



BA History of Art

Undergraduate
Prospectus

2021/22



Cover image:
Claude Monet (1840-1926), *Antibes*, 1888
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Director's welcome



I am delighted you are considering studying at The Courtauld Institute of Art, the world leading centre for the study of History of Art, Conservation and Curating.

The Courtauld is unique. It brings together exceptional teaching and research in the history and conservation of art and an outstanding art collection. It has an unmatched concentration of specialisms from antiquity to the present, and across the world. Our small class sizes create an inspiring atmosphere where you can explore those subject matters that most interest you, and where you will develop knowledge, friends and contacts for life. We pride ourselves on offering a truly memorable learning experience, open to everyone – regardless of background – which will stay with you always.

Our teaching places a strong emphasis on critical analysis and historical inquiry. This means our students develop excellent skills, including analysis, writing, and presenting arguments – equipping them for careers either in the art world or beyond – as well as having the opportunity to look and think differently and creatively.

Our academic staff are leaders in a broad range of fields, from the medieval to the modern day. Their passion and commitment to their disciplines enriches the student experience by bringing current research and debates into classroom discussion. Through its global network of 8,000 alumni, The Courtauld is at the heart of an evolving community of specialists who shape the international art world, and plays a key role in a huge range of professions beyond it. Alumni have included the Directors of the National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery and Tate Modern in London, and further afield in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Istanbul Modern Art Museum and Christchurch Art Gallery. Many of our graduates enter other professions as entrepreneurs, lawyers,

publishers, journalists, politicians, teachers, and more.

But coming to The Courtauld is not just about our incredible history. The Courtauld is at a moment of great change and excitement at present, with our major transformation project at Somerset House in full swing. By the time you start at The Courtauld, our Gallery will have re-opened, giving you constant, free access to its collections and providing opportunities for you further to develop your skills – for example, by giving gallery talks to the public. Meanwhile, our university operations, teaching and learning have been relocated to a spacious, and purpose-built educational facility at Vernon Square. This transformation is not just about our physical buildings, but also about how we continue to open The Courtauld up to new audiences, and ensure our student experience is relevant to today's challenges. For example, plans are now underway to recruit two new academic posts specialising in Modern and Contemporary Art of Africa and the African Diaspora. Further information can be found throughout this prospectus.

I hope you will join our unique and friendly community of students and scholars, passionate about Art History and committed to the very highest levels of achievement. We look forward to welcoming you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Deborah Swallow'.

**PROFESSOR DEBORAH SWALLOW,
MÄRIT RAUSING DIRECTOR**



About us

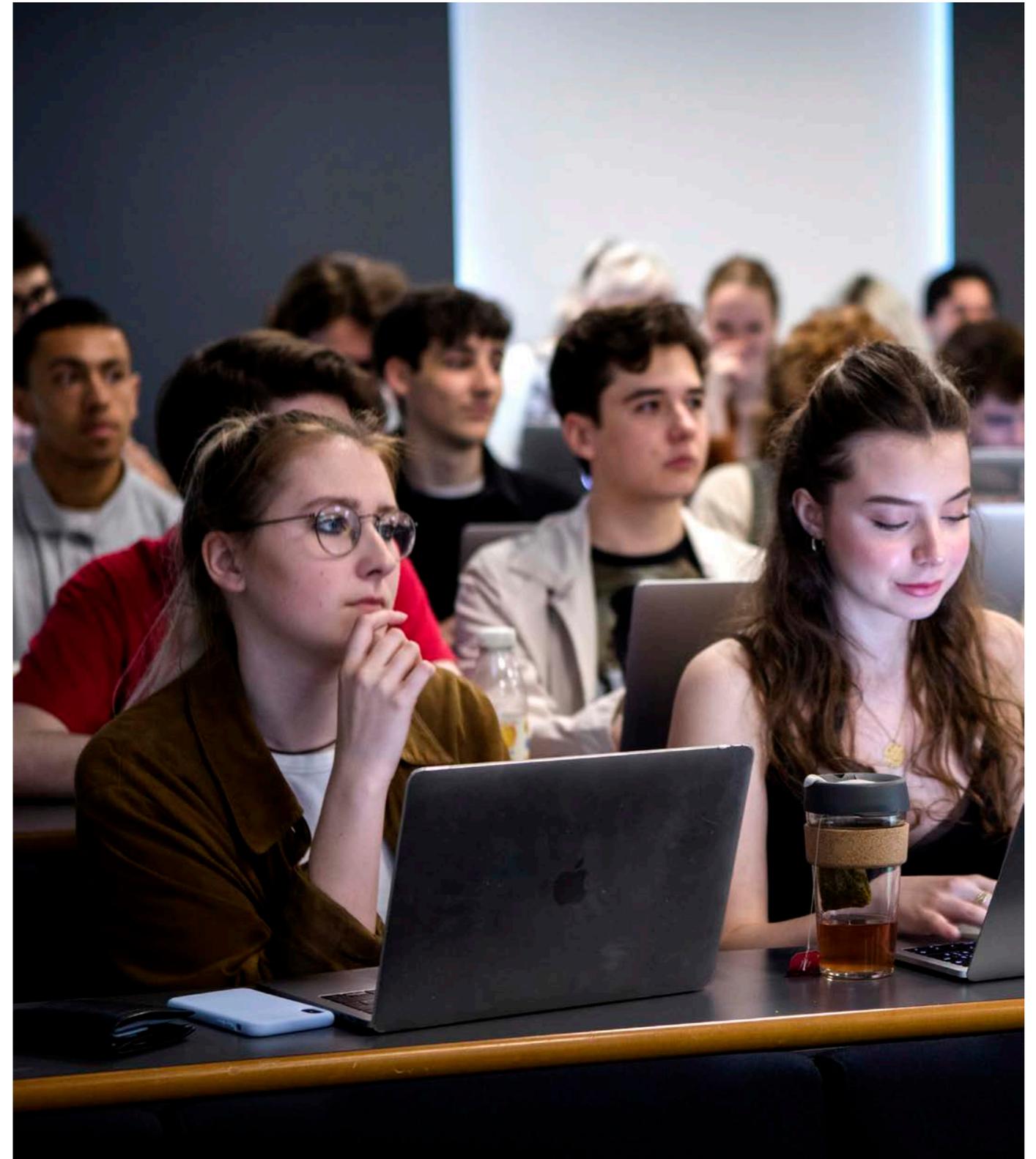
The Courtauld Institute of Art is a small, friendly, specialist centre for the study of Art History, Conservation and Curating, with one of the UK's major art collections at its heart. It is an independent college of the University of London and was founded in 1932 as the UK's first university department devoted to the study of art, by Samuel Courtauld, Viscount Lee of Fareham and Sir Robert Witt, who believed in the importance of art, the power it has in societies across the world, and the need to study and understand the ways in which it works.

The Courtauld brings together all aspects of the visual world in one centre. We have the largest faculty of art historians in the country, who are working on an increasingly global scale, from the Americas to Europe, and Asia, and we have funding to make appointments in the field of the arts of Africa in the coming year – with a particular interest in studying how the arts of all these regions interact and intertwine.

Our size means that we have expertise across all periods from the Late Antique World to the contemporary, but we are still small enough that we can all come together as a community. We study, research and teach about art in all forms and all media, from the smallest, most personal painting or object to the design and evolution of whole cities; from medieval cathedrals, mosques and temples, to modern fashion, photography and performance art.

