



# DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

## Graduate Student Guidebook

2026 - 2027

**Chair**

Dr. Karin Zitzewitz

**Director of Graduate Studies (DGS)**

Dr. Joshua Shannon

**Coordinator of Graduate Studies (CGS)**

Dana Persaud

# Welcome to Art History and Archaeology at Maryland!

We are pleased to welcome you to graduate study in the Department of Art History and Archaeology at the University of Maryland, College Park. This guidebook will provide you with information that will be useful to you in the upcoming semester and years to come.

This guidebook offers key information about how to succeed in the program, covering topics from course registration and comprehensive exams to physical and mental health and social opportunities. The department is here to help you flourish. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Joshua Shannon  
Director of Graduate Studies, Professor of  
Contemporary Art History and Theory  
Department of Art History & Archaeology  
University of Maryland  
[shannon1@umd.edu](mailto:shannon1@umd.edu)  
(301) 405-1485

Entering the Program	4
Navigating the Program	5
Coursework	7
Funding	8
Departmental Culture and Expectations	10
Major Events in the Department	14
Teaching	15
Campus Resources	16
National and Regional Resources	17
Graduate Student Life	18

---

## Entering the Program

---

- **Consult the Graduate School's [checklist for new students](#)** for information about fulfilling conditions of enrollment, creating a directory ID, getting your student ID, submitting immunization records, and deciding upon your health insurance.
- **Register for classes.** The university's web-based registration services are available online at [Testudo](#): click on "Registration (Drop/Add)." Note that you must register for classes in the term for which you were admitted by the end of the schedule adjustment period, or your admission will be canceled. You may also consult Testudo for the university's major academic deadlines.
- **Attend orientation.** The department will send detailed information about required orientation events that will take place in the week before classes begin. Some events are required of all new students, others are required of all who are teaching in the department for the first time. You may wish also to view the online [orientations provided by the Graduate School](#).
- **Say hello and get to know everyone!** Take time also to familiarize yourself with the [detailed bios of all faculty and staff](#).
- Get to know the departmental office and shared spaces, especially **the main office** (Room 1211B Parren J. Mitchell Art-Sociology Building), **the office of the Coordinator of Graduate Studies** (4226), **the copy and mailbox room** (4225), the **Michelle Smith Collaboratory for Visual Studies** (4213) and its adjacent **lounge**. We'll let you know how to unlock the **Duchamp Room** (4208), too, where you can find keys to unlock the seminar room (4204) and the hands-on room (4206). If you will be working as a TA or RA, obtain office space, a locker, and a mailbox from the ARTH main office.
- Become familiar with the [University of Maryland Libraries](#) (especially the [Art Library](#) (2213 Parren J. Mitchell Art-Sociology Building) and [McKeldin](#) (the main library, at the top of McKeldin Mall), as well as other key libraries such as Hornbake (special collections) and Architecture. Get to know Art librarian Cindy Frank ([cfrank@umd.edu](mailto:cfrank@umd.edu)) and Library Coordinator Hannah Parker ([hparker@umd.edu](mailto:hparker@umd.edu))
- **Obtaining Maryland Residency.** You may wish to start the process of [gaining in-state status](#). New graduate students should resolve any residency issues within their first semester with the University. In addition, you may wish to register to vote in MD.

---

# Navigating the Program

---

The [Department's graduate program website](#) is your comprehensive guide and should answer all your questions about the requirements for your degree. For neat lists of the benchmarks toward each degree, which you can use to track your progress, use our [Degree Progress Worksheets](#) and [Benchmarks Flowchart](#). For the Graduate School's requirements, consult their [MA](#) and [PhD](#) policies online.

If you cannot find answers to your questions on these sites, consult the Director of Graduate Studies or Coordinator of Graduate Studies (for graduate-program questions), the Chair (for major departmental issues), or the Business Manager (for financial queries).

## Your Academic Advisor

A program advisor is assigned to you upon admission based on your research interests and the availability of faculty. If you find in the course of your research that you may need another advisor, or have difficulty choosing a dissertation chair down the line, do not hesitate to speak to the Director of Graduate Studies for guidance.

