ART HISTORY

Canterbury
ART HISTORY AT KENT

Would you like to get involved in curating an art exhibition, researching and writing art reviews or working in an art gallery? Have you ever wondered what makes art great and who decides? At Kent, you gain an understanding of theory, experience of practice, and the confidence to choose your own ‘great art’.

www.kent.ac.uk/arts/hpa
WHY STUDY ART HISTORY AT KENT?

**Flexible programme**
You gain a strong foundation in the subject in your first year and can then choose modules that reflect your interests. Areas covered include abstract, baroque, renaissance and modern art, photography and curation. You can spend a year abroad or on placement.

**Inspirational teaching**
Great teachers inspire and challenge. Whether they’re lecturing on abstract art or sparking a discussion on what makes art valuable, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life and drawing you in to the conversation.

**World-leading research**
You learn from leading experts. Our staff undertake research of international quality; write and contribute to journal articles and books; and provide expert comment to the media. They put you in touch with the latest ideas.

**Academic support**
University is different to school. You need to be self-motivated and well organised to succeed. We help by assigning you an academic tutor and organising peer mentoring. You can also get help with academic skills, such as essay writing, from the University’s dedicated service.

**Experience the art world**
Do you want to know what it is like to curate an exhibition, or what is involved in the acquisition of valuable art work? Are you interested in writing reviews? At Kent, you can gain these skills and so discover what a career in the art world might look like.

**Excellent resources**
Access more than 1 million books, ebooks, databases and journals at the University’s Templeman Library. Deepen your knowledge browsing our special collections and work at one of thousands of study spaces and networked PCs across the Canterbury campus.

**Lively campus**
Kent is a campus university, so everything you need is within walking distance. You can watch a play or film at the Gulbenkian arts centre; dance at The Venue nightclub; keep fit at our sports centre and meet friends at one of many campus cafés and restaurants.

**Great location**
Canterbury combines medieval buildings, traditional pubs, modern bars and restaurants and chain and independent shops. Margate’s Turner Contemporary gallery is nearby and London is around an hour away by high-speed train; you can be in Paris in around two.

**Career success**
Employability is a priority at Kent. By studying, you sharpen skills that are useful in working life, such as time management and developing an argument. You have opportunities to gain work experience, and access to careers advice, boosting your CV and your confidence.
The School of Arts: a creative hub

Art History is part of the School of Arts, which also houses Drama, Film and Media Studies, creating a dynamic interdisciplinary community. The School’s Jarman Building was purpose-built and includes the Studio 3 Gallery, a high-calibre exhibition venue. Studio 3 hosts home and visiting exhibitions and gives you the chance to develop professional and curatorial skills. The School organises numerous events, including exhibitions, arts fairs and arts festivals. All our students have an academic adviser who can offer pastoral and academic support to help them achieve their ambitions.

Independent rankings

The Complete University Guide 2019
• History of Art, Architecture and Design at Kent was ranked 17th overall

Research Excellence Framework (REF)
• Based on the most recent REF, Kent was ranked in the top 20 for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
• Of Kent undergraduate students who graduated in 2017, over 95% of those who responded to a national survey were in work or further study within six months

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
Sara Bell is in the second year of her Art History and French degree.

What attracted you to Kent?
The course at Kent offered a variety of assessment methods, many of which were coursework-based, which suited me. When I came to look around, I liked it and it was far enough from home to give me independence.

Why Art History and French?
I am interested in lots of different things and art history covers all sorts of areas including politics and sociology, and you develop your writing skills. I also wanted to learn a language.

How did you feel when you arrived?
I was scared like everybody else! I lived in Keynes; we were all in the same boat, we just wanted to make friends. I had joined a group chat before I came and we all met up on the first day, which was great. I felt I already had a little network.

How have you found studying a joint honours?
It’s been fine – there’s just more people to meet! There is just one other person who does exactly the same course and we have become really good friends.

How would you describe your lecturers?
They really know their stuff – sometimes, in first year, you have to ask them to explain things in more down to earth terms. I wasn’t sure how to approach my first assignment so I went to see the lecturer and he gave me some advice. They are definitely willing to help, and respond quickly to emails.

Have you had a favourite Art History module?
I took a philosophy of art module in my first year, which was very interesting. We discussed the value of art and what made it valuable. The discussions were fascinating. I also took a module on art in France. The teacher really pushed us. I learnt so much about French culture and the reading he recommended helped me piece everything together and to see the links between art and literature. I think this understanding will really help during my year in France.