Over the past 85 years, The Courtauld has developed as the leading Art History department in the country, attracting the best students, teachers and researchers. With over 500 students taking degrees from BA to PhD, you will meet students from all courses and years. We have a very lively research culture, attracting some of the leading figures in Art History, museums and galleries from around the art world, who give lectures and seminars at The Courtauld, which we encourage all our students to attend. Students are also encouraged to debate, engage and question, not only during your formal studies, but in the range of events outside this, through societies, Research Forum and careers events.

Our graduates are a testament to the lasting impact of studying at The Courtauld, and go on to have a tremendous impact in the art world, as well as in politics, law, journalism, technology, marketing, finance and other non-arts sectors.



Our campus

Vernon Square campus

Since January 2019, teaching and learning, including our faculty staff and book library, has been housed in a spacious, purpose-built educational facility at Vernon Square, located in King's Cross, London. This is while our permanent home at Somerset House is being transformed as part of our major project to open up our Gallery and teaching facilities to even more people, and create exciting new study facilities.

We are located a five minute walk from King's Cross Station in a dynamic and vibrant part of London, near world-class research and cultural facilities including the British Library and the University of London Senate House.

At Vernon Square we offer an excellent student experience and learning environment, with purpose-built lecture theatres and seminar rooms, as well as digital resources and our library with more than 200,000 books.

Our neighborhood

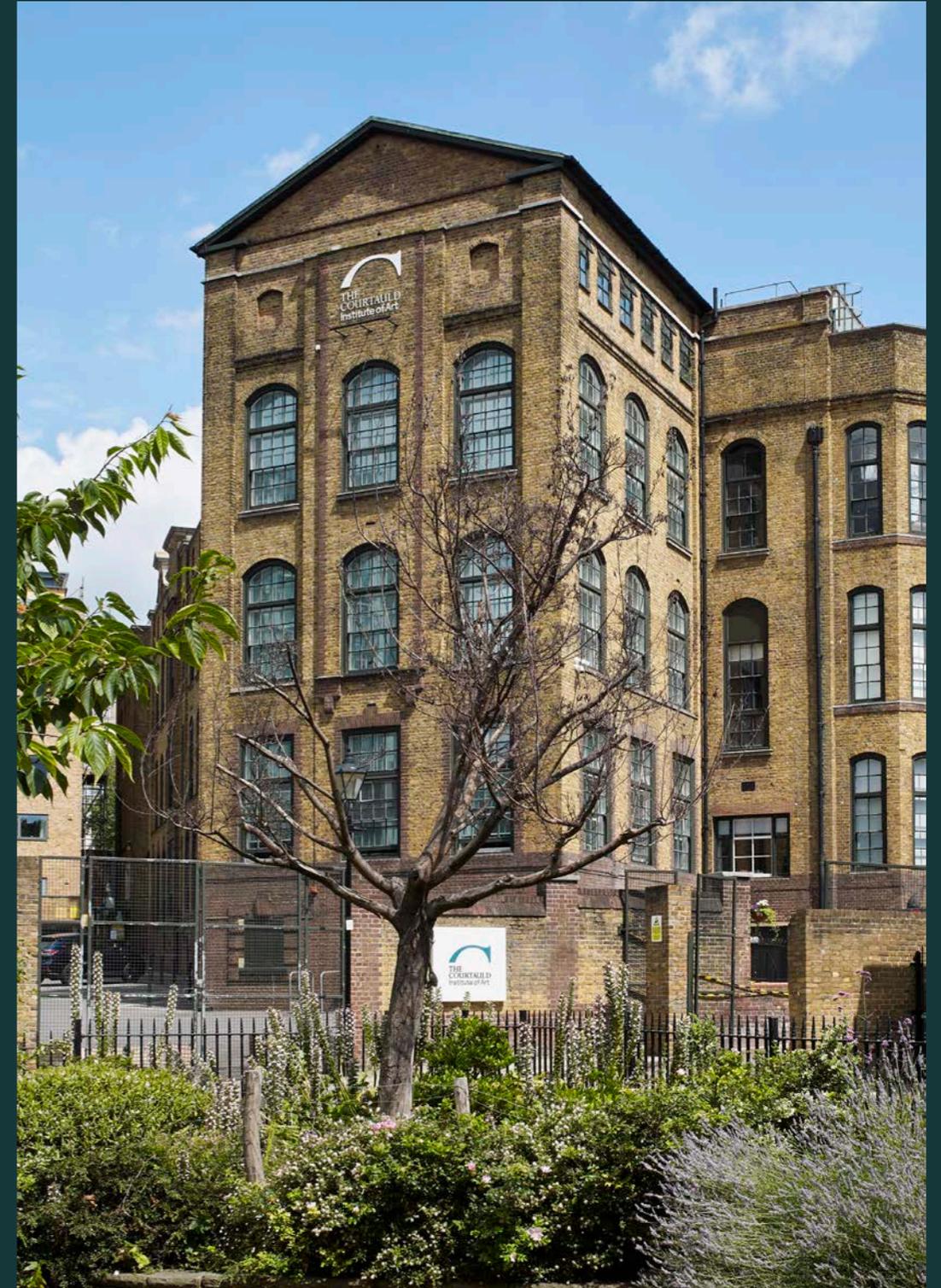
King's Cross is home to one of the biggest and most exciting redevelopment projects in London. It is a vibrant part of the city with the likes of Google HQ, UAL Central Saint Martins campus, and many new homes, shops, offices, galleries, bars and restaurants moving into the area. We are also close to Regent's Canal, a charming waterway which runs through the heart of King's Cross. The location has excellent transport links throughout London via bicycle, buses and tubes. You can even go directly into central Paris using the Eurostar at St Pancras International train station, which is only a short walk away from the campus.

Our campus at Vernon Square means that we are within walking distance of 13 extraordinary museums, including some of the world's biggest museums and collections: the British Library, the British Museum and The National Gallery. There are also lesser known gems, such as the Foundling Museum - the first public art gallery in London - and the Wellcome Collection. There is a strong sense of community in King's Cross, with an exciting cultural scene and a thriving business community. It is modern, innovative, and a great location for our students to study and thrive.

Courtauld Connects at Somerset House

Courtauld Connects is a major transformation project, which will enable The Courtauld significantly to improve teaching and research facilities, enhance the Gallery and widen and extend our reach locally, nationally and internationally. A key part of the project is the major refurbishment of The Courtauld's magnificent buildings in the North Block of Somerset House, which will transform the experience of The Courtauld for our students and the public.

With a refurbished home, we will be better suited to host new audiences, create partnerships with other key institutions around the world, and enhance our digital presence. The first stage of the programme will see our Gallery at Somerset House planned to reopen from late Spring 2021 - an exciting landmark in our development.



Why study Art History?



Art History is a subject that covers virtually every aspect of human history and experience. It combines the rigour of a history degree with the visual skills required to interpret works of art. It will help you develop critical skills, to think about art and history from a variety of perspectives, and to present your ideas succinctly and persuasively. These are all key skills that will help you to stand out in today's job market. You will learn to analyse the role art plays in shaping society. Art History will introduce you to world-famous works of art, as well as others that are less well known but equally as fascinating to examine and study. You will get to explore new areas of Art History, and artworks from a variety of time periods, from all around the world, delivered in a range of different forms. If you enjoy reading history, studying literature or languages, looking at art, and are fascinated by the relationship between people, art, and the forces that have shaped the world we live in, then Art History is the subject for you.

"The study of art reminds us of things that cannot be measured or described; it reminds us of beauty, awe, wonder, and horror"

Dr Jessica Barker, Lecturer in Medieval Art History

"It's about why things were happening in society, and why change was happening, reflected through art. It's a study of the world"

Jeremy Deller, alumnus and Turner prize-winning artist

"History of Art teaches us about pockets of society, the experiences of others, and events we may have never otherwise been exposed to, while also equipping us with skills to better understand the world around us"

Hollie Hilton, BA History of Art student.

"It's about capturing knowledge about ourselves through our past; objects, paintings, clothes, and buildings tell us a great deal about those moments"

Dr Sussan Babaie, Reader in the Arts of Iran and Islam

Why study at The Courtauld?

At The Courtauld, you will be able to study across media, time and geographies, and will be taught by academics who are leading researchers in their field. The Courtauld has achieved Silver in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) for delivering high quality teaching, learning and outcomes for its students, exceeding rigorous national quality requirements for UK higher education. Our teachers will give you lots of different ways of looking at and thinking about art, and are all committed to the work of art as an object. As your course progresses, you have the opportunity to develop your own interests. Our small class sizes create an inspiring atmosphere where you can explore those subject matters that most interest you, and where you will develop knowledge, friends and contacts for life.

Studying in London places you at the heart of the global art world, and allows you to access a range of galleries and museums across London, as well as art fairs such as Frieze London. We understand the importance of seeing works of art in person, and teaching regularly takes place in galleries and museums across London, as well as further afield. Courtauld students will have access to our own Gallery once it reopens, and with this, are able to access our collection, and can take advantage of work and training opportunities in the Gallery. You can also study works from our collection in the Prints and Drawings Room, where you can call up works to examine from Old Masters to the Avant Garde.

Outside formal teaching, you are encouraged to participate in a range of activities to support and broaden your art historical knowledge. Our Research Forum hold over 150 events per year including workshops and public lectures from guest speakers. Our Careers Service also run a range of events and activities to support your career aspirations, whether in the arts or beyond. Although small in number, our alumni form a global community of world-leading specialists the arts and other sectors. Courtauld graduates have gone on to work for prestigious organisations such as Tate, V&A, Sotheby's, BBC, Google and Amazon.

Course information

BA (Hons) History of Art

UCAS code: V350

Delivery: full-time only

Duration: three years (September-June)

Intake: 90 students

As a specialist institution, The Courtauld Institute of Art offers a single degree programme at undergraduate level – a BA in History of Art. The size of our faculty means we are able to offer teaching across an unrivalled breadth of periods and cultures, from Byzantium to the Early Modern Islamic World, and from Renaissance Europe to Contemporary China.

Our BA degree builds up a strong understanding of Art History over its three years. It encourages you to study works of art at first hand, and to understand them in the light of the latest critical approaches and ideas. All our teachers are researchers at the cutting edge of their areas of specialism and they bring their knowledge, discoveries and ideas to discuss with you in their seminars and lectures.

Year 1

Foundations: The first year provides a broad coverage of the History of Art. A Foundations course, dealing with major themes and issues from antiquity to the present day across the globe, runs throughout the year. It is made up of regular lectures throughout the year, supported by discussion classes of about 15 students which help you to build up your confidence in looking, thinking, discussing and writing about Art History.

Topic Courses: In Autumn and Spring terms, you will also join a Topic Course, which focuses on the first-hand study of art in London, making the most of the world class works in museums and galleries that surround us. The courses are taught in groups of eight to ten students. Indicative modules include:

- Contemporary Art in London
- The Global City: Urban Issues in Contemporary Art
- Sensory Encounters with Dress and Textiles
- Techniques and Meaning in 20th Century Art
- Modernism and the Sacred
- Sites and Monuments
- Possibilities of Portraiture
- Persian Manuscripts
- Looking at the Overlooked: An Introduction to Early Modern Still Life
- Northern European Art in London Collections
- Graphic Arts in the Italian Renaissance
- Early Italian Art in London Collections
- Westminster Abbey
- Medieval Sculpture in London Collections
- The Pursuit of Leisure in the Middle Ages
- Late Antique and Byzantine Art

Language course

We strongly believe in the importance of offering you the chance to learn or improve a foreign language. It gives you insights into a different culture, it helps connect you with other people, and it gives you access to new literature and ways of thinking. It is also increasingly important as a way to stand out in the job market. You will follow a year-long language course, taught in the Language Centre at the London School of Economics, based in Aldwych. You may choose a course tailored to the specific needs of Courtauld students as they include art historical vocabulary (these courses run in French or Italian) or from a wider selection of general language courses, which normally include, for example, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Mandarin.

Year 2

The second year introduces more specialised investigation, enabling you to develop critical thinking and extend your detailed knowledge of particular art historical periods and themes.

Autumn and Spring terms: Throughout both terms, you will follow a course called 'Frameworks for Interpretation', which examines the ways in which our understanding of the History of Art has been shaped by the different approaches applied to it. The Frameworks lectures are delivered every two weeks, with alternate weeks devoted to discussions in seminar groups of about 15 students each, which work through the issues raised by the lecturers and by the accompanying readings.

Constellation I and II: In each term, you will take one of our Constellation courses, each of which consists of two components: a series of twice weekly lectures on a broad theme and/or period in the History of Art, and an accompanying weekly seminar class with a maximum of 15 students. You will choose your courses in order of preference, and we will accommodate your choice wherever possible, keeping in mind that we ask students in the first two years of their programme to work with a broad range of object types, periods, and cultures.

The Constellation seminars in the Autumn term normally study a series of objects that are closely related to the lectures; Spring term seminars normally focus on the analysis of pertinent texts. The specific Constellation courses change from year to year – indicative modules include:

- Mapping Contemporary Asian Art
- Cold War Cultures: Art in a Divided World 1945-1991
- Artists, Radicals, Mystics: European Art c.1800
- From Shiraz to Beijing: Persian Arts in the Global Fifteenth-Century
- From London to Namibia: Art, Travel and Imagination in the Middle Ages
- Art and Identities in Medieval Spain

Summer Term: The final element of the second-year curriculum is a 4,000-word assessed essay, which allows you to develop interests arising directly from your courses, with guidance from one of your teachers.

Year 3

Autumn and Spring terms: The third year of the BA enables you to explore specialised topics in depth, and helps you to find your own critical voice as a writer and art historian.

Throughout both terms, you will take 'Lessons in Critical Interpretation', a course designed to build on the introduction to art historical methodologies provided by Frameworks in year two. Every second week, a lecturer examines a single or set of objects, and their interpretation, in two focused classes. In alternate weeks you will meet in groups of 12-15 students to consider the issues raised by the lecturers, and place these within a broader context, established by the assigned reading. You will also develop your communication skills through preparing a lecture of your own about an object of your choice.

Special Option courses: During your final year, you will also meet twice a week in a Special Option seminar course, one in the Autumn, and one in the Spring term. You choose your options in order of preference from a selection of about eight each term, and we will accommodate your choice wherever possible, keeping in mind that class sizes will not exceed 10 students. These courses are designed to engage with materials and methods at an advanced level, and to equip students for further study or for a broad range of careers. Year three Special Options are directly shaped by the tutor's research and partly for that reason, they change from year to year. Indicative modules include:

- Body, Space and Power in Contemporary Chinese Art
- Modern and Postmodern Photography
- Art and the Modern Nation
- Reassembling Modernism: Artists' Networks in Europe 1909-1960
- Beyond Painting and Sculpture: Happenings and Performance through the Twentieth Century
- Leisure, commerce and crime in the Victorian Metropolis
- Monuments and Memory
- Art and Empire in Eighteenth-century London
- Dripping Guts and Heavenly Wonders: the Body as Subject and Object in North Western Europe 1100-1450
- East and West at the Time of the Crusades

Summer term: The final year ends with a 5,000-word assessed essay, which gives you a further opportunity to develop your research and communication skills, now on any subject which interests you, provided that appropriate academic guidance is available.

For more detailed and up-to-date course information for the next academic year, please visit:
www.courtauld.ac.uk/ba

Study trips

Students may have the opportunity to travel overseas and visit works of art first hand as part of their studies, as many third-year Special Options include funded study trips to see works of art at first hand overseas. In addition, we are delighted to be able to offer undergraduate students a dedicated travel fund to support their travel around the world to visit works of art during the summer break. In previous years, independent trips funded by the travel support fund include:

- Morocco to explore the relationship between art, artisan and design in Marrakech
- Tokyo to study documentation of protest and counterculture in Japanese photography in the 1960s and 1970s
- Stockholm to explore the intersections between Norse pagan art and Anglo-Saxon pagan art



Entry requirements

Our Art History degree is open to all with a curiosity for the role art plays in the world around us. You don't need to have studied Art History at school to apply, and we welcome students from all backgrounds. As an institution, we want to recruit a wide and diverse student body. While the following describes the standard entry requirements, please note that these are flexible subject to applicants' personal circumstances.

You will be assessed on your academic potential as much as achievement. Your personal statement should demonstrate your interest in Art History and your passion for visual culture.

If you are applying as a candidate from certain groups that are less likely to go on to Higher Education, we are able to make you a lower offer than our typical entry requirement.

A-levels: Grades AAA-ABB (excluding General Studies). There are no subject requirements.

International A-levels: Grades AAA-ABB (excluding General Studies). There are no subject requirements.

GCSE: Grade A-C in a European language is desirable but not required.

Scottish Highers: AAAAB or AAABB, usually supplemented by two or more Advanced Highers. Offers made to candidates on the basis of the Advanced Higher subjects are likely to be set at AA for two subjects, and AAB for three subjects.

Welsh Baccalaureate: Advanced Diploma with two A grades at A-Level alongside the Core Certificate at Level 3.

International Baccalaureate (IB): A minimum 35 points overall.

European Baccalaureate: 80% overall.

Cambridge Pre-U: D3, D3, M2 in three Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects.

BTEC: DDM. Access: Access to Humanities Diploma at Level 3 with 39 Level 3 credits from units awarded at Distinction, with the remaining credits at Merit.

International students: A list of equivalent entry requirements for international students can be found on our website:
www.courtauld.ac.uk/ba-entry-requirements



English proficiency: International students wishing to apply to The Courtauld, and whose first language is not English must be able to demonstrate their competence in English in order to benefit fully from their course of study. Non-EEA nationals must also satisfy the UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) requirements for English language before The Courtauld can issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) for visa purposes. Government guidance on English language test providers is subject to change, so visit www.courtauld.ac.uk/english-language for the most up-to-date information.

Application: Application for admission to the BA (Hons) History of Art programme should be made through UCAS. Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process. Applicants who have left school or who are based outside the UK are able to obtain information directly from UCAS (www.ucas.com). The Courtauld Institute of Art's UCAS code is C80.

Contextual offers

We are committed to admitting the brightest students to The Courtauld, regardless of your background, or your experience of studying art history.

We warmly welcome applications from the following groups:

- Students from areas of low higher education participation, with low household income or low socioeconomic status
- Mature students
- Disabled students
- Care leavers
- Carers

If you are applying as a candidate from one of these groups of people, we recognise that you may experience barriers which make it more challenging for you to achieve our standard entry requirements. In consideration of this, we may be able to make you an offer at our lower minimum entry requirements.

You may also be eligible for financial support in the form of a bursary (see page 19), and we have a Hardship Fund available during your studies to provide short-term emergency funds to meet the immediate financial needs, if necessary. This is on top of the other support that the Government might be able to give you.

Students from under-represented backgrounds may be eligible to gain access to free workshops and summer universities, through our Public Programme activities.

For more information, please see:
www.courtauld.ac.uk/widening-participation

Fees, funding and bursaries

Tuition fees

For up-to-date information about fees, please check our website:

www.courtauld.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding

Student finance

You may be eligible for student finance to help pay for university tuition fees and to help with living costs.

If you apply for a tuition fee loan, the loan is paid directly to your university or college. You may also be eligible for a maintenance loan, where the loan is paid directly into your bank account at the start of each term.

For further information, visit www.gov.uk/get-undergraduate-student-loan



The Courtauld Bursary

The Courtauld Bursary provides financial support on a sliding scale for Home undergraduates students who meet certain criteria.

The Courtauld Bursary:

- Is available each year of your studies as long as your parents'/guardians' annual household income remains under £42,620
- May be revised each year if there are changes to your parents'/guardians' household income
- Does not distinguish between students living at home and those living away from home

Eligibility:

The following criteria are considered:

- Household income
- State school or college educated
- Students whose parents have not attended university
- Resident in a neighbourhood which has a low Higher Education participation rate
- In receipt of Disability Support Allowance

When applying for government funding, both you and your parents/guardians must consent to sharing the financial information you provide on your Student Loan application. This will allow us to access your information and determine your eligibility for The Courtauld Bursary.

The Courtauld Bursary is not available for:

- Repeat years of study
- Overseas students
- EU students

The Courtauld Hardship Fund

The Courtauld Hardship Fund provides short-term emergency funds to meet the immediate financial needs. It is intended primarily to provide support for short-term urgent needs, such as living costs and rent and cannot be used in payment of tuition fees.

It is open to all students studying at The Courtauld, including overseas students.



Study resources

The Courtauld Book Library

Students have access to a significant collection of some 200,000 books, exhibition catalogues and journals, focussed on Art History and related subjects. Students have access to numerous electronic resources to help their studies, including electronic journals, databases and e-books. Librarians are available to answer enquiries, help students to find library resources, teach students how to use library databases, and offer guidance about referencing. As members of the University of London you also have access to the central university's printed and electronic resources of Senate House Library.

The library is at Vernon Square and will remain there throughout the *Courtauld Connects* refurbishment project. The Book Library includes individual study spaces as well as areas for collaborative work and also contains computers, scanners and printers.

Digital resources

As a Courtauld student, you will be able to access most of the required readings for all of your courses online through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The Library provides links to e-books, articles from digital magazines and scans of key chapters to help you prepare for each lecture and seminar. We have a range of electronic resources on the history of art and architecture, including image and video databases, as well as more traditional academic resources. You also have access to Senate House Library, the University of London's library.

Prints and Drawings Room

The Courtauld Gallery houses one of the most significant collections of works on paper in Britain, with approximately 7,000 drawings and watercolours, and 26,000 prints ranging from the late Middle Ages to the twentieth-century avant-garde. This includes masterpieces by artists such as Dürer, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Rembrandt and Turner, and provides coverage of major national schools and periods. Students can also have access to our collection through our Prints and Drawings Room, which is used for collection-based teaching.

The Witt and Conway photographic libraries

The Witt Library is a collection of over 2 million photographs and reproductions of Western paintings, drawings and engravings from c 1200 to the present day, and the Conway Library has a collection of photographs of world architecture, architectural drawings, sculpture and manuscripts. A digitization of both libraries is currently underway.

Digital collections

The Courtauld's publicly accessible digital collections already feature The Courtauld Gallery's complete collections of paintings and drawings, and over 40,000 images of world architecture and sculpture from the Conway Library. Students also have access to more than 130,000 images covering painting, sculpture and architecture to illuminated manuscripts, prints and decorative arts.

Health and wellbeing

Wellbeing Manager

Your wellbeing is a priority for us, and our team of wellbeing, disability support and mental health staff provide a safe, confidential and non-judgemental space to support all students. The Wellbeing Manager is a first point of call for students who are experiencing any form of personal, health, financial or welfare issues which may be affecting their studies.

The Wellbeing Manager also provides guidance for students with a disability, mental health conditions, or other long-term health conditions. The Wellbeing Manager can help you to apply for Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) if appropriate, which may include the funding for a Mental Health Mentor. The Wellbeing Manager can also arrange for reasonable adjustments, such as extra time in assessments and exams, access to specialist equipment and assistive software, library assistance in the form of extended book loans, assistance to locate and/or collect research materials, access to course materials in alternative formats and advocate special circumstances to be considered during periods of illness.

Personal support

We have three experienced Counsellors who are available to support you on a range of personal issues.

Health support

The Gower Street practice is located a short walk from Vernon Square, and offers a full range of medical services, including a travel clinic, lifestyle clinics and counselling services. It is vitally important that you are registered with an NHS doctor in London to ensure that you have access to medical services when you need them.

Coursework and organisational support

The Courtauld has an Academic Skills Tutor who offers one-to-one Study Support sessions to all students during term time. The tutor works closely with students, helping you to stay motivated and encouraging you to reach your full potential in order to achieve success in your studies. We also have two Royal Literary Fund fellows who will help you with your writing skills, concentrating on how to structure and improve your writing.

Similarly, we also have a Specialist Study Skills tutor, who delivers specialist 1:1 study skills support to students with study skills recommended in their Disabled Student's Allowance (DSA) package. This includes students with specific learning differences, mental health concerns, autistic spectrum condition, long-term health conditions and physical and sensory impairments.



Student stories

Hannuri



The Courtauld has opened my eyes to a broad range of art historical discussions. From Medieval Reliquaries to Contemporary Asian photography, I have developed an interest in diverse forms of art and how they could express reoccurring ideas beyond time and space. From the beginning of my first year, I have noticed that The Courtauld was being very vocal about the decentering of the Eurocentric canon of Art History, striving to incorporate multiple sociocultural narratives into the discussion. The lectures and researchers reflect the progressive aims, acknowledging the marginalised voices and highlighting the dominant frameworks at work in the writing of Art History.

As an international student, coming to London was a big transitional moment in my life. Whilst the city offers immediate access to museums, galleries, and historical sites, the course enriches such moments of encounter. Even outside of academics, The Courtauld community has been very supportive and caring such as through regular meetings with tutors and professors and the Student Union's social events. As a small community, it was a huge benefit that I have got to know everyone in my grade and have made friends who share similar interests yet diverse ideas. I believe that the greatest strength of The Courtauld is the people who are here. For me, the people I have met at The Courtauld are not only great because of their intellectual abilities, but also their kindness in sharing such ideas and experiences with others. I look forward to a lifetime of friendships formed at The Courtauld.



Student Stories

Jacob

One of my favourite things about studying Art History at The Courtauld has been attending the many Research Forum events. These lectures and seminars were ideal as I had not studied Art History before coming to The Courtauld and I was keen to engage with as much material and as many topics as possible. These events allow for an insight into specialist topics that would not ordinarily be featured in taught lectures and seminars, as well as encourage engagement with materials that cover several different disciplines all at once. The frequency of the Research Forum seminars and lectures has meant that I have had the opportunity to learn about everything from Mozarabic choral manuscripts to the politics of university architecture.

During my first year I had the opportunity to live in central London. Being sandwiched between the Houses of Parliament and St. Paul's Cathedral, and in walking distance of the National Gallery, the British Museum, the British Library and Somerset House made me feel as if I was living in the best possible place to study our chosen subject. While living and studying in London did seem daunting, the close-knit community fostered at The Courtauld allayed any fears I might have had.

Student Stories

Rosie



For me, coming to The Courtauld has changed my life, and definitely for the better. I had never studied History of Art before and had only been to three art galleries before arriving to study in London. I had also been working in a supermarket on a not so glamorous gap year, so felt incredibly detached from any hint of academic life, but none of this was a problem when it came to engaging with the degree.

Teaching here introduces everyone to varied, global and thought-provoking material while diving into the depths of the theory behind it. The first year allows you to construct essays creatively, unpressured by your final year grade, so you have all year to work out your writing style and the technicalities of academic essays. Your seminar leaders and lecturers encourage maximum engagement with all the galleries and museums that London has to offer, hundreds of thousands of artworks that can't be seen in person in any other city.

My biggest worries when applying to The Courtauld were undoubtedly money related. Coming from very rural countryside, London was considered more of a holiday destination than an affordable or plausible place to live. However, the higher amount of student loan you receive in London, coupled with The Courtauld Bursary, meant that I ended up with more than enough to live on, and funds left over to engage with all that the city had to offer.



Careers

A degree in Art History makes you highly employable, and opens paths to careers in all sectors of the economy, not just the arts. As a humanities subject, it gives you skills in critical thinking and writing, and the ability to express yourself succinctly and persuasively. Uniquely, however, it also gives you the ability to understand the visual world around you and the ways in which images, buildings and objects have an effect on society. This has a strong vocational element, particularly if you are interested in a career in the arts.

Transferable skills

The BA programme is designed to produce graduates with highly transferable skills, which prepare them for a wide range of employment opportunities, or further academic study. Our graduates are not only equipped with a detailed knowledge and understanding of the History of Art, but they also learn how to:

- Analyse visual imagery and articulate sophisticated arguments in formal writing
- Read critically and economically
- Assimilate complex material
- Formulate and express a broad range of different ideas
- Present research to a varied audience
- Develop independent research skills
- Experience collaborative work in groups

Career prospects

The Courtauld has a dedicated Careers Consultant to support its students' paths into careers in the art world and beyond, and offers unique opportunities to develop your skills and experience. The Courtauld's graduates continue to fill prestigious positions around the world as:

- Heads of major Museums and Galleries
- Curators
- Conservators
- Art Dealers and Auction House experts
- Lawyers
- Entrepreneurs
- Publishers
- Media professionals
- Academics
- Teachers
- Banking and Finance
- Business
- Marketing and Communications

Individual careers support

All students can access bespoke, one-to-one careers guidance throughout their studies. The Courtauld Careers Service offers advice and support on exploring career and further study options, finding internships, enhancing employability, understanding and navigating the jobs and self-employment market, and making successful applications. The Courtauld's Careers Consultant also offers a tailored interview practice service, with detailed feedback, enabling students to prepare effectively for interviews.

