



School of Art and Art History

SAAH Honors in the Major Instructions for Art History Majors

To be eligible for Honors in the Major, art history students must graduate with a minimum UI cumulative GPA of 3.33 and a minimum GPA in the art history major of 3.50. Students will research and write an honors paper of 5,000 to 7,500 words under the direction of an art history professor who will serve as faculty advisor. Students must have the approval of the faculty advisor before embarking on Honors in the Major. Students will earn a total of 3 s.h. over the course of either one or two semesters (the number of semesters determined by discussions with the faculty advisor).

Please let Lynne know that you have an interest in Honors in the Major as soon as possible.

Recommended Timeline:

Third Year:

- Speak with or email an art history faculty member and ask if they would be your honors thesis advisor.
- With your art history faculty advisor, create a plan to complete your research project.
- If you are completing both Honors in the Major and University Honors, then speak with Holly-Yoder@uiowa.edu in the UI Honors Program about your requirements. Honors in the Major earns you [experiential learning credits](#) for University Honors.
- Consider applying for scholarships to fund your research.
<https://art.uiowa.edu/undergraduate-program/art-history/scholarships>

Summer after Third Year:

- If possible, begin preliminary research on your project and keep in contact with your faculty advisor.

Fourth Year, First Semester:

- Talk to your faculty advisor about registering for ARTH 3985. You must complete a total of 3 s.h. of honors coursework under the course code ARTH 3985. These 3 s.h. must be completed either in one semester or in two consecutive semesters.
- Ask your faculty advisor to send Lynne an email authorizing special permission for you to register for the course.
- Meet regularly with your art history faculty advisor, complete the research and writing of your project under the guidance of your advisor, and receive a final grade from your advisor.

Fourth Year, Second Semester:

- If you did not register for ARTH 3985 for 3 s.h. in the Fall semester, then register for ARTH: 3985 for 1–3 s.h. to complete your 3 s.h. requirement.
- If you are completing both Honors in the Major and University Honors, then speak with Holly-Yoder@uiowa.edu in the UI Honors Program to ensure you have completed all your requirements.

- Apply for Graduation in MyUI. This needs to be completed prior to or at the same time as the Honors in the Major application. Honors in the Major students have to complete their degree application earlier than the general deadline.
- Complete the Honors in the Major application. **The deadline is at the end of the third week of classes.** Please obtain the required signatures and return it to Lynne.
- Make sure that your faculty advisor communicates final approval of your project to Lynne so that completion of your project is entered into MAUI.
- Optional: Add your thesis to Iowa Research Online, a repository of work by UI students and faculty that allows public access your research (<https://clas.uiowa.edu/faculty/honors-thesis-or-project-submission>).

Please note:

- Students graduating in the summer or who will be student teaching their final semester will submit the Honors in the Major application at the beginning of the semester in which they graduate.
- If your GPA drops below the required minimum GPA by the beginning of your final semester, you will not be eligible to graduate with Honors in the Major, even if you have already completed the Honors in the Major project.