in the museum field. You'll also get access to Liverpool's best art collections. The course focuses on critical thinking and visual literacy. It explores different approaches and theories in art history.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2026/2027 are £9,790 for full-time undergraduate courses.

As well as tuition fees, there is an additional cost of approximately £300 to cover the cost of the optional field trips each year.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.



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Art History Curriculum

Year One

Introduction to Art History: Themes and Issues

This chronological module in the art history studies course introduces key events, styles, and movements in the history of art, from Antiquity to contemporary art. You will examine what artists created and why, how their work was received, and how it related to the social history of the time.

Art History: Close Up Lecture

The 'Close Up' programme extends the lecture series through in-depth investigation of particular themes, makers, and objects.

Historic and Contemporary Practices in Art History

This module explores the history and context of artefacts, their materials, and cultural production processes in relation to the contemporary. A critically driven inquiry into methods of making and the significance of materials enhances awareness of artefacts as evidence of global and multicultural relationships.

Tutorial

The weekly tutorial focuses on developing study skills and methodologies while encouraging student-led discussion and activities.

Year Two

Special Topics in Art History

This module provides the opportunity to study focused themes in detail, based closely on tutors' expertise. Students choose two topics, examples include Art and Environment, Gender

and Sexuality in Visual Culture, Propaganda in Art, Design and Visual Culture, and Key Concepts in Twentieth Century Photography.

Professional Practice

This practical module introduces the workings of cultural institutions and covers aspects of exhibition planning, project management, and fundraising.

Tutorial

Tutorials in the art history course continue to offer a space to develop study skills and methodologies while debating key topics in art history.

Year Three

Museum and Gallery Studies

This module provides a systematic understanding of how artworks are collected, cared for, displayed, exhibited, and interpreted by museums and galleries. The module includes sessions led by museum professionals who share their expert insight into working at high-profile museums and galleries.

Professional Practice

The Professional Practice module focuses on advanced transferable skills and considers future career goals, including job searching, applications, training development, and overall language and presentation skills.

Tutorial

Final-year tutorials in the art history course directly support the writing of your final research project, whether a Special Study or a combined dissertation.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree consists of lectures, where all students are taught together, seminars of smaller groups, group tutorials, one-to-one meetings and field trips.

For the Art History part of your combined honours degree, there will be approximately 6 teaching hours per week in your first year, which reduces to approximately 5 teaching hours in your second and third years. As well as teaching hours, you will be expected to spend a number of hours working independently each week, as well as working in groups to prepare for any group assessments you may have.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Assessment methods vary but include learning essays, reflective writing, assignments, presentations, project work and a research project.

You will be given written feedback on your assessments, and you will have the opportunity to discuss this with your tutor in more detail.