Generally, everyone is very open to each other’s ideas, nobody is judgemental and we all get a chance to put forward our views. It’s a supportive environment.

What about the French side of your programme?
I had a GCSE in French but started at beginners’ level. In my first year, we just laughed constantly at our own mistakes, our teacher was great and it went very well. This year has been more challenging but the tutor and the other students are very supportive. I spend a year in France next year, hopefully working as an assistant in a school, which is both very exciting and scary.

What are the facilities like on campus?
The academic facilities are good, the library is massive and there are lots of places to work in. Socially, it’s good too; if you are prepared to make an effort you can create lots of memories. Joining societies is a great way to meet new people, I am a member of Kent Dance and last year I joined the RAG society, which is about raising money for charity. I took part in the Prague marathon to raise money for Breast Cancer Now. As part of that I did an internship at the charity.

Have you thought about what you might do next?
I enjoyed my internship with Breast Cancer Now, so working for a charity is one possibility. I am also interested in editorial work, perhaps for an arts magazine, or working in a gallery abroad – that’s an exciting prospect. I think my experience in France will put me in a good position when starting my career.

Any advice for students thinking of coming to Kent?
Be passionate about your subject. If you’re not sure if university is worth the money, I would say if you study something you are interested in it definitely is, because through your studies you can make links that will help you in the future. Also, join clubs, do something new. I was very shy before I came here but, as soon as I arrived, I made myself talk to as many people as I could and then, suddenly, I was comfortable doing that. When you graduate, it’s not only a degree you come away with.
Our Art History programmes equip you with the key visual, critical and professional skills necessary for a career in the art world and for a range of other opportunities.

Single honours
Art History BA (Hons)

This programme offers a critically engaging and expansive approach to the discipline of art history. In your first year, you are given a firm foundation in some of the aesthetic, interpretative and methodological approaches to the discipline. Throughout your second and third years, there are opportunities for you to choose modules of particular interest to you.

As well as modules that explore Renaissance and Baroque art, modernism, contemporary art, French painting, Surrealism, photography and aesthetics, the degree also offers an introduction to work-related skills directly relevant to employment in the visual arts sector, such as visual arts writing and exhibition curating. There is also an opportunity to undertake an internship. We offer all our students support with their CVs and personal statements.

Joint honours degrees

You can study Art History as part of a joint honours degree with the following subjects:
- Classical & Archaeological Studies (QV83)
- Drama and Theatre (RW30)
- English and American Literature (QV33)
- Film (WW36)
- French (RV13)
- History (VV13)
- Hispanic Studies (RV43).

Study can be divided 50:50 between your two honours subjects.

Other programmes
Media Studies

This innovative interdisciplinary programme gives you the opportunity to study contemporary culture and the ways in which it is communicated. We have embedded practice-based learning within the programme with modules in areas such as filmmaking, photography, arts criticism, screenwriting and curating – all designed to deepen understanding of contemporary media through creative ability.

For further information, go to www.kent.ac.uk/arts

International students

If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme (IFP) which may provide progression on to the degree programmes listed on these pages. For more information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Teaching and assessment

All modules include weekly lectures and seminar classes. Additionally, lecturers are available for one-to-one tutorials on a regular basis.

Encouraging independence of thought, and the skills of independent study, are at the heart of our teaching and the University library offers an excellent collection of art books, outstanding online resources including e-books and journals, and other audio-visual study aids.

A distinctive feature of Art History at Kent is the emphasis placed on hands-on and practice-based education. Many modules involve visits to London museums and galleries and some modules also involve internships or working in galleries.

Modules are assessed by coursework, such as essays, presentations, image or text analyses and other activities. This helps you to develop your knowledge of the topics that are most interesting and relevant to your study aims, and to acquire a wide range of general and specifically relevant study skills.
YEAR ABROAD/ PLACEMENT YEAR

At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience either by studying overseas or through a work placement.

All students within the School of Arts can apply to spend a year studying abroad or on placement as part of their degree programme. The year usually takes place between the second and final years of study.

Year abroad

Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally.

You gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and being able to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

We have exciting exchange links with universities in Asia, the USA and Canada, as well as many European destinations via the Erasmus exchange network. For details, see the A to Z course list at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities/az.html

Placement year

The placement year provides the opportunity for you to gain experience in the workplace as part of your degree. The placement can be either paid work or an internship.

