Programme Specification

1 Awarding Body University of London
2 Teaching Institution Birkbeck College
3 Programme Title(s) Cert HE History of Art
4 Programme Code(s) UEHAHIST
5 UCAS code (if applicable) N/A
6 Home Department History of Art
7 Exit Award(s) N/A
8 Duration of Study (number of years) 2-4 years
9 Mode of Study FT PT x DL
10 Level of Award (FHEQ) 4

11 Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable) N/A
12 Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details (or not applicable) N/A
13 QAA Benchmark Group (or not applicable) History of Art, Architecture and Design
   https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-history-of-art-architecture-and-design-17.pdf?sfvrsn=dc98f781_14

14 Programme Rationale and Aims

Rationale
- To provide a flexible entry level programme in History of Art that would attract significant student numbers and feed into both the BA and MA History of Art offered by the College.
- To deliver a programme in line with Birkbeck’s mission to provide flexible, part-time programmes.
- To deliver a programme in line with the Common Awards Scheme.

Aims
The aims of the Cert HE History of Art are to:
- Develop students’ knowledge and understanding of the history of art
- Provide students with first-hand experience of art objects and images
- Develop students’ critical analysis and judgement in relation to the subject
- Provide students with experience of close textual analysis of different kinds of art historical writing
- Demonstrate the importance of context and the relationship of art history to other disciplines such as literature, social history, film and visual media and the history of ideas
- Develop academic study and writing skills.

Distinctive Features
- Provides an open access, entry level introduction to the history of art, requiring no previous
• Provides students with firsthand experience of visual art and related media
• Introduces students to objects, images and concepts taken from a range of periods of Western art, from ancient to contemporary
• Offers a varied and flexible programme that gives students the opportunity to specialise in particular periods in art history
• Provides academic background for those who have a professional interest in the art world.

Entry Criteria
Entry is open to all who apply and who feel they may benefit.

Prospectus Entry
If you would like to learn more about the history of art, then this programme is ideal. We offer modules covering a range of historical periods and themes. Whether you are interested in medieval imagery, the Italian Renaissance, the Victorian period or contemporary art installations, you will have a varied choice that changes each year. Our modules offer informative and enjoyable introductions to the skills and ideas shaping the study of art history. They are led by experienced and enthusiastic lecturers and teaching is rigorous and engaging. Modules often include visits to galleries or other places of interest - and some offer study trips abroad.

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the Cert HE History of Art, students will be expected to be able to:

Subject Specific
• Begin to engage with the concepts, values and debates that inform the study and practice of the history of art, including awareness of the limitations and partiality of all historical knowledge
• Analyse, describe and interpret objects, images and artefacts closely and systematically
• Show understanding of the objects, contexts and issues relevant to two or more specific areas of the history of art
• Select relevant material from the wide range of possible types of evidence used in the history of art and apply it to the examination of art historical issues and problems.

Intellectual
• Critically analyse images, objects and texts
• Marshal and begin critically to appraise other people's arguments
• Produce logical and structured narratives and arguments supported by relevant evidence.

Practical
• Demonstrate the capacity for critical and effective information retrieval and organisation, including via the use of electronic resources.

Personal and Social
• Appreciate and evaluate divergent points of view
• Express arguments clearly in writing and/or in oral presentations, using a combination of written and visual material
• Participate effectively in group discussion and structured group work
• Reflect on his/her own learning and respond constructively to feedback.
Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods

Teaching and Learning

Teaching takes the form of lectures, seminars, guided visits, groupwork and presentations given in class by students either individually or in groups.

Most modules are taught once per week for either 11 weeks or 22 weeks, from September/October to July each year, with each class lasting two hours. Some modules are delivered in longer meetings on Saturdays, or in intensive week-long sessions. Each module includes at least one visit to a gallery or museum.

Assessment

Assessment is 100% coursework. This will normally amount to:

2,500 words per 15 credit (one-term) module

- Presentation/analysis/review/essay - 1,000 words (40%)
- Essay - 1,500 words (60%)
  or
- Essay - 2,500 words (100%)

5,000 words per 30 credit (two-term) module

- Presentation/analysis/review – 1,000 words (20%)
- Presentation/analysis/review/essay – 1,500 words (30%)
- Essay – 2,500 words (50%)
  or
- Presentation/analysis/review/essay – 2,500 words or equivalent (50%)
- Essay - 2,500 words (50%)

Programme Description

To gain the Cert HE History of Art, students must successfully complete modules worth **120 credits** in total.