The Courtauld Careers Programme

The Courtauld Careers Programme is a comprehensive careers education programme designed to help students to explore their career options, receive practical tips from and network with alumni and employers, and develop their employability skills. The programme consists of a wide variety of events, including:

- Panel sessions led by alumni in a range of careers
- Talks by recruitment and careers professionals
- Employability skills workshops on a range of topics, including career management, interview techniques and networking

All current students are encouraged to attend the events which benefit them most. Those who demonstrate commitment to their personal and professional development by either attending five one-to-one careers guidance appointments/ five careers events or through a combination of one-to-one sessions and careers events are invited to an exclusive alumni networking event. This gives them the opportunity to meet a wide range of alumni and build valuable professional contacts. Each year, students are able to secure work opportunities through attending this event. Other events offered outside of the programme include workshops with employers or sector leaders or access to events offered by other university career services in London, for example, on self-employment.

Work experience

Many students work part-time to gain valuable work experience and supplement their income. They may also embark on full-time internships during the holiday periods. Some find jobs in Galleries, Museums, Auction Houses and other arts institutions to complement their studies, while others gain internships to explore sectors outside of the arts. The Courtauld Association is a membership organisation for all current and former staff, students and alumni. The Courtauld also has various opportunities internally, such as assisting in the Prints and Drawings Study Room and providing general services in the libraries. In addition, a carefully selected listing from the University of London's jobs board is posted online each week which offers a range of vacancies across various industries. The Careers Service provides support and guidance in finding and applying for work experience opportunities, using all or any of these and other sources.

Alumni

The Courtauld is small but mighty – and our alumni are testament to that. Many of the world's major museums and galleries are led by Courtauld graduates, but our alumni also go on to become pioneers in a wide range of sectors – from technology to law. Whether working in arts or non-arts fields, our alumni use the skills that they learnt at The Courtauld to analyse, challenge and influence the world around them.

Staying connected

One factor that makes The Courtauld unique is the close connection that we maintain with our alumni. After graduating, students automatically join our vibrant and highly active alumni community, which spans 83 countries across the world. Our alumni receive regular communications through our monthly alumni e-newsletter, annual Courtauld News publication and through our social media communities.

Events

We host a wide range of alumni events in London, across the UK and around the world. Our events are attended by alumni of all ages and range in scale from our popular Summer Party to more intimate curatorial tours and exclusive lectures.

Careers support

We offer a careers and professional support service to all students and to graduates for up to two years after graduating. As alumni, you are also welcome to continue to use The Courtauld library facilities. Our alumni are always eager to participate in The Courtauld's careers programme for students and every year we are inundated with offers from alumni to contribute to careers panel discussions, skills workshops and networking events.



Alumnus Jeremy Epstein (MA 2009) giving a lecture at The Courtauld's annual Frieze Bubbly Breakfast event, 2019. Photo: © Jim Winslet



Dr Alixe Bovey (PhD 2000) interviewing Valeria Bemby (PG Dip 2008) at The Courtauld Summer Party 2019, at The V&A. Photo © Jim Winslet.



The Courtauld's Venice Biennale event, 2019

Meet our alumni



Jennifer Scott (BA 2001, MA 2002)

Jennifer Scott is the first female Director of the Dulwich Picture Gallery. Under her creative leadership the gallery has seen a bold programme of events and collaborations, as well as sold-out exhibitions such as *Rembrandt's Light* in 2019.



Alex Moss (BA 2014)

Alex Moss is CEO and Head Designer of Canaria Technologies, a recognised leader in the emerging field of predictive biometrics. Alex's medical earpiece device is used by NASA in space travel and has won multiple tech innovation awards.



Jessye Bloomfield (BA 2013)

Jessye Bloomfield is Creative Producer of the popular Uniqlo Tate Lates programme at Tate Modern and runs public art tours at both Tate Modern and Tate Britain. She also writes about art and culture for numerous digital arts platforms and produces short films with renowned artists.



Charlie Casely-Hayford (BA 2009)

Charlie Casely-Hayford is a highly-acclaimed fashion designer and owner of menswear brand Casely-Hayford, which he co-founded at the age of just 22.



Jeremy Deller (BA 1998)

Jeremy Deller is a conceptual, video and installation artist. Much of his work is collaborative, with a strong political aspect. Jeremy was awarded the Turner Prize in 2004.



MinJi Song (BA 2009, MA 2010)

MinJi Song works for the United Nations in New York as a Programme Management Officer in the Innovation Cell, within the Policy and Mediation Division. She moved into this role after working as a Regional Partnerships Officer for the UN in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Students' Union



A note from the President of the Students' Union

On behalf of The Courtauld Students' Union, I'd like to warmly welcome you and thank you for considering studying at The Courtauld Institute of Art. The student experience at The Courtauld is truly unique, and I am excited to be able to share it with you. The small size of The Courtauld enables the student body to come together as a vibrant and diverse community. This places us right in the heart of London with some of the world's best galleries and museums on our doorstep, meaning you will often get to study right in front of the artworks you are being taught about.

This location also means we are just 20 minutes away from Student Central, the Students' Union for all London universities. Alongside the regular events put on by our own SU, Student Central has three bars, a fully equipped gym, and a wide array of sports and societies that are all open to Courtauld students. These facilities give our students a way to ensure that they can pursue their passions by reaching out to people studying at other institutions in London. This year, for example, the University of London network has meant that our students acted in plays, and in one case they even directed a large production.

Aside from social and academic life, looking after the welfare of our students is one of the SU's most important jobs. The Courtauld and the Students' Union offer strong networks of student-led activity and support. These stretch from before students have enrolled, through the SU enabled 'Peer-to-Peer programme,' to years after your graduation through our thriving alumni network.

More than anything, this is enabled by our small size, making us a really tightly-knit community.

If you are interested in the Union, please consider visiting our website and our Instagram page:
www.courtauldsu.com
@courtauld_SU

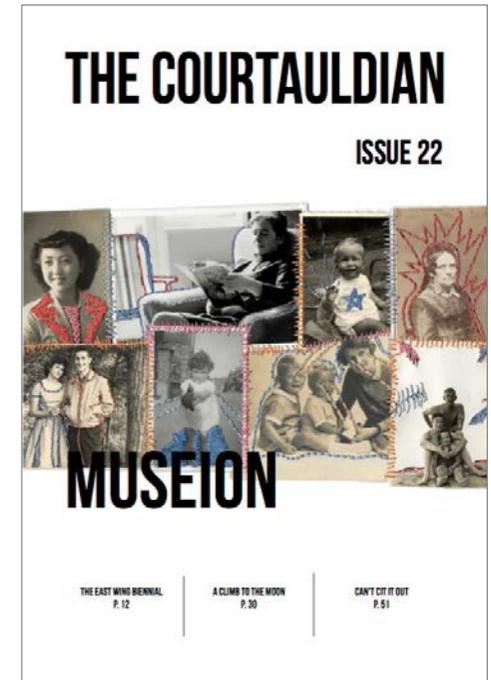
Alternatively, we can always be reached at:
students.union@courtauld.ac.uk

Best,
Nancy Collinge

The Students' Union

The Students' Union are a student-run representative group. Our role is to campaign for students, to make everyone feel welcome and included, and to ensure happiness of all students at The Courtauld. We do this by representing the students' needs to the staff and to the outside world. Every year, there are lots of great opportunities to get involved, and we elect a President, six Vice Presidents and a representative from each year group.