It gives you the opportunity to increase your contacts and networks so that you can hit the ground running when you graduate. If taken, the year is assessed on a pass/fail basis through employer feedback and a written report that you submit.

Tuition fees for the placement year are greatly reduced and employers may offer expenses or a salary.

There are many benefits to taking a placement year: it gives you the chance to gain some knowledge of the work environment, acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

Your studies are divided into three stages. At Stage 1, your modules give you a firm foundation in your subject. At Stages 2 and 3 (your second and final years) you develop in-depth knowledge and can choose modules that most reflect your interests.

Module information
The module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly.

Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

To read a full description of the modules listed, go to: www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and search using the module code.

Stage 1
Stage 1 is your first year of full-time study. Your modules are designed to develop your knowledge of the subject as well as your visual, literary and study skills.

You take one compulsory module:
• Introduction to the History of Art (HA355)

Optional modules may include:
• Introduction to Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Art (HA361/HA362)
• Introduction to Contemporary Art (HA314/HA315)
• Introduction to the History of Photography (HA316/HA317).

Other modules may be chosen in art, film, drama or any other humanities subject from a list of recommended modules. For full details of film and drama modules, see the relevant degrees on our website www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Stages 2 and 3
During Stages 2 and 3 (your second and final years of full-time study), you have a wide range of options to choose from. This allows you to explore subjects that interest you, specialise in a particular aspect of your subject, or pursue topics that are relevant to a particular career path. You also have the opportunity to gain experience of working within
the art world by taking our Arts Internship module.

Students can choose modules from the following (not all of these modules will be available in any one year):
- Abstract Art (HA559/HA663)
- Art and Architecture of the Renaissance (HA502/HA677)
- Art and Film (HA556/HA661)
- Arts Internship (Stage 3 only) (ART501)
- Beauty in Theory, Culture and Contemporary Art (HA575/HA671)
- Classicism and Baroque (HA504/HA680)
- Costume and Fashion (ART502)
- Drawing: History and Practice (HA648/HA666)
- Exposed: The Aesthetics of the Body, Sexuality and Erotic Art (HA649/HA653)
- Genius: Perspectives on Artistic Creation (HA684/HA685)
- Independent Project (Stage 3 only) (ART500)
- Modern Art in Paris (HA841)
- Performance Art and its Histories: Dada to Deller (ART503)
- History and Aesthetics of Photography (HA586)
- Print Collecting and Curating (HA573)
- The Sublime, the Disgusting and the Laughable (HA597/HA664)
- Surrealism: Myth and Modernity (HA693/HA694)
- The Art of Death (HI789)
- Visual Arts Writing (HA595)

“I am interested in lots of different things and art history covers all sorts of areas, including politics and sociology.”

Sara Bell
Art History and French
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet with you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They will assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support
The best advice often comes from people who’ve been in your situation. On our Academic Peer Mentoring scheme, first-year students can request to be matched with second- or third-year students on a similar degree programme.

Peer mentors will help you settle in to university life and find your feet. They can help you to discuss ideas and improve your study skills as you progress through your first year.

Study skills advice
Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing
You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

They are committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:
- discussing exam access arrangements
- helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
- applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“There may be times during your studies when you need friendly support and guidance. You may have issues with your health, concerns about money, or worries about your studies. Whatever it might be, you will be welcome at the Arts Student Support Office where we will listen and advise.”

Jacqui Double
Arts Student Support Officer
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t yet thought much beyond university, we can help you to plan for success in the future.

Build your CV
Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems and working independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are valued by employers and will also be vital if you go on to further study.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:
• join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
• volunteer in the community
• work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
• represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
• learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards: we work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.

Developing career skills
A distinctive feature of our Art History programme is the opportunities it gives you to develop workplace skills. We offer modules where you can gain experience of print collecting and curating, or develop the skills to write for the media. It may be possible to gain experience in our Studio 3 gallery or in the other exhibition spaces on campus. If you choose to spend a year on placement, you give yourself the opportunity to make contacts and assess possible career paths.

Find a great job
Your degree can lead to a wide range of fascinating careers – our graduates work in galleries, teaching, art dealing, arts administration, arts therapy, craft studio workshop management, journalism and the media, picture research libraries and photography.

