Art History

Degree conferred
Master of Arts in Historical Sciences: Art History

Options
For information on the optional award of the distinction «Bilingual curriculum, French/German», please contact the relevant Department (see Contact).

Languages of study
Study in two languages, in French and German

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Ph.D.

The master programme in Art History offers specialised training in Art History over a broad time span, ranging from Art History and Classical Archaeology to History of Contemporary Art. The particularity of this master's course is that it considers examples of artistic creativity from several angles using the most recent methods to provide an anthropological, sociological and mediological perspective.

This programme is taught partly in French and partly in German. Students must take modules in both languages, which will vary from course to course, but they can prepare their presentation, coursework and exams in the language of their choice (in either French or German).

Profile of the study programme

The master programme in Art History offers specialised training in Art History over a broad time span: History of Contemporary Art (20th and 21st centuries), History of Modern Art, History of Mediaeval Art (Western and Byzantine art) and Art History and Classical Archaeology. The particularity of this master programme is that it considers examples of artistic creativity from several angles using the most recent methods to provide an anthropological, sociological and mediological perspective.

The programme is composed of a research module, which is compulsory to all students, and of three optional modules that can be selected from a choice of eight modules (two per period), one of which will correspond to the period chosen for the master's thesis.

Research module
The common research module aims to increase graduates' research skills and to present them with different methodologies in preparation for writing a thesis.

Advanced modules
These modules aim to broaden graduates' understanding of analysis and interpretation methods in the periods they have chosen.

Learning outcomes and career openings
This course aims to convey extensive knowledge in one of the periods of Art History and to teach graduates about the critical use of diverse sources, interpretations, methods and theories, as well as to encourage personal development of ideas and interpretations in Art History. This knowledge prepares graduates for the professional world (in the domains of museums, the art market, culture and publishing, conservation of historical monuments, etc.) or for further research in doctoral studies.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies
90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen or in a specialisation programme, 3 to 4 semesters

Curriculum
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/7oYad (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/nJ3Zw (German)

Admission
Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor's degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master's degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 60 or 90 ECTS credits – depending on the chosen master's degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfil this condition can be admitted to a master's degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master's degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master's degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

The respective conditions of admission for each master's degree
Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme and as a specialisation programme (30 ECTS credits).

Contact

Faculty of Humanities
Department of Art History and Archaeology
Dr Alexandre Varela (French)
alexandre.varela@unifr.ch
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-art-history
Tobias Ertl (German)
tobias.ertl@unifr.ch
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-art-history