CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
An examination of the history of the discipline and the epistemological assumptions underpinning art historical research and writing in the past and present.

Prerequisites: Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course explores the development of art history as a discipline through an analysis of key texts and methodologies. Methods considered will include early art historical approaches such as iconographic, biographical, and stylistic analyses, as well as those that draw upon recent theoretical frameworks including feminism, material culture, and critical race studies. By examining these methods alongside different forms of art historical writing—from the art history textbook to the museum catalogue—we will consider how the writing of art history shapes our knowledge of art. This analysis will be complemented by a series of short writing assignments designed to hone students’ skills as art writers.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
A detailed syllabus with course requirements and readings will be available in the first class. The course will include lecture and discussion. Attendance and active participation is expected and will count toward the final grade. Assignments will include in-class activities and a series of short writing assignments.