Art History, PhD

Admission

Application materials should be uploaded onto a student's admissions profile (consult instructions below under "Application Procedures"). All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College and the School of Art, Art History, and Design1Q.

The deadline to submit materials to Graduate Admissions is Dec. 15 for the art history program; admission is for the following fall.

School of Art, Art History, and Design Requirements

Prospective graduate students must meet the School of Art, Art History, and Design's admission requirements for the specific degree program they plan to enter. They must submit application materials to Graduate Admissions and to the specific program they wish to enter.

All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; visit the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Applicants must hold an MA in art history or a related graduate degree and be able to demonstrate proficiency in French or German. Proficiency in a second non-English language relevant to the student's research area is required by the end of the third semester of PhD work.

Application Procedures

Prospective students may apply online through the Admissions website. After submitting an application, applicants will receive email instructions on how to access their admissions profile on MyUI. Applicants then upload the required supplemental documents through a secure portal.

Required documents include transcripts from all colleges and universities an applicant has attended, contact information for three individuals who are able to assess the applicant's potential for graduate study designated to provide letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose, and the Supplemental Graduate Application Information form.

Art history applicants should also supply a research paper (preferably from an art history course) or thesis that demonstrates potential to undertake graduate-level research in art history, and a personal statement of 1,000 words describing their intellectual development, academic interests, and career goals. The statement must name the University of Iowa faculty member under whose guidance the applicant hopes to work and indicate how that faculty member's area of expertise, or how the art history program, is especially suited to the applicant's interests and goals.

Students who completed an MA at the University of Iowa and who wish to apply to the PhD program in art history must make a formal application for a change of status through the graduate program coordinator. Applications are evaluated in the context of the entire applicant pool.

Applicants should consult the Art History Graduate Bulletin on the School of Art, Art History, and Design website. No separate application is necessary for scholarships or teaching/research assistantships for applicants.

Graduate Admissions notifies all applicants by mail of admission decisions.