



CAREERS FOR ART HISTORY GRADUATES

ART HISTORY AT UCC

The History of Art is the study of human visual representation, from prehistory to the digital age. As a communications system in a pictorial vocabulary, the practice of picturing the world relies on a complex set of signs, textures, and media to communicate with an immediacy that language often cannot. It is an exciting, interdisciplinary field of study that incorporates history, philosophy, literature, psychology, politics, social theory, and aesthetics in understanding global visual cultures. Art History offers an adaptable, dynamic basis for careers in education, museums and galleries, arts & event management, design, media, and PR.



UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

School of
History

WHAT CAN ART HISTORY GRADUATES OFFER EMPLOYERS?

Our graduates are confident and communicators and media analysts. They are creative and original thinkers who can wield history and contexts to educate and innovate in the present as visually savvy, thoughtful, and enterprising world citizens.

- Fluency in global visual cultures in an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural formation.
- Flexibility of thought in a wide range of applications.
- A knowledge of research portals, from archives to online sources, that demands a range of analytical and assessment skills to interpret data.



- A command of vital project and time management skills, offering resilience and reliability in a work environment.

- Adaptable team players who are comfortable in both leadership and contributor roles.

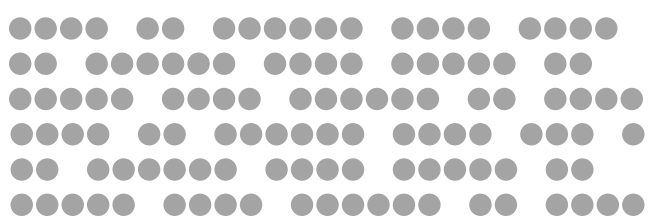
- Constructive, respectful communicators and active listeners.

- Detail-oriented, self-motivated problem solvers who thrive in both independent and collaborative endeavours.

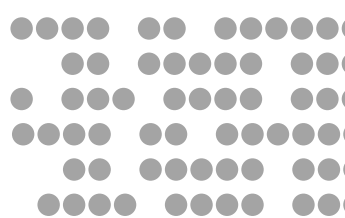


GRADUATE OUTCOMES FOR ART HISTORY STUDENTS

Our graduates thrive in careers that mobilize their writing, analytical, organisational and collaborative skills, including jobs in education, curation, publicity, management, and design. Students from UCC work locally, nationally, and internationally in diverse, challenging jobs that make a difference in both the private and public sectors.



**UCC
CAREERS**



GRADUATE STUDIES

Graduate study in art history trains students to work in high level public and commercial contexts from university education and research to museum professions. UCC offers a range of postgraduate options from Masters to PhD, including two taught Masters degrees in History/Theory/Criticism and Global Gallery Studies. These one-year programmes are designed to prepare students for competitive professional careers in the arts and education sectors, with practical training and work placements as well as cutting-edge theoretical models. Students interested in contributing to scholarly and museum research can embark on supervised independent study in MPhil and PhD programmes.

AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR ART HISTORY GRADUATES



Graduates in the History of Art leave with strong communication, analytical, and contextual skills, geared to contributing to a variety of commercial and non-profit sectors including the cultural industry, the media sector, museums and galleries, auction houses, education, law, and journalism. Our students have developed national and international careers in the following arenas as:

Public Education Coordinators, Lecturers, and Invigilators in national and international institutions, including local galleries and museums in Cork, the National Gallery of Ireland, and the Irish Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. Their job is to develop interactive educational programmes for a range of audiences and facilitate public access and understanding of collections.

01





Directors and Managers of Museums and Galleries, including the Hayward Gallery in London and the Queensland College of Art, Brisbane, who oversee all aspects of operation, installation, and outreach.

02

Senior Writers and Publicists for Auction Houses, ranging from national organizations such as Adams Auction House (Dublin) or international institutions such as Christie's and Sotheby's, with locations in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

03

Curators and Curatorial Assistants who conceive, design, research, and mount groundbreaking exhibitions in local, national, and international institutions. Writing press releases, wall texts, and exhibition catalogues is as much a part of their job as interacting with the public through media venues and collaborations.

04

Scholars who research, teach, and publish actively in their respective fields, contributing nationally and internationally.