As well as campaigning on their behalf, the Students' Union holds social events for Courtauld students. The Union Committee itself organises events such as Freshers' Week, the Winter Party and the Summer Ball. The majority of our events come from the students themselves. Our Union is unique in only asking for as few as five students to form a society for it to be eligible for Union funding, which is why we can boast three times more student-run societies than other universities of a comparable size. These can be large projects, like our student publication The Courtauldian and the East Wing Biennial, a contemporary art exhibition spearheaded by Courtauld students. Alternatively, societies might take the form of weekly lectures, like those organised by our Business of Art Society, or creative self-expression as in Art Society or Sculpture Society.



The Courtauldian

The Courtauldian is the student-run publication of The Courtauld Institute of Art. The Courtauldian was founded in 2012 and attracts contributions from alumni, staff, and students at all levels of study from BA1 to PhD. With magazines published termly, and online content published continually, the publication features articles, reviews, interviews, creative writing, and columns covering subjects from art and design, to current affairs, politics, student news and more.

To view the latest publication, visit
www.courtauldian.com

The Research Forum

The Research Forum delivers an extensive programme of lectures, conferences, workshops and seminars supporting advanced inquiry into the History of Art, Conservation and Curating.

We host around 150 events per year, from research group seminars to lecture series catering to a wider interest. Our varied programme of events look to different periods and themes in art, visual culture and its history. Recent events include a series on the arts of pre-colonial Africa, 'Van Gogh at the Met: recent insights through technical examinations' and Open Courtauld Hour, a series of mini digital festivals, bringing Art History to a wider audience.

Our programme provides undergraduate students with insight into topics that expand upon main areas of study, and students are encouraged to engage, debate and question during the events. Attending events provides students with extra opportunities for enhanced learning, and it can also help contextualise content taught in class.

In addition to our core programme, we also run Open Courtauld events that embrace a wide and diverse audience. Open Courtauld's flagship event is RES|FEST – a festival that celebrates why Art History matters to all of us. RES|FEST content includes pop-up talks from leading art world figures and academics, poetry performances and craft classes. Search #OpenCourtauld on social media to see how you can get involved in these events too!

We have recently introduced new cross-sectional research clusters which include groups such as Courtauld Asia, and Gender and Sexuality. Like the majority of our events, activity organised by these advanced working research groups are open to undergraduates too.

We post details and recordings of our many events online. Follow us on social media @CourtauldRes or visit www.courtauld.ac.uk/research-forum



The Collection

As a student at The Courtauld you have unrivalled access to The Courtauld Gallery, our world-famous collection of major paintings, drawings and decorative arts from the early Renaissance to the twentieth century. It is home to some of the finest Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art in the world, including masterpieces by Manet, Monet, Gauguin, Van Gogh and Cézanne.

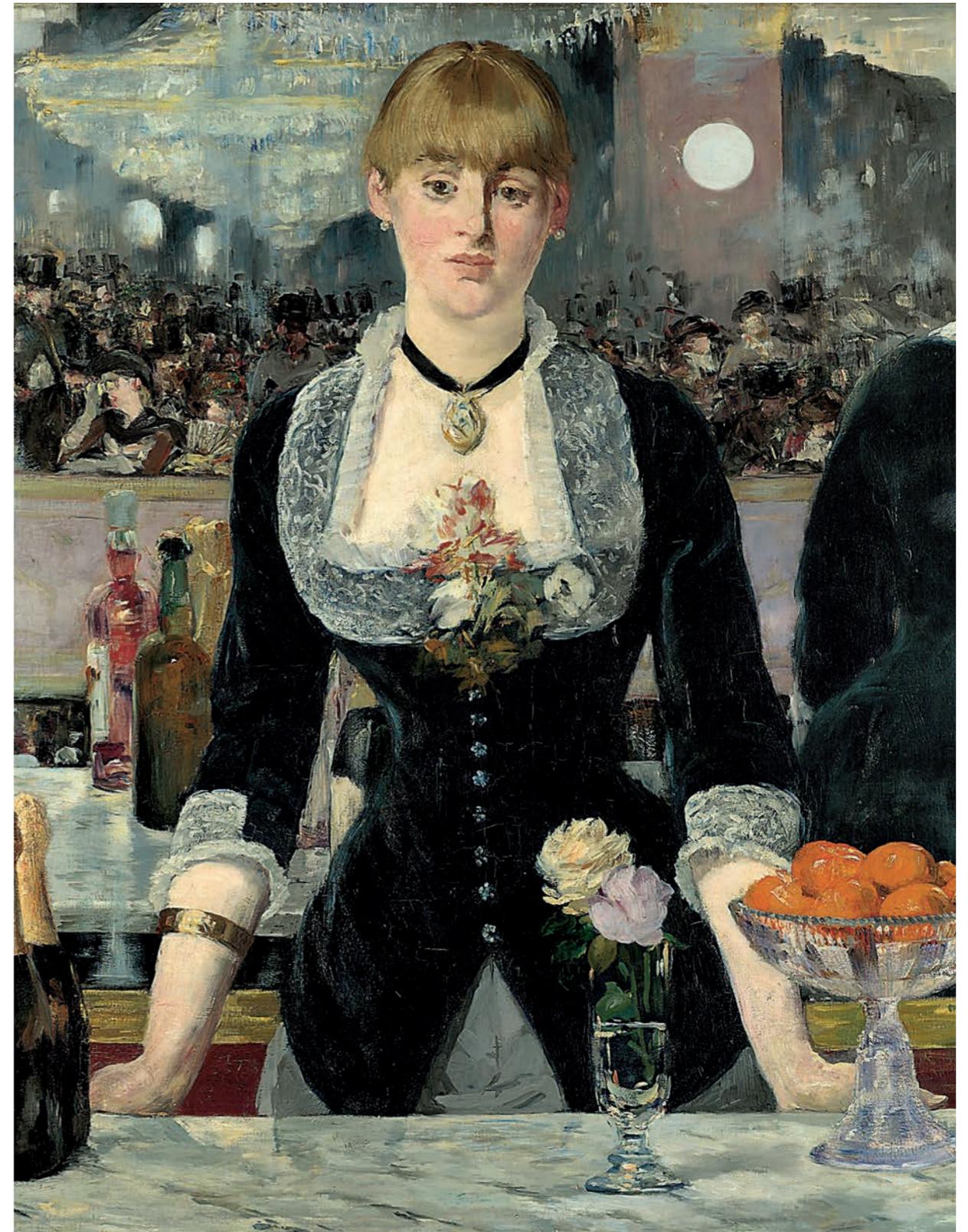
Many of these works were acquired by the pioneering collector and philanthropist Samuel Courtauld in the 1920s and 1930s, when he was chairman of the textile firm Courtaulds Ltd. He went on to establish The Courtauld in 1932, with Sir Robert Witt and Viscount Lee of Fareham, as an institute dedicated to the teaching and public dissemination of art history and conservation

We are currently undergoing an ambitious transformation project, Courtauld Connects, that will preserve our remarkable Grade 1 listed, 18th century building at Somerset House and make our world-class collections, research and teaching more accessible to wider audiences at home and abroad. It will also restore the Gallery's Great Room, create new visitor facilities and a learning centre, with a planned reopening in 2021.

