

History of Art and Visual Culture Department

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Helpful Hints for Junior Transfer Students

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The UCSC General Catalog (available online at: <http://reg.ucsc.edu/catalog/>) is an incredible resource. It is available in hardcopy from the Bay Tree Bookstore. The quarterly schedule of classes and the campus handbook, The Navigator: Undergraduate Handbook of Academic & Student Affairs, are available on-line most of the year. Read these materials thoroughly, they are full of valuable information. Pay close attention to requirements and deadlines as students are ultimately responsible for adhering to University policy.
2. Come by the History of Art and Visual Culture (HAVC) Office for information and materials on the major and minor (also available online at: <http://havic.ucsc.edu>). Junior transfer students will need to consult the department about transfer courses and the department is a great place to find guidelines on things like how to write HAVC papers, information about internships and graduate programs, a directory of Bay Area museums, and other publications and handbooks.
3. Come to Summer Orientation for an introduction to the HAVC major.
4. Once you've taken two lower division courses in different regions, you're eligible to declare the HAVC major. The first step in declaring is to set up an advising appointment with the HAVC undergraduate adviser. You'll then meet with your HAVC faculty adviser to further discuss the major and course offerings. Faculty advisers can also offer helpful information about graduate schools, application processes, internships, letters of recommendation, etc. They are an excellent resource. It's advisable to make the most of their knowledge. The declaration is complete when you return your signed academic planning form to the HAVC undergraduate adviser.
5. Get in the habit of consulting regularly with the undergraduate adviser and faculty in History of Art and Visual Culture and other programs. Two years goes by quickly and consulting with department and college advisers and faculty is great for figuring out which classes are appropriate and ensuring that the requirements for the degree are satisfied. The HAVC faculty directory is available online and in hardcopy at HAVC.
6. Show up for the first day of class! Showing up is the first step to success. When students don't show up on the first day, they may be dropped from the class, which will make room for students trying to add the class. Always double and triple check enrollment each quarter to make sure that you're registered in the classes that you're planning to attend.
7. Buying books before the first day of class gives students the opportunity to become familiar with the material before the course begins. Many courses have readers (selected articles bound in book format; usually not available until the class meets) or a series of short books rather than textbooks. Read the syllabus carefully and attend all scheduled exams and required activities (e.g. field trips, film screenings, etc.). Mark the due dates for papers, exams, and assignments on the calendar at the beginning of the quarter, in case the big snow storm in Tahoe happens to be the day before a big paper is due, it's important to remember that school is the highest priority.
8. Familiarity with the locations of computer services and labs on campus is extremely helpful. Check The Navigator for information on how to set up an account to use University computer services.
9. Where a student sits in class has an impact. Sitting in the front rows of the classroom and participating in discussion (both in class and in section) gives instructors a good impression. Get feedback on assignments and attend office hours. Getting to know faculty is important, especially when one inevitably needs a letter of recommendation or advice.

10. Some of the most valuable sources of information on campus are the libraries. Learn how to access the melvyl catalog for research projects. In addition to using melvyl for general papers and projects, try using current contents and the art index. Learn to use the reference areas, ArtStor databases, and the slide library.
11. The quarter system is fast. It's important to keep on top of the standard workload (3 5-credit courses) because the quarter goes by much faster than semesters. Many classes require midterms or have papers due as early as the third week of class. Junior Transfer students should plan to take at least 2 HAVC class each quarter, though 3 is usually only recommended for specific circumstances.
12. Colleges and some departments offer 2- and 3-credit courses on interesting topics. Although these classes cannot be counted toward the HAVC major or minor, this is a good way to increase ones course load without adding another full-credit course.
13. UCSC courses are different than ones offered in high school or even a community college. History of Art and Visual Culture classes offer critical and analytical accounts of the subject matter and require critical writing to develop critical thinking – an invaluable life-long skill.
14. It can be easy to feel lost in the shuffle, so try to get to know other students in your courses. Form study groups to share insights, perspectives, and approaches to the course material.
15. Don't be afraid to ask for help. There are many resources available: faculty, your college, HAVC staff, TAs, various campus support services, writing tutors, other students, etc.
16. All students should have a writing or style manual such as
 - Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*
 - Strunk and White, *The Elements of Style*
 - Blanche Ellsworth and John A. Higgins, *English Simplified*

The following is a reading list for preparation in the summer before coming to UCSC. Choose from the following recommendations as one may be inclined:

- Michael Baxandall, *Painting and Experience in 15th-century Italy: A Primer on the Social History of Pictorial Style*
 - John Berger, *Ways of Seeing*
 - Norma Broude and Mary D. Garrard, eds., *The Expanding Discourse: Feminism and Art History*
 - Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory*
 - Diana L. Eck, *Darsan: Seeing the Divine Image in India* (2nd edition, revised & enlarged)
 - Hal Foster, ed., *The Anti-Aesthetic*
 - John D. La Plante, *Asian Art* (3rd edition)
 - Sally Price, *Primitive Art in Civilized Places*
 - Arnold Rubin; Zena Pearlstone, ed., *Art as Technology: The Arts of Africa, Oceania, Native Americas, Southern California*
17. Many students are interested in internships, EAP (UC study-abroad program) and other study-abroad programs, the UC/DC program (UC campus in Washington DC), inter-campus exchange programs (at other UC campuses) or domestic exchange programs (at the Universities of New Hampshire or New Mexico). There are websites for all of these programs through the UCSC website, www.ucsc.edu. Junior transfer students have a finite time-frame to complete the degree requirements, so it is important to think about these programs early to see what will fit into ones schedule.
 18. Graduate and some EAP programs have a language requirement. In fact, most related graduate programs require proficiency in German and/or French, so one may need to start taking a language as early as your first quarter.
 19. Other resources: Check in with the department adviser, faculty, and TAs; STARS; EOP; Graduate Information Program; Career, Internship, and Student Employment Services