## Tracking Your Progress

You are responsible for tracking your progress toward your degree, together with your advisor; see just above for links to tracking documents. You also have access to U-Achieve, the University's course-auditing tool (instructions for how to review your own audit may be found [here](#)). Keep in touch every semester with your advisor about your progress, and feel free to come to the Director of Graduate Studies with questions. Remember that responsibility for tracking your progress lies ultimately with you.

Each semester you will also be asked to submit information to the Department reporting your progress (such as benchmarks met, planned time remaining to degree, good news or any challenges you've experienced). The Director of Graduate Studies, the Coordinator of Graduate Studies, and each student's advisor consult these reports before **Graduate Review**. This meeting of the graduate faculty, held at the end of each semester, allows the department to track the progress of each student, to identify possible avenues of additional support, and to make decisions about upcoming graduate assistantships. If the faculty identifies any concerns or sees special opportunities to offer support to any individual student, they will be in touch after the meeting. (Do not worry if you do not hear from the faculty after Graduate Review—that is normal, and a good sign!)

## Submitting Forms

All forms should indicate who must sign them and to whom they should be submitted. Please be sure (1) that the Coordinator of Graduate Studies is copied on all forms you submit, and (2) that you **always keep a copy of all your paperwork**. For questions, consult the Coordinator of Graduate Studies.

### **Language Examinations**

At the MA level, students are required to pass a translation examination in one language other than English. At the PhD level, they must pass an exam in a second such language. The languages should be helpful for their research and chosen in consultation with their advisor. New students should enter the program with an appropriate level of preparation. Those with native fluency in the necessary languages may petition to waive the exam using this [Exception Form](#). See further detail on the [graduate program site](#).

### **The Doctoral Examination**

The Ph.D. examination includes two parts: the written examination and the oral examination. Both parts of the exam are graded pass/fail. The examination may be taken only during the fall or spring academic terms. See further detail on the [graduate program site](#).

### **The Dissertation Proposal**

After passing the PhD exams and before writing the dissertation, students must write and defend a dissertation proposal. See further detail on the [graduate program site](#).

### **The Thesis and Dissertation**

Students should plan to defend mid-semester, adhering to the [deadlines](#) set by the graduate school. Advisors will want to see chapters as they are drafted. At the MA-level, the rest of the advising committee normally sees the thesis only when it is complete. At the PhD-level, the student should schedule a mid-dissertation meeting of the committee for feedback, after approximately the first half of the dissertation is complete. The process of commentary and feedback, however, is different with each thesis/dissertation, and students should work with their advisors, their committees and, if necessary, with the DGS, to be sure they are getting the counsel they need. All members of the thesis/dissertation committee should have copies of the finished thesis/dissertation (complete with table of contents, full citations, page numbers, bibliography, and illustrations) at least four weeks before the defense. Note also that a short abstract of the thesis/dissertation should be submitted to the CGS at least two weeks before the scheduled defense.

### **Thesis and Dissertation Defense and Submission**

Each candidate is required to defend their thesis/dissertation in an oral examination consisting of two parts: A student presentation and a formal examination. See further details on the Department's [MA](#) and [PhD](#) websites and on that of the [Graduate School](#). Theses/Dissertations are to be submitted to the Graduate School in electronic format after final approval by the Examining Committee. Requirements for preparing a Department of Art History and Archaeology thesis/dissertation are found in the [Guide for the Electronic Submission of Theses and Dissertations](#).

## **Deadlines and Time to Degree**

Important deadlines may be found [here](#). The Graduate School has firm [policy](#) on time to degree; granting a student five years to advance to candidacy and urging completion within four years after that. If the dissertation has not been submitted within four years after advancing to candidacy, a student may, with the approval of his/her committee, petition for an extension of up to one year.

---

# **Coursework**

---

## **Choosing Courses**

Review the [Schedule of Classes \(through Testudo\)](#) and the [Department's list of courses](#). Consult well before the start of each semester with your academic advisor to gain permission to register for the courses you would like to take (seminars do fill up!). Be sure you are planning ahead to meet all the requirements of your degree as articulated on the Department's [graduate program website](#) and on our [Degree Progress Worksheets](#) and [Benchmark Flowchart](#).

