Art History, BA

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Honors students must maintain a cumulative University of Iowa grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.33 and a GPA of at least 3.50 in their major. They also must complete a departmental application to graduate with honors in the major.

Students must complete an honors project that includes an honors thesis during the semester in which they plan to graduate. Students have two options for completing the honors project.

Option 1

Students take two upper-division courses with an honors contract and complete an extra project, such as an annotated bibliography, a supplemental paper or presentation, or a comparable project endorsed by the professor. Students then enroll in a third upper-division course, with or without an honors contract, appropriate to their honors paper topic and ARTH:3985 Honors Research in Art History for 1 s.h. credit with the same instructor. Through enrollment in ARTH:3985, students write an honors paper of 3,000 to 5,000 words.

Option 2

Students research and write an honors paper of 5,000 to 7,500 words under the direction of an art history professor, who agrees to act as their honors advisor. Students earn up to 3 s.h. credit in ARTH:3985 Honors Research in Art History. They must have the approval of their honors advisor before they begin work on their honors paper.

The honors paper should conform to the Graduate College format for theses; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university’s honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the art history major.