

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2024~25

Undergraduate Diploma in the History of Art

About the course

Our two-year Diploma is taught at second year undergraduate level. You will study two modules from a choice of four. Each module focusses on a specific period of art history, situating its visual culture within relevant social and historical contexts. Students will be introduced to a range of theoretical and methodological approaches that art historians have used to analyse the art and wider material culture of the era.

The course reflects Oxford's exceptional richness in works of art, with museum and gallery spaces such as the Ashmolean and Modern Art Oxford right on hand. As such, you will be able to gain first-hand experience of the visual arts on a regular basis, an option not always possible elsewhere. There are four modules offered, with two being available each year on a rotating basis. The modules will focus on four periods, with each syllabus immersing you in a specialist period of the History of Art:

- Module 1: The Late Middle Ages and the Early Renaissance;
- Module 2: The High Renaissance and Baroque;
- Module 3: Revolution to Modernity;
- Module 4: Modern and Contemporary Art.

The modules on offer for 2024-25 are as follows:

- Module 1: Late Middle Ages and Early Renaissance;
- Module 3: Revolution to Modernity.

Each module has three terms of weekly classes. In addition, there are expected to be one or two group tutorials each term and five Saturday sessions per module. The weekly sessions are usually conducted as seminars, combining lecture presentation with opportunities for group discussion. Students are expected to read set texts in preparation for such sessions and come to class ready to discuss ideas. You will be taught by our panel of tutors; Saturday workshops may be led by guest speakers.

Four of the Saturday sessions involve study visits to focus on developing skills in close visual analysis through direct individual observation and group discussion led by the tutor. We will explore original artworks and the built environments in depth, as well as temporary exhibitions and permanent collections. The fifth Saturday sessions will take place in May and will be devoted to the assessed oral presentations.

As well as the time spent in teaching sessions, you will need to spend around 12 hours a week studying in term-time. This might include reading, preparing course work, and visiting museums, libraries and sites.

Most teaching events and practical elements are usually held in-person, but may be moved online, rescheduled or revised if necessary e.g. as a result of a pandemic.

Module 1: Late Middle Ages and Early Renaissance

Module 1 is expected to be taught at Ewert House on Tuesday afternoons from 2-4pm.

The syllabus will centre on these themes:

- Methodologies and theoretical perspectives used by art historians within the field
- The materiality and symbolism of medieval artefacts
- Religious art and architecture in Europe
- The relationship of material culture to the social, historical and intellectual developments of the era
- Global contexts for European art and material culture
- Significance of contexts for viewing art, past and present

Module 3: Revolution to Modernity

Module 3 is expected to be taught at Ewert House on Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm.

The syllabus will centre on these themes:

- Methodologies and theoretical perspectives used by art historians within the field
- The relationship of European art and material culture to the social, historical and intellectual developments of the era
- Cultural influences and global contexts for European art and material culture
- Traditions and innovations within the visual culture of the era
- Interrelations between different forms of visual media
- Modernism and modernity

Assessment

For each module, students must complete three compulsory pieces of written work (two essays of up to 3,000 words and a research project of up to 8,000 words) and an assessed presentation on a topic covered by the course.

Attendance and participation

The course is usually taught through face-to-face classes and study visits. In each module, candidates are expected to attend a minimum of 75% of the taught classes and the Saturday workshops.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out in this course information sheet. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. The safety of students, staff and visitors is paramount and major changes to delivery or services may have to be made in circumstances of a pandemic (including Covid-19), epidemic or local health emergency. In addition, in certain circumstances, for example due to visa difficulties or because the health needs of students cannot be met, it may be necessary to make adjustments to course requirements for international study.

You can find full information under “Changes to Courses” (sections 30 to 39) in the [Terms and Conditions](#) for this course (<https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/mnt/attachments/2023-09-20-final-non-matric-cont-ed-ts-and-cs-for-2024-5-entry.pdf>).

Expected length of course

2 years

Annual fees for entry in 2024~25

Fee Status	Annual Course Fees
Home (UK/Republic of Ireland/ Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£3,295
Overseas	£6,210

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our [guidance on likely increases to fees and charges](#).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also do not cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Fee status

Broadly speaking, your fee status depends on your nationality, your immigration status in the UK, where you have been living and what you have been doing for the three years prior to the start of your course. Please refer to the [Undergraduate fee status](#) pages for more information.

Information for applicants from the EU, EEA and Switzerland

On 11 May 2021 the UK Council for International Student Affairs published [new regulations and guidance](#) to be used in assessing the fee status of students commencing courses in August 2021 and later. We will be using this guidance to carry out fee status assessments for students commencing courses in 2024~25, including students from the EU, EEA and Switzerland.

If you are an EU national and do not live in the UK then you are likely to be charged Overseas fees. Students with settled and pre-settled status in the UK and some other categories of students who work in the UK can qualify for Home fee status as long as they meet the residence criteria.

Additional cost information

The course fee does not cover transport or entry fees to museums, art galleries, exhibitions or any other visits or trips.

You will also need a computer which meets our minimum specification, with access to the internet and various other software programmes. Please see the [system requirements webpage](#) for full details.

Living costs

In addition to your fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

For the 2024~25 academic year, the range of likely living costs for full-time study is between c. £1,345 and £1,995 for each month spent in Oxford. Full information, including a breakdown of likely living costs in Oxford for items such as food, accommodation and study costs, is available on our [living costs](#) page. When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2024~25, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 5% or more each year, although this rate may vary significantly depending on how the national economic situation develops.

The living costs above are based on single, full-time students living in Oxford. While it may be the case that, as a part-time student, you will not be based in Oxford during your studies, you will still need to cover your cost of living on a full-time basis. If this applies to you, you should calculate your living costs to be sure that you have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course. In particular, part-time students who are not based in Oxford will need to calculate travel and accommodation costs carefully. Please note that living costs outside Oxford may be different from those shown above.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of this document please contact undergraduate@conted.ox.ac.uk.