Note that, for one course at the MA level and one at the PhD level, students may substitute a class outside the department, an independent study (possibly done as an enhanced undergraduate course), an internship course, or a class at Johns Hopkins or a member institution of the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area. Students meet with their advisors every semester to determine course selection. Before enrolling in such nonstandard courses, check with your advisor and then submit an [Exception Form](#) for Graduate Program permission. The department must add any outside courses as "exceptions" in U-Achieve, so be sure the CGS is copied on all approvals. If you are currently on a funding package, coursework taken outside of ARTH may be eligible for tuition remission up to the number of credits indicated in your appointment letter. If pursuing a certificate (below), please verify with the certificate program whether any ARTH coursework may be counted toward their credit requirements.

## **Lifting the Block on Registration**

Once you have met with your advisor to select classes for the semester, please reach out to the CGS to lift your mandatory advising block and to request permission to enroll, if a course requires it.

## **Enrolling in Courses at other area universities**

To take a course at Johns Hopkins or another university in the [D.C. Consortium of Universities in the Washington Metropolitan Area](#), please complete the [Exception Form](#), as well as either the [Hopkins exchange form](#) or the [consortium registration form](#), and obtain approval from your advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies.

### **Graduate Certificate Programs (external to the department)**

The Department encourages students to consider obtaining interdisciplinary graduate certificates appropriate to their studies. Speak with your advisor about how to fulfill requirements while making good progress toward your degree. Among the offerings available around the university are the following:

- [Critical Theory](#) – administered through the Department of English
- [Digital Studies in the Arts and Humanities \(DSAH\)](#) – jointly administered by the College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) and the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH), with sponsorship from the Department of English and the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.
- [Historic Preservation Certificate](#) – administered by the School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation.
- [Latin American and Caribbean Studies](#) – administered by the Latin America and the Caribbean Studies Center.
- [Museum Scholarship and Material Culture Certificate](#) (may be on hold for 25/26)
- [Women's Studies Certificate](#) - Administered by the Harriet Tubman Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

### **Enrolling in ARTH 899**

In the semester following your advancement to candidacy, you will be automatically enrolled in six credits of ARTH899. This process is automated in the Student Information System and the Graduate Registrar enables the process approximately two weeks before the start of the semester. Reach out to the CGS if you have any questions or concerns, or if your VISA or fellowship requires earlier registration.

Note that, per Graduate School Policy, every graduate student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 to remain in good academic standing.

---

## **Funding**

---

### **Funding Packages**

The MA program in our department is unfunded. Funding packages for students in the PhD and MA/PhD programs are offered, based upon availability of funds from various sources, during the admissions cycle. Most of these packages require students to hold a 20-hour GA position each fall and spring semester. Near the end of each semester, students who will hold a GA position in the coming semester rank their choices from the available positions, and the department—keeping many variables in mind—makes assignments.

### **Other Campus Fellowships and GA positions**

In addition to the admissions packages, several other opportunities for funding are available through the department or other departments on campus. These

opportunities may be taken after a funding package has been exhausted or, in consultation with your advisor, while the funding package is paused. Most important among these are the following:

- [University of Maryland Museum Fellowship](#) (generally for advanced PhD students, departmental call for applications each fall)
- Graduate assistantship at the [Art Gallery](#) (apply through regular GA assignment cycle)
- Graduate assistantship at the [Stamp Gallery](#) (apply directly to the Stamp Gallery)
- [Graduate assistantships across campus](#) (apply directly to the hiring unit)

### **Travel and Summer Research Fellowships**

The Graduate School offers a few [fellowships to support summer research and international collaboration](#). Be on the lookout for departmental announcements inviting applications for these and other department-funded opportunities. See Department [Research Travel Awards](#) and [ARHU Graduate Student Travel Awards](#) for further information. (Note that the University uses [Concur](#) for travel approval and travel reimbursement. Please keep in mind that for University-funded travel, the department is restricted to certain [per diem rates](#).)

### **External Fellowships**

Soon after you have advanced to candidacy for the PhD, we expect you to compete for external fellowships to support the completion of your degree. Be sure to talk to your advisor well before you reach this stage. Some such fellowships require departmental nomination, while others welcome applications directly from students; most request applications in the fall for fellowships to be held in the following academic year. Your advisor can help you to locate and apply for the relevant opportunities. Check the following resources for fellowships the faculty may not even be aware of:

- [Graduate School's External Fellowship Database](#)
- [University of Illinois Fellowships Finder Database](#)
- [UCLA Graduate & Postdoctoral Extramural Support Database \(GRAPES\)](#)

For help writing and revising your applications for external funding, make use of the following resources:

- [Graduate School Writing Center Workshops, Retreats, and Write-ins](#)
- [Graduate School Funding Workshops](#)

### **Dissertation Finishing Fellowships and Dissertation Awards**

The Graduate School offers fellowships for students writing dissertations and awards for distinguished dissertation work completed. These require departmental nomination, but if you are interested, feel free to express your interest by speaking with your advisor. See the [Graduate School's database](#).

### Further Information on Funding Opportunities

The department also maintains an informal [spreadsheet of relevant Fellowships](#) and students should review the weekly newsletter for announcements and deadlines.

### Finance-Related Questions

If you have questions related to employee forms, office assignments, keys, and events for ARTH, please contact Holly Miller. If your financial query concerns travel, payroll, or student awards, please contact Natalie Rivera-Canales. If your question is related to your funding package or fellowships, please contact the CGS. For questions pertaining to ordering food for a working group event or honoraria for invited speakers, first clear the expense with the chair of the department and then speak with Holly Miller in the main office.

---

## Departmental Culture and Expectations

---

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Department is committed to creating a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment, not only for all members of our own community but also through our teaching, scholarship and our everyday public-facing actions. We uphold a collective [commitment](#) and, through [E-ARTH](#) (Equity in Art History & Archaeology), work each semester to renew and extend our work to support inclusion. Think regularly about how you can better contribute to making the department welcoming and friendly to all and how you can help make the discipline and the profession more inclusive.

### Participating Actively in the Department

*We expect you to contribute to the communal and intellectual life of the department by attending department-wide events, including the Pressly Forum, The Rearick Forum, the Middle Atlantic Symposium, and the Town Hall (see “Major Events in the Department” below).* We also expect you to participate in departmental committees and associations, and to help with the planning and hosting of events. Such involvement forms an important part of your intellectual development and your entry into the community of scholars. We also anticipate that you will be active with the graduate student community more generally.

- **Seminar Attendance.** The general expectation in graduate school is that you will not miss any classes during the semester unless you are ill or have an emergency of some kind. If you must miss a class, inform your professors as soon as possible (preferably before the class meeting you will miss) and stay caught up on the work.
- **Contribution.** Students are expected to generate much of the content in class. This requires not only that you have read the assigned materials, but that you have made notes and thought about the readings or viewings. Come to class with observations about the reading, cohesive comments, and/or questions

prepared. *Each student is expected to contribute substantively during every class session.*

- **Respect.** Good scholarly exchange requires putting ideas out there and learning from the responses. In a diverse scholarly environment, classrooms should be a place of integrity, respect, tolerance, and acceptance. Remember that learning may require discomfort, risk, and receptivity. Practice respecting speakers who have quite different experiences and points of view. Be a good listener and an active and respectful learner. Open yourself up to other disciplinary perspectives and positions.
- **Development of your own analysis.** Graduate training is focused on analysis and critique (as in deep engagement, not only negative assessment) of class materials. Some of the generic questions you may be asked to assess are:
  - What is the argument?
  - What is/are the methodological approach/es? What are the framing theories?
  - How was the research conducted (sources and methods)?
  - Who are the intended audiences?
  - How/why is the intervention significant?
  - How do these ideas matter within the larger historical framework the class has been discussing?
  - How does it contribute to larger conversations occurring within art history and related fields?
  - What are *my* commitments as a scholar? What kind of art history do I think is most important or worthwhile, and why?
- **Taking Responsibility for Your Own Learning.** At the graduate level, professors will not always articulate what exactly you should be learning or how to learn it. Nor will each class session touch on everything you read for class. Nonetheless, you should read and try to master all the course material. You are preparing yourself to become a professional scholar, so it is your responsibility to dive in and grapple with the subject matter—be active! Success at this involves a couple of things. Because the reading loads for graduate level courses are heavy, students need to learn to read materials quickly for the core of the argument and contribution. Good note-taking or recording skills (such as keeping a reading journal) are a must. Learn how *you* learn most effectively and practice those techniques. The Graduate School offers [resources and workshops](#) to aid you in learning, writing, career-planning, and funding your education.

### **Further Expectations for Student Success**

- We expect you to move from being a consumer of knowledge to a producer of original knowledge.
- We also expect you to participate in the larger learning community outside of class. That means scholarly activities—presenting your work at conferences, attending or even arranging colloquia, informal lectures or events with outside scholars, and working on publications.

- We also hope that your work will come to engage actively with the broader social contexts in which it is produced, and we encourage you to consider issues relevant to your work explicitly with your graduate colleagues and the faculty.
- Remember that graduate school is a process during which, as much as you are learning about new theories and methodologies, you are learning about the profession and how to play your role in it.
- Be a professional: Be prompt and kind, interact respectfully with all others (including your undergraduate students), act and speak with thought and deliberation.
- Read carefully the departmental newsletter and all announcements that come over the departmental listservs; you may also [subscribe](#) to the department Events calendar.
- Back-up your computer files religiously. Start tonight!

### **Improving Your Writing and Research**

Producing good writing is very difficult! Ask for feedback about your writing skills. Work on improving them every semester. If you read a text that strikes you as really effective, spend some time thinking about what the author did to make it that way. Get in the habit of writing daily if at all possible. Ask your professors and your peers to share guidelines and strategies. [The Graduate School Writing Center](#) also provides support for writing and oral presentations by offering one-on-one consultation sessions, walk-in hours, and workshops.

High quality, professional-level research requires a thorough grasp of the primary, secondary, and tertiary sources available for your research. Develop and practice hybrid approaches to discovering relevant sources and literature:

- Pick the brains of professors and knowledgeable peers
- Identify key sources and mine their footnotes
- Check the resources beyond your home library
- Ask a reference librarian for help
- Become familiar with the key reference sources in your fields and use them
- Shelf read and browse journals

### **Planning Your Graduate Career, Cultivating Mentors**

Take responsibility for mapping out your graduate and professional career. Don't expect advisors to initiate this for you. The program provides you with an abundance of resources for developing your scholarly interests. Be proactive in seeking out resources and advice. Especially at the beginning of your graduate program of study, balance requirements with new and growing interests. Map out a rough schedule for yourself and revise your schedule frequently with your advisors.

Seek out, in addition to your advisor, other professors (in the department or elsewhere) as mentors. These relationships are crucial to your professional development and may last a lifetime. Be proactive about identifying professors whose interests you share, and make appointments to visit them during office hours. Join

working groups and attend events where you may have the opportunity to interact with professors outside the classroom. Give your mentor the opportunity to learn about your work and your scholarly plans in detail; ask and learn about their current projects and approaches to your mutual interests. Developing a good mentor/mentee relationship takes time, patience, respect, and care.

### **Asking For Help, Facing Doldrums, Handling Problems**

What do you do when, as often happens (particularly in the first year of graduate school), you feel overwhelmed with the workload, and are entertaining doubts about graduate school? Ask for help from your peers, professors, the DGS and CGS, and from professional counselors on campus *earlier rather than later*. If you feel you have miscalculated how many courses you can handle, or the scope of a project you took on, see your professor immediately and seek advice. Professors are much more likely to grant you flexibility in assignments or deadlines if you take responsibility to let them know you are in trouble well in advance of deadlines. If you take an incomplete, be sure to follow up quickly with the professor; negotiate a firm plan for when you will deliver the unfinished coursework. Stick to that deadline.

Remember to practice balance in your life. Take care of your health, both physical and mental. Adopt a healthy relaxation practice that works for you. Take regular time off that you use to refresh and renew yourself. Consider developing a peer support network by organizing or joining a writing or study group.