05



Graduate Profile 1

KATINKA WENDT

While an Erasmus student at UCC during my BA degree, I stumbled upon the MA Modern and Contemporary Art History, Theory and Criticism, which I found instantly intriguing. The course is challenging but the MA helped me to grow – academically as well as personally. My teachers' passion was palpable and inspiring. They helped me tremendously to develop my skills in critical thinking and writing. I returned to Germany after my graduation and started an internship at an art platform in Switzerland, which will end with the Art Basel. UCC equipped me with everything I could need for my professional career in the artworld!



Graduate Profile 2

MICHAEL WALDRON

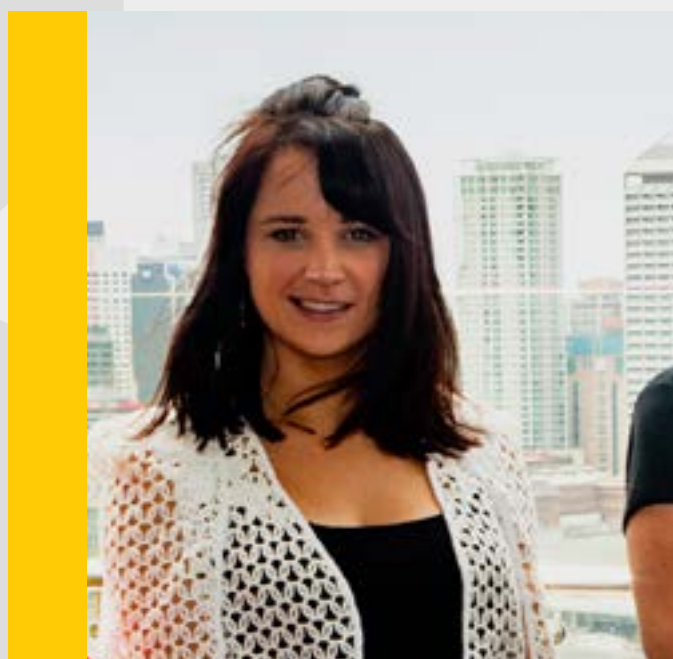
I graduated from UCC with a BA in History of Art and English. My passion for both subjects informed my subsequent doctoral research, which blended these complementary disciplines. Since graduating, I have continued this interdisciplinary approach, particularly as Research Assistant on the Deep Maps: West Cork Coastal Cultures project. Studying History of Art at UCC introduced me to essential methods of research, critical thinking and, indeed, looking. I depend on these invaluable skills on a daily basis in my current role as Assistant Curator of Collections & Special Projects at Crawford Art Gallery.



Graduate Profile 3

NICOLA HOLLY

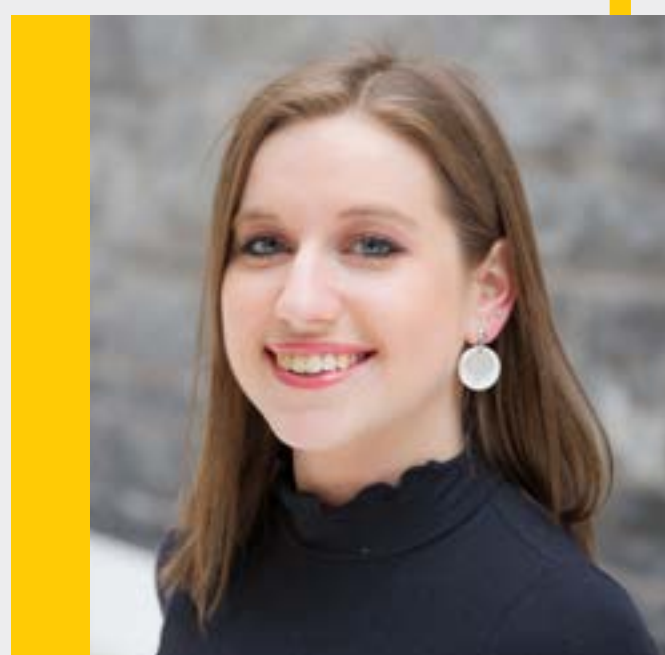
I graduated with a BA in History of Art and English and enjoyed the degree so much that I returned to complete a Masters in Modern and Contemporary Art History. My current role as Galleries Manager of the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University involves managing six distinct gallery spaces and implementing over seventy individual exhibitions and events per year. At 26, I became the youngest public Gallery Director in Queensland when I took up the position at the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery. I have no doubt that my time at UCC greatly contributed to my success in the arts industry abroad.



