

**DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS AND NEW MEDIA**  
**24 Credit-Hour Review Process and Requirements – Art History**

One of the requirements for completing a major in Visual Arts and New Media at Fredonia is participation in the 24-Hour Review. Its purpose is to provide Visual Arts and New Media students an opportunity to have their work critiqued by a group of faculty, including at least one faculty member outside the student's major concentration. It also presents students with an opportunity to think, write and speak about their work and scholarly direction, and to get an overview of their progress. It is an important exercise in preparing students for their final years of work at SUNY Fredonia.

Participation in the Art History Review is a graduation requirement and will be used to evaluate student progress. Students who have completed, or are in the process of completing, a minimum of 18 Art History credits (excluding VAP, but including ART 100 Visual Concepts, Art History courses taken here or transferred in, and no more than one VANM studio) must participate in this review. A list of eligible students will be posted outside the Visual Arts and New Media departmental office, RAC 217. A second list including the day/time schedule will be posted well before the review. The critiques will take place over a three-day period; students are excused from VANM courses during this period.

For the review, you should prepare:

1) A typewritten personal essay incorporating the topics listed below. These topics will open the dialogue between you and your committee and should be clearly, professionally written and carefully proofread. The topics should be addressed in narrative essay form, not in a numbered list, and must be approximately 500-1000 words (3-page maximum). Please provide four copies (one for each member of your committee and one for your permanent file) to the departmental secretary in RAC 217 by the due date. The essays should be clearly labeled with your name and your committee members' names. It is your responsibility to provide four stapled copies. The departmental secretary will not make copies for you.

Your personal statement should address the following questions:

- a) Why have you chosen to study Art History at SUNY Fredonia?
- b) Have you decided to concentrate your studies in either Pre-History through Renaissance or Modern/Contemporary? If you have made this decision, what excites you about that particular area of art historical research? If you are still unsure about your concentration, where do you think your strengths lie?
- c) Do you plan to study abroad? If "yes," where do you plan to go and when? If "no," which course of study have you chosen as a Minor and why? (Note: Double Majors are exempt from the Minor/Study Abroad requirement).
- d) What educational experiences outside of the department interest you and why?
- e) How do you supplement your formal education in the arts? Do you read art historical scholarship outside of class? Do you subscribe to any art, art historical or related journals? Do you visit museums or galleries and/or frequent art-related websites? Be specific.
- f) Which artists, art historians or scholars/writers do you admire and why?

g) What are your professional goals after graduation? What do you see yourself doing the year after you graduate? What do you want to be doing in five years? If these goals cannot be met, what career alternatives are possible?

h) What do you perceive to be the value of an education in the arts and specifically, a degree in Art History?

i) How does your own level of commitment and responsibility impact your education?

2) A short (2-4 page), introductory-level writing sample preferably done for a 100-level art history course taken at Fredonia or transferred from another college. Examples are as follows:

a) A typed version of an essay written for ARTH 101 or ARTH 102.

b) The required event summary written for ARTH 102.

c) A short historical or analytical writing sample prepared for another introductory class such as History or English Composition or an Art History course taken in high school or at a transfer college.

3) A medium length (4-8 page) analytical, position or research paper produced for an Art History course at the 200, 300 or 400 level. (Note: Transfer students may submit writing samples from courses taken at another institution, but please include information as to when the course was taken and where).

4) Any art historical writings, notebooks, research papers or ideas about potential research projects that were generated/completed on your own, outside of regular class assignments.

5) Optional: If you have completed a 300-400 level Art History course for which a 10-15 page formal research paper was required, you may submit this if you feel it is a strong example of your work.

You will be required to speak about your art historical scholarship and your experiences in the VANM department during the review. Faculty reviewers will evaluate your ability to express your thoughts clearly and effectively, your ability to explain and describe the material presented, and the level of critical thinking and research evident in your submitted written materials.

**It is crucial that Art History students submit four copies of ALL their written materials for review by the deadline.**

See the schedule posted by RAC 217 (the departmental office) for the location, day and time of your scheduled review. Reviews will last 30 minutes and are held in rotation between RAC classrooms and McEwen 106. Please be sure to arrive at your meeting **at least ten minutes early** to facilitate the tight scheduling of faculty panels during the 24 Credit-Hour Review process.