First take the core module, Art History: An Introduction (worth 30 credits). Then take option modules worth a further 90 credits. Option modules may include 30 credit modules, or 15 credit modules, or a combination of the two.

Core Module

- Art History: An Introduction

Indicative Option Modules

- ARVC028S4 - Art and Architecture in Sixteenth-Century Rome and Venice
- ARVC195H4 - Art and Society in Eighteenth-Century Britain
- ARVC082H4 - Art and Society in Nineteenth-Century Britain
- ARVC218S4 - Bosch to Bruegel: New Insights in Northern European Art 1470-1570
- ARVC175S4 - British Art and Architecture from Holbein to Reynolds
- ARVC198H4 - British Art and the World 1875-1939
- ARVC140H4 - Collectors and Collections in London
- ARVC176H4 - Defining the Masterpiece
- ARVC217H4 - Giorgione and Caravaggio: Innovation and Influence
- ARVC132H4 - History, Memory and Post-War Art
- FFAH237H4 - Holbein to Hilliard: The Art of the English Renaissance
- ARVC200S4 - How the West Was Won: Byzantine Art and Its Influence
- ARVC124S4 - Mystery and Medieval Imagery
- ARVC123S4 - New Light on Seventeenth-Century Dutch Painting
- ARVC214H4 - Nineteenth-Century French and English Painting and Design
- ARVC213S4 - Painters and Painting in the Middle Ages
- ARVC201H4 - Giotto and Italy in the 14th Century
- FFAH289H6 - Patrons and Painters Revisited: Places for Pictures in Baroque Rome
- ARVC166H4 - Rome and Papal Patronage 1500-1650
- ARVC209H4 - Art of Imperial Russia
- ARVC202S4 - Sculpture and the Pictorial Arts in Ancient Greece and Rome
- ARVC203H4 - Strategies of Display: Avant-Garde Exhibitions
- **FFAH001NO** - Study Skills for Art History Students
- ARVC167H4 - Architecture of Post-War Britain
- ARVC184H4 - The Birth of the Modern: Art in Austria and Germany from c. 1900 Onwards
- FFAH234H4 - The Dawn of Modernism: Vienna and Paris around 1900
- FFAH210S4 - The Shock of the New
- ARVC211H4 - Writing Art: 1900 to the Present

You may also include modules worth up to 30 credits (excluding core modules) from the Certificate of Higher Education History and Archaeology.

If you wish to progress to the BA History of Art it is recommended that you take **Art History: A Survey (ARVC205S4)** and/or **Material and Process in Art (ARVC207S4)** (each worth 30 credits).

If you wish to progress to the BA Arts and Humanities you must take the module **Key Concepts in Cultural Analysis: The Production of the Human (ENHU008S4)** (worth 30 credits).

Further study opportunities: Students who are awarded the Certificate of Higher Education and are admitted to Birkbeck’s **BA History of Art** will be offered exemption from the first year.

### Programme Structure

#### Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>FFAH002S4</td>
<td>Art History: An Introduction</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Selection of 15 or 30 credit modules</td>
<td>Each 15, or 30</td>
<td>Option</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Year 2/Subsequent Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Option</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Regulations

#### Admissions

This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf)

Department Admissions Statement

Entry is open to all who apply and who feel that they may benefit.
### Credit Transfer
Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf)

### Programme Regulations
This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations)

Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A

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### 22 Student Attendance Framework – in brief


**Principle**
Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.

**Attendance expectation**
Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.

**E-Registers**
All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.

### 23 Student Support and Guidance

All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities)

### 24 Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards

The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiners’ reports, student feedback, and student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through an internal review process that includes external input.

For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality)

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### 24 Current Programme Director
Dr Charlotte Ashby

### 25 Start Date (term/year)
Autumn pre-2003

### 26 Date approved by TQEC
pre-2003

### 27 Date approved by Academic Board
pre-2003

### 28 Date(s) updated/amended
March 2019