

## **AS History of Art**

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AS History of Art is available to Year 12 and Year 13 students. The History of Art is concerned with the analysis and interpretation of works of art within their cultural and historical context. The subject requires both critical and historical skills in addition to visual sensitivity: these skills should be developed by the syllabus.

The examination comprises two papers, Renaissance and Modern, which provide the structural basis of the syllabus. Paper 1 is the Renaissance, for which we study two options: Fourteenth-century Italian Art and Naturalism and Science in Fifteenth-century Italian Painting. Paper 2 is Modern Art: Towards Abstraction (Cubism, the Machine Age and Paths to Abstraction) and American Art since 1945 (Abstract Impressionism, Pop Art and Feminist Art).

At present there is no A2 History of Art syllabus, but the course is an excellent preparation for both first and second year Art History papers at university, which are often chosen by students for their general papers.

## **NCEA Level 3 Art History**

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NCEA Level 3 Art History is available to Year 12 and Year 13 students, although it is aimed primarily at the latter. Art History is concerned with the analysis and interpretation of works of art within their cultural and historical context. The subject requires both critical and historical skills in addition to visual sensitivity: these skills should be developed by the syllabus.

There are three areas of study: Fourteenth-century Italian Painting; Fifteenth-century Italian Painting; Cubism and Abstraction from 1900–1930, and Modern American Art. The Level 3 syllabus comprises six assessments, three of which are internally assessed: students will learn how to analyse style; to interpret meaning in art (iconography); to understand the media, techniques and processes used in creating artworks; to examine a theory and its role in art; to investigate an art issue, and to examine a context in art.

As with AS History of Art, the course is an excellent preparation for both first and second year Art History papers at university, which are often chosen by students for their general papers.

## **NCEA Level 2 Art History**

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NCEA Level 2 Art History is available to Year 12 students. Art History is concerned with the analysis and interpretation of works of art within their cultural and historical context. The subject requires both critical and historical skills in addition to visual sensitivity: these skills should be developed by the syllabus.

There are two areas of study: French Art (Neoclassicism to Post-Impressionism) and Art in Aotearoa (nineteenth century to the present). The Level 2 syllabus comprises six assessments, three of which are internally assessed: students will learn how to analyse art works; to examine subjects and themes in art; to examine techniques used in art; to study an art movement; to research an art history topic, and to examine art works in their environmental contexts.

The course is a good preparation for Level 3 Art History but is not a requirement for that course.

## **Scholarship Art History**

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Scholarship Art History is a very broad three-hour examination in which a candidate writes two essays. Each essay is selected from a range of six questions: the first group of six is about the production of art works; the second group of six is about aesthetics and responses to art.

The examination allows for an expansive discussion of the chosen subject and the student is expected to draw widely from whichever syllabus he or she has studied as, unlike the Level 3 and AS examinations, the questions are not tied to specific learning areas or topics. It is thus a very good examination for capable AS students wishing to extend themselves or gain a further qualification with an added financial incentive.