Graduate Profile 4

SARAH MCAULIFFE

I graduated from UCC with a BA degree in the History of Art, followed by an MA in Modern and Contemporary Art History. After a number of different roles in the Irish museum sector, I am currently working as Curatorial Fellow at the National Gallery of Ireland, where I am building a national collection of photography and curating a number of exhibitions, including the annual Portrait Prize. My job comes with lots of travel as I acquire new artworks for the collection and meet international artists and dealers. Studying the History of Art at UCC gave me the knowledge and experience for a successful and rewarding career.



WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

**UCC HISTORY
OF ART**



**HISTORY OF
ART ON
FACEBOOK**



**HISTORY OF ART
ON TWITTER**



**ASSOCIATION FOR
ART HISTORY**



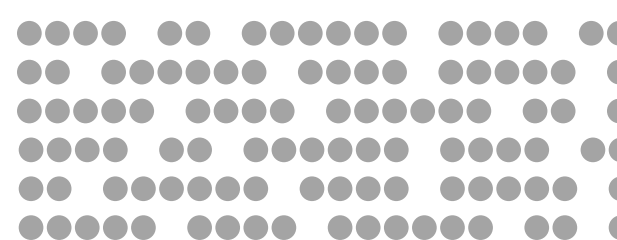
**COLLEGE ART
ASSOCIATION**



**IRISH ASSOCIATION
FOR ART HISTORY**



**15 JOBS FOR ART
HISTORY MAJORS**



**PROSPECTS FOR
HISTORY OF ART
GRADUATES**



**WHAT TO DO WITH
A DEGREE IN ART
HISTORY**



**WHAT ART
CURATORS CAN
TEACH DESIGNERS**



12 WAYS TO PUT YOUR ART HISTORY DEGREE TO WORK

01

Invest time in gaining practical experience in relevant organisations such as internships in museums and galleries.

02

Visit art exhibitions weekly.

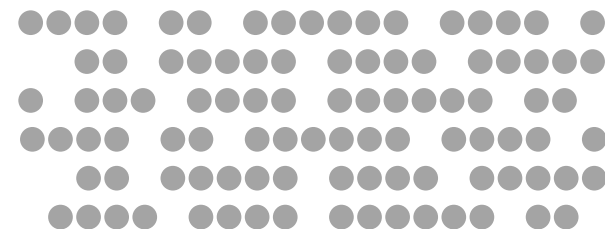
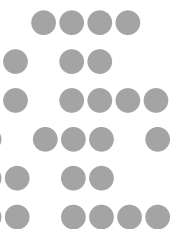
03

Attend public museum and gallery talks to expand your knowledge.

04

Write critical reviews of exhibitions and submit your work for publication in local, national, and international art journals.





05

Develop art related projects with your peers which engage with the local community.

06

Submit your best written work to national and international awards.

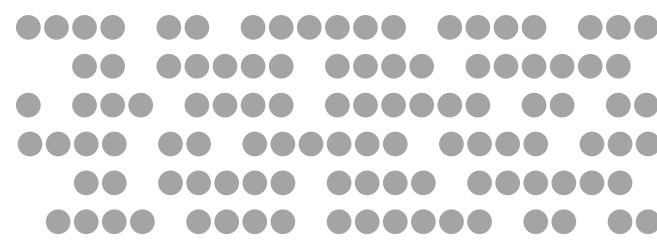
07

Engage with UCC's Skills Centre and take workshops to develop your presentation and writing skills.

08

Attend visual studies conferences and symposia to apply your knowledge and networking skills (e.g. at the National Gallery of Ireland's Research Day; various events run by The Irish Association of Art Historians; and the Association of Art Historian's annual conference).





09

Think outside the box: be creative and foster new networks and collaborations with industry.

10

Offer educational tours of local museum or gallery collections.

11

Design a children's art history day in a museum or gallery to share your knowledge, curiosity, and passion with younger audiences.

12

Develop your degree with postgraduate work in Art History.



DID YOU KNOW?

Our eyes comprise our most important sense organ: 70% of all information is visual. From art to ads to digital platforms, we are inundated. Students trained in visual analysis are highly knowledgeable



CONTACT US



**UCC Career Services,
3 Brighton Villas,
Western Road, UCC**



**021 4902500
021 4903202**



Email Careers



**Email Graduate
Recruitment**



**Book an
appointment
to meet a
careers advisor**



**Work
Placement**





UCC Works Award Programme



Connect with
your job

UCC Careers



MyStudentJob



Employability Events

Careers Fairs, Roadshows,
Employer Presentations



Volunteering Opportunities