If you have a grievance that cannot be resolved inside the department (i.e., with your advisor, the CGS, the DGS, and the Chair), consult the [Graduate Student Rights and Responsibilities page](#), which outlines student grievance procedures. If a graduate student believes that they have experienced treatment that is unethical, grossly unjust, or otherwise creates a hostile learning or working environment from a faculty or staff member, the student should attempt to resolve the matters locally, collegially, and informally. If the issue cannot be resolved to the graduate student's satisfaction through informal means, they are encouraged to contact the Graduate Ombudsperson [grad-ombuds@umd.edu](mailto:grad-ombuds@umd.edu) for further advice. If the issue still cannot be resolved via these means, graduate students can file a formal grievance at the College level by reaching out to the Associate Dean for Graduate Academic Affairs, Quincy Mills ([qtmills@umd.edu](mailto:qtmills@umd.edu)), copying the ARHU Coordinator, Betsy Yuen ([myuen@umd.edu](mailto:myuen@umd.edu)). Information on the College-level grievance process is available [here](#) and the campus-level grievance policy is available on the [Graduate School's website](#).

The University's Office of Diversity & Inclusion has established a **bias incident response protocol** to address such incidents that target university community members. Generally, bias incidents are acts characterized by some expression of bias against a particular group, or towards an individual because of their membership (or perceived membership) in that group. Bias incidents may range from acts considered to be offensive to actions that cause harm. To report a bias incident, you may email

[BiasSupport@umd.edu](mailto:BiasSupport@umd.edu) or submit a report online. For more information, please visit the [Bias Incident Support Services page](#).

---

## Major Events in the Department

---

Important Departmental Events in 2025-2026 are listed [here](#). Be sure to check the department's calendar of events at least twice a month.

As indicated in the section above, all graduate students are expected to attend the following department events:

### **The Rearick Forum**

The Roger Rearick Forum takes place once each fall. It is an annual showcase of polished, original scholarship presented by our graduate students, two of whom are then selected by the faculty to participate in area symposia: The Middle Atlantic Symposium in the History of Art (held at the National Gallery in March), and The Barnes Symposium (hosted by the University of Pennsylvania in February). In addition to expecting your attendance, we encourage you, in consultation with your advisor, to present your work.

### **The Pressly Forum**

The Pressly Forum invites department faculty and selected outside speakers to give talks, fostering intellectual community. The forum is the brainchild of Professor Emeritus William L. Pressly, after whom the forum is named. The Forum takes place about once a month during the academic year, usually on Wednesdays at noon, with lunch.

### **The Middle Atlantic Symposium in the History of Art**

Established in 1971, The Middle Atlantic Symposium in the History of Art is jointly sponsored by the department and by the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA) at the National Gallery of Art. It takes place each year at the University and the National Gallery of Art, on a Friday and Saturday in March. The keynote lecture is named in honor of George Levitine, who was instrumental in building our program. The Symposium offers an opportunity for advanced graduate students from participating regional institutions to present their research to a public audience.

### **The Marjorie S. Venit Memorial Lecture**

The biennial (next, Fall 2025) Marjorie S. Venit Memorial Lecture in Ancient Mediterranean Art History and Archaeology celebrates the contributions of Professor Marjorie Venit, who taught archaeology in the department for many years; the series was made possible by a generous provision by Dr. Venit and her family, following her passing in 2017.

Many other optional lectures, symposia and workshops are hosted by the department's own outstanding [Michelle Smith Collaboratory for Visual Culture](#), about which more information is offered below.

---

## Teaching

---

Teaching is a major responsibility and component of your graduate education in the department. We expect you to work hard to be an excellent teacher for your undergraduates and to collaborate actively and respectfully with your graduate and faculty colleagues. Orientations each fall—hosted by both the department and the Graduate School—offer you workshops on teaching. We also encourage all students to enroll in a three-semester sequence of our course ARTH698: Teaching Art History. (Taken over three semesters, the course can count as a graduate seminar; see degree requirements above.) Be especially aware of the following resources:

- [The Teaching and Learning Transformation Center \(TLTC\)](#). TLTC is the campus's central resource for improving undergraduate education. Its programs include support for graduate teaching assistants to develop as excellent teachers.
- [ELMS](#). Hosts the course websites for classes at the University.
- [UMEG](#). For rosters, official grade submission, etc.
- [The Office of Student Conduct](#) and [The Honor Pledge](#).
- [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#)
- The IT Division's [index](#) of teaching and learning resources.