Your School supports you with employability events tailored to humanities students, from exploring career options to presenting your skills and experience effectively to employers.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: just six months after graduating in 2017, more than 95.6% of Kent graduates who responded to a national survey were in work or further study (DLHE).
Angelika Wallace-Whitfield graduated from her History & Philosophy of Art degree in 2017. Here, she remembers her time at Kent and tells us where her studies have led her.

‘The main reason I chose Kent was the course. I liked the fact that it included philosophy and gave me the opportunity to take a philosophical approach to art. Another thing that attracted me was the career development programme at Kent.

‘I am from the Bahamas but previously I had been at school in Wales so I found the transition to university study easy. Before I came to Kent, I worked in the National Art Gallery of the Bahamas for two years, and while studying I returned to work there in my holidays. I had to pay for my studies myself so I was very self-motivated.

‘I enjoyed the course very much. Lectures can be a bit intimidating at first but the seminars were really engaging. It felt as though you were having a conversation, guided by the seminar leader, which everyone was encouraged to take part in.

‘In my first year we were given a general introduction to the field; I particularly enjoyed a module called Introduction to Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Art. When I came to Kent my knowledge of aesthetics and philosophy of art was minimal, but this module really drew me in to the subject and made me fall in love with it. It gave me a great foundation to build on as I moved through the course.

‘In my second and final years, I was able to choose whichever modules most appealed to me; I was definitely drawn to those focused on philosophy. I also took an internship module in which I worked as a teacher at art camp at the National Art Gallery of the Bahamas.

‘The lecturers were always happy to help you. Our seminar leaders were supportive, inspirational and willing to help. They were very easy to talk to and happy to tell you about the path they had taken. My academic adviser was great too.

‘The facilities on campus are good. The School of Arts is based in the Jarman building, which I love, it’s inspiring even just walking in! Kent’s new library building looks beautiful too.

‘The gym at Kent is absolutely amazing so take advantage of it. I spent all my free time there, it ticked lots of boxes – it’s fun socially, good for me and a good stress buster.

‘Since graduating from Kent, I have returned to the Bahamas and am currently a high school visual arts teacher at the International Baccalaureate Institute, Lyford Cay International School in Nassau. I teach visual arts, including art history, following the curriculum for the International Baccalaureate’s primary and middle years.

‘I would advise anyone thinking of studying at Kent to come. It’s an amazing university and I had a wonderful time. When I was there, I lived in a house full of people from the Bahamas because I boasted about it all the time! As for the course, definitely go for it, it makes you understand why we are attracted to art. It strengthens your writing skills and helps you articulate your thoughts. Don’t worry if you haven’t studied aesthetics before, I hadn’t, but I ended up loving it.’
Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:
- learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
- ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
- experience our teaching at a taster lecture*
- find out about student finance, opportunities to study abroad and extra-curricular activities such as those run by Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You will be able to visit different types of accommodation, chat to current students and enjoy the stunning views over the city of Canterbury.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the autumn and spring terms and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

If you live outside Europe, we appreciate that you might find it difficult to attend our scheduled events, so we can arrange a personal campus tour for you and your family.

Let us know you’re coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent. We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information.

*Programme of events varies according to subject.
FIND OUT MORE (CONT)

on studying at Kent. Find out more at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/international

Self-guided tours
If you prefer to explore on your own, you can download a self-guided walking tour at www.kent.ac.uk/informal or pick up a copy from us.

A self-guided audio tour is available too, which allows you to learn about Kent without even leaving home. See www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html

Explore online
If you can’t come and see us, you can find out more about the academic team, the course and events in the department and School online at www.kent.ac.uk/arts/hpa

Keep in touch with us via social media:
www.facebook.com/universityofkent
www.twitter.com/Unikentarts

Contact us
If you would like more information on Kent’s courses, facilities or services, please contact us on:
T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Degree programmes
Single honours
• Art History (V352)

Joint honours
• Classical & Archaeological Studies (QV83)
• Drama and Theatre (RW30)
• English and American Literature (QV33)
• Film (WW36)
• French (RV13)
• History (VV13)
• Hispanic Studies (RV43).

Required subjects
For details of required subjects for joint honours programmes, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Offer levels
Single honours
BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or 15 at HL.

Joint honours
ABB/BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or 15/16 at HL.

Access and BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma applicants are assessed on an individual basis, please contact us for more information.

Scholarships and bursaries
Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding for details of scholarships and bursaries.

Year abroad/placement year
For more information, see p9.

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest course information, see:
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2018. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit