

**Brushstrokes Across Time:
A Vibrant Voyage Through Chinese Art at Museums**

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University Museum and Art Gallery (UMAG), The University of Hong Kong

HKU Summer Institute in the Arts & Humanities 2024

S4-S6/Year 11-13/Grade 10-12

20 Students

Non-credit bearing

Face-to-face

UMAG

Course Description

“Brushstrokes Across Time” is more than a course—it is an immersive experience into the continuum of Chinese art. Students will embark on a captivating five-day journey with a comprehensive course designed to explore the intricate weave of Chinese art, history, and culture as illuminated by the University Museum and Art Gallery (UMAG)'s exquisite collections. Under the expert guidance of the course instructor, students will traverse the ancient traditions and diverse mediums of Chinese art, delving into the profound impact of pivotal traditional Chinese philosophy, such as Confucianism, values, and key art theories in pre-modern China. Throughout the course, students will be granted exclusive access to participate in behind-the-scenes sessions for viewing museum objects from the collection. The course will then seamlessly transition into the vibrant territories of modern and contemporary art practices. From the earliest calligraphic strokes to the bold expressions of today's avant-garde, this course promises a deep understanding of the enduring legacy and evolving dynamism of Chinese art forms and artistic expression.

Students will have the exceptional chance to join two guided tours of UMAG's special exhibitions which delve into the spheres of contemporary abstract art and the precision of scientific botanical illustrations respectively. Complementing the voyage and exploration, demonstration in traditional Chinese art mounting and a lecture will furnish students with a dual understanding of theoretical and practical approaches to art conservation, which is designed as a taste of art conservation and aims to inspire a deeper appreciation for the meticulous care required to maintain cultural heritage.

Learning Outcomes

1. Attain an insightful overview of Chinese art, embracing its evolution from classical forms to contemporary expressions.
2. Enhance analytical skills in art criticism, with a focus on understanding the cultural and historical contexts of Chinese artworks.
3. Acquire practical knowledge in traditional art mounting, emphasizing the significance of preservation within the Chinese art heritage.

Course Outline

Day 1 (22 July): Foundations of Ancient Chinese Art History, Traditions and Theories

Day 2 (23 July): Key Chinese Thoughts and Art Theories in Pre-modern China

Day 3 (24 July): Brushstrokes Across Time: Exploring Styles from Ancient to Contemporary Art within the Chinese Context/Group Presentation

Day 4 (25 July): Beyond the Brush: Revealing the Narratives of Museum Objects Through Diverse Art Forms and Mediums complemented with two guided tours.

Day 5 (26 July): Discovering the Methods and Practices for Keeping Chinese Art/Preserving Beauty: The Practice of Art Mounting Demonstration

Study Load

15 hours: face-to-face classes and assessments

4 hours: out-of-classroom reading assignments

Notes:

Students should bring their own laptop for participating and note-taking.

Assessment

30% Participation and Engagement

40% In-class Assessment/ Quiz (attendance is compulsory)

30% Group Project Presentation (attendance is compulsory)