Note that non-native speakers of English may need to be evaluated for spoken English before working as a TA. As of Spring 2024, ITAs can be exempted from spoken English support in one of two ways:

- A speaking sub-score of 24 (iBT TOEFL), 7.5 (IELTS), or 76 (PTE) on their admission English proficiency exam.
- Exempt from submitting English proficiency exams for admission, based on [Graduate School Guidelines](#).

Please speak with the CGS about [MEI](#) Evaluation, if necessary.

---

# Campus Resources

---

## Resources in the Department, in the Building, and Very Nearby

- [The Michelle Smith Collaboratory for Visual Culture](#)  
Combining sophisticated technology, adaptable workspaces and a dynamic visualization facility, the Collaboratory provides a focal point in the department for applying new technology to study art, architecture, and archaeology in ways not previously possible, and for experimenting with new means of sharing ideas and research with students and colleagues.
- [The Art Library](#)  
The Art Library, located on the second floor of the Art-Sociology Building, houses more than 100,000 volumes in the areas of art history, archaeology, decorative arts, and studio arts, including photography and graphic design.
- [The Art Gallery](#)  
The Art Gallery, also located on the second floor of the Art/Sociology Building, is a leading academic museum with a lively calendar of traveling and sui generis exhibitions as well as one of the most varied university collections in the greater Washington, D.C. region. Graduate students in the Department of Art History and Archaeology train in museum practice, as well as developing and installing their own exhibitions here.
- [The David C. Driskell Center for the Study of Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora](#)  
The Driskell Center provides an intellectual home for artists, museum professionals, art administrators and scholars who are interested in broadening the field of African diasporic studies. Active public programming and transformative exhibitions demonstrate an ongoing commitment to documenting and presenting African American visual art and culture.
- [Stamp Art Gallery](#)  
Located in the Stamp Student Union, the Stamp Art Gallery is dedicated to the exhibition of contemporary art with an emphasis on the work of emerging and mid-career artists. Many of the department's students work at the Stamp Gallery as curators or gallery guides. The Contemporary Art Purchasing Program (CAPP) provides an undergraduate student committee the opportunity to interact with the art world by researching, discussing and purchasing artwork by emerging and established contemporary artists.
- [The Herman Maril Gallery](#)  
The Herman Maril Gallery is the University of Maryland's student-run exhibition space, which features artwork by undergraduates and graduates

throughout the semester. Come visit the gallery on the ground floor of the Art and Sociology building, room 1309.

### Other Major Relevant Institutions on Campus

- [Special Collections and University Archives](#)
- [The African American History, Culture, and Digital Humanities Initiative](#)
- [The Center for East Asian Studies](#)
- [The Center for Global Migration Studies](#)
- [Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity \(CRGE\)](#)
- [Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies](#)
- [Maryland Center for Humanities Research](#)
- [Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities \(MITH\)](#)
- [The Nathan and Jeanette Miller Center for Historical Studies](#)
- [The National Foreign Language Center](#)
- [Roshan Institute for Persian Studies](#)

---

## National and Regional Resources

---

### National Resources

- [The College Art Association \(CAA\)](#)  
The College Art Association is the professional organization for North American (and global) art historians and professors of studio art. Become a member sooner rather than later to be aware of events, grants, and jobs, and to attend and participate in the annual conference.
- [The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts \(The Center\)](#)  
The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts is a research institute with the National Gallery of Art, which fosters study of the production, use, and cultural meaning of art, artifacts, architecture, urbanism, photography, and film. Since 1971, CASVA has partnered with the Department of Art History and Archaeology at the University of Maryland to present the Middle Atlantic Symposium in the History of Art. It hosts major predoctoral, postdoctoral and senior fellowships in Art History.
- [The Clark Art Institute](#)  
A major host for art historical research, conferences, and fellowships in Williamstown, MA.
- [The Getty Research Institute](#)  
A major host of predoctoral, postdoctoral, and senior fellowships, as well as symposia and research events in art history. At the Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

## Major Museums in Washington and Baltimore

- [The Baltimore Museum of Art](#)
- [The National Gallery of Art](#)
- [The Phillips Collection](#)
- [The Rubell Museum DC](#)
- [Smithsonian Institution Museums](#)

Major local museums include the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Museum of African Art, the National Museum of American Art, the National Museum of the American Indian, the National Museum of Asian Art, the Freer Gallery of Art, and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.