During its temporary closure, The Courtauld Gallery has partnered both nationally and internationally to provide unique opportunities for audiences to engage with our collection, exhibiting at The Fondation Louis Vuitton in Paris and Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum in 2019. Our National Partners exhibition programme has displayed key works from our collection in museums and galleries across the UK where Courtaulds Ltd once had a significant industrial presence, including Preston, Hull and Coventry, enabling new audiences to experience and enjoy these masterpieces in unique settings.

Courtauld students can use the Object Study Room at Vernon Square to call up prints and drawings from our collection of 7,000 drawings and watercolours, and 26,000 prints. Teaching will also resume in the Gallery when it reopens. We also offer skills training, after which you can give talks to the public on the works in the collection, to build up your confidence and transferable skills.

Visit: www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery

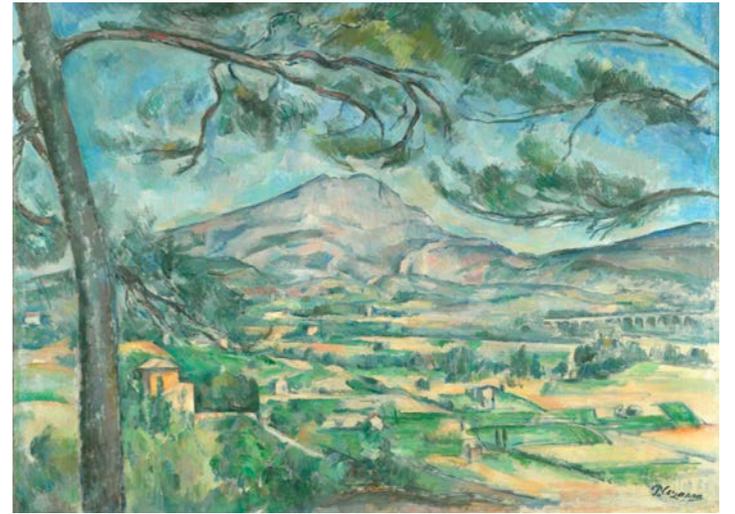


Edouard Manet (1832-1883)
A Bar at the Folies-Bergère, 1882,
The Courtauld Gallery, London

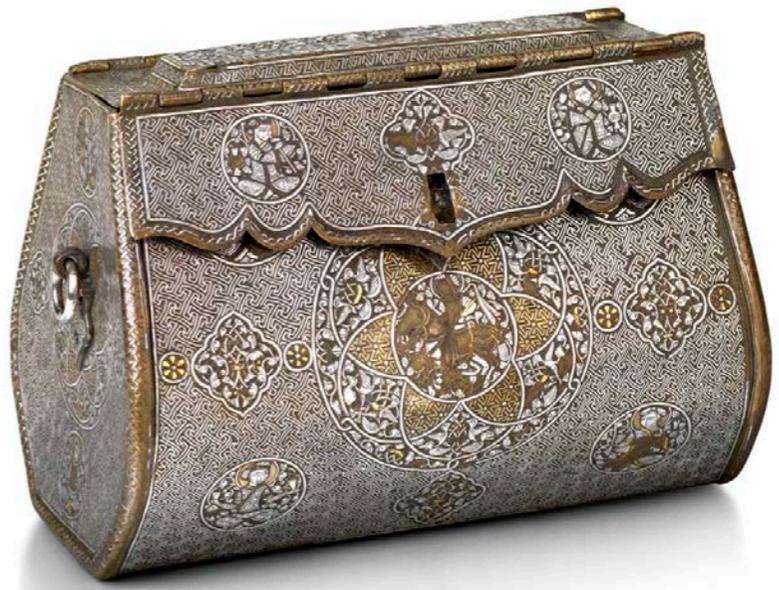
Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890)
Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear, 1889,
The Courtauld Gallery, London



Lucas Cranach the Elder
(1472-1553)
Adam and Eve, 1526,
The Courtauld Gallery, London



Paul Cézanne, *Montagne Sainte-Victoire with Large Pine*, 1887 (circa),
The Samuel Courtauld Trust, The Courtauld Gallery, London



Bag, Mosul, Northern Iraq, 300-1330,
Brass, inlaid with gold and silver,
The Courtauld Gallery, London

Accommodation

Duchy House *

Duchy House accommodates 64 undergraduate and postgraduate students and is located next to the north side of Waterloo Bridge. All rooms are single occupancy and most have en-suite facilities. There is a communal kitchen on all floors and access to a common room on three floors. There is also a laundry room on the lower ground floor. Free wired and wireless internet access is provided within all bedrooms.

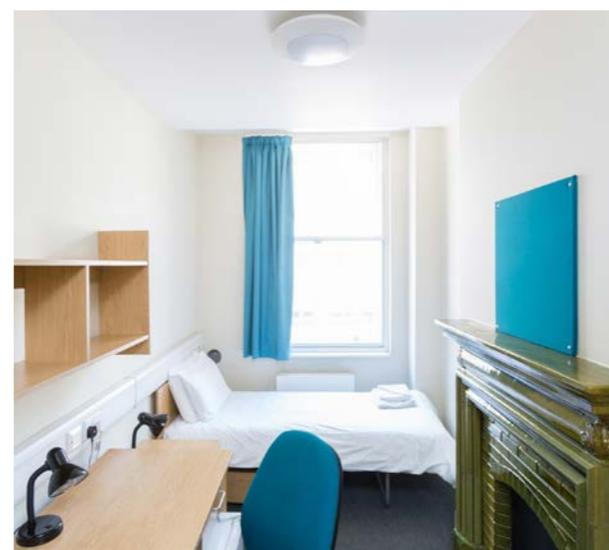
* The Courtauld is currently looking at alternative accommodation options from September 2021. Options being considered would be within 30 minutes' travel of Vernon Square/Somerset House and offer an increased number of rooms and social facilities.

Intercollegiate Halls

Intercollegiate Halls are mainly located within walking distance of Vernon Square and most of the rooms offered are en-suite rooms in catered halls. Students who live in Intercollegiate Halls are housed with students from other University of London colleges, which is a great way to meet a diverse community of neighbours studying a wide range of subjects. University of London halls are mostly catered and offer both single and shared accommodation. Laundry and some cooking facilities are also available on-site.

Allocations policy

Applications are accepted from candidates who have a conditional or unconditional offer only for a full academic year course at The Courtauld. Rooms are prioritised both to those students who live furthest away from The Courtauld, and to those who are engaging in their first year of study in the UK.



Visit us

Open Days

Our Open Days usually take place in the summer and autumn. For further information on dates and how to book, visit: www.courtauld.ac.uk/opendays

You can explore our Virtual Open Day Hub at: www.courtauld.ac.uk/ug-virtual-open-day

Offer Holder events

If you are offered a place to study at The Courtauld, you will be invited to one of two Offer Holder events in Spring.



Contact us

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The Courtauld Institute of Art,
Somerset House, Strand,
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E: ugadmissions@courtauld.ac.uk

W: www.courtauld.ac.uk

Disclaimer:
All information in this prospectus is correct at the time of going to print (2 July 2020). Please check our website for latest course information and updates about the *Courtauld Connects* project.

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