- [The Walters Museum of Art](#)

---

## Graduate Student Life

---

### The Graduate Art History Association (GAHA)

[GAHA](#) is the organization of graduate students in the department. Join and be an active member to advocate for graduate-student needs and to join in building the community!

### Health Insurance

First visit the [Graduate School's webpage for health insurance options](#) for further information about your plan. If you are on the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), then [MyAHP](#) will be able to assist with questions or concerns. If you are a Graduate Assistant enrolled in the Maryland State Employee Health Insurance Plan, please contact the [University Human Resources' Benefits Office](#) with questions.

### Campus and the Washington-Baltimore Area

For unofficial advice on courses, professors, working groups, campus organizations, College Park, or Greater Washington resources, contact veteran graduate students both in the Department and across campus. For information about campus transportation, buildings, and construction, visit the [campus map](#). [The Office of Graduate Student Life](#) has resources and opportunities to get involved with campus organizations.

### Reserving Rooms in the Department

There are two seminar rooms in the Department (ASY4304 and ASY4306) that you may reserve for your exams or for other small meetings. The CGS maintains an online calendar for reserving the rooms and is able to open them, or the key for opening both rooms can be found in room 4208 (The Duchamp Room), the code for which you can obtain from Quint or Chris in the Collaboratory.

### Transportation and Parking

As a registered graduate student you can apply for [parking](#) online. Parking enforcement is quick to hand out tickets, so parking illegally to run errands, even for

only 10 minutes, is inadvisable. There are plenty of lots on campus in which you can park without a permit after 4pm. Another option is parking at [UUMC](#) – student permits are \$340 annually (August to August) or \$217 each semester. See the business manager for details. Or, for a free parking option (though it may involve a 10-minute or so walk), check in with Quint Gregory for tips.

The [Metrorail](#) system is easy to use. The extensive campus bus system, [Shuttle-UM](#), connects campus with the Green Line. The information Desk in the Stamp Student Union keeps schedules and maps.

### Free or Reduced-Cost Benefits for Students

- **Software.** You can get [free software](#) from UMD as long as you are at UMD. This includes all components of Microsoft Office and Adobe’s Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, Acrobat, etc.).
- **Gyms.** You can work out and swim at the [Eppley Rec Center \(and other, smaller, gyms\)](#) using your student ID and with no costs. There are also a variety of classes in which you can enroll for a fee.
- **Sporting Events.** Students receive discounts on [Terp season ticket](#) packages.
- **The Clarice.** Your student fees get you access to lots of excellent (world-class, quite often) performances and concerts at [The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center](#). Take advantage!
- **Terp Tax.** The Graduate School partners with [TerpTax](#) and the Robert H. Smith School of Business to provide a free, comprehensive tax preparation service for UMD graduate students.
- See a list of other benefits [here](#).

### Other Major Resources

- [Campus Pharmacy](#)
- [Emergency Alerts and Weather Closure Notifications](#)
- [Graduate Assistant Advisory Committee](#)
- [Graduate Student Government \(GSG\)](#)
- [Movies on campus](#)
- [Accessibility Disability Service](#)
- [Behavioral Health Services](#)
- [Bias Incident Support Services \(BISS\)](#)
- [Counseling Service](#)
- [Graduate Legal Aid Office](#)
- [Graduate Academic Counselor](#)
- [Interfaith Programs](#)
- [Graduate School Writing Center](#)
- [Graduate Student Life \(GSL\)](#)
- [International Students & Scholar Services](#)
- [Office of Diversity and Inclusion \(ODI\)](#)
- [Ombudsperson Office](#)
- [University Health Center](#)
- [Veteran Student Life](#)
- [University Recreation and Wellness](#)

- [Teaching and Learning Transformation Center](#)
- [Faculty Staff Assistance Program \(FSAP\)](#)

**Finally, don't hesitate to reach out to the Graduate School for help.** 2123 Lee Building (southeast corner of McKeldin Mall), [gradschool.umd.edu](http://gradschool.umd.edu), (301) 405-3644, [gradschool@umd.edu](mailto:gradschool@umd.edu)