

University of Bern
Institute of Art History

Master's Program in Art History with
special qualification in Curatorial Studies,
Museology, and Provenance Research

University of Bern
Institute of Art History
Mittelstrasse 43
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For individual advice:
studienkoordination@ikg.unibe.ch
+41 (0)31 631 47 29

Study plan and further information is available at:
ikg.unibe.ch



The Monomaster study program “Art History with Curatorial Studies, Museology, and Provenance Research” is unique in Switzerland and offers students the opportunity to combine the classic Master’s program in Art History → Major, 90 ECTS with the two practical application areas “Provenance Research” and “Curatorial Studies” → Minor, 30+30 ECTS. In addition to providing students with the fundamental tools of art history, the study program thereby also offers students the chance to gain core competencies in museology and provenance research for a future job in museums, galleries, and private or public collections. The Monomaster program’s emphasis lies in combining academic training with questions that emerge in work experience in the field.

Alongside the traditional domains of museum work – collecting, research, exhibition, mediation, public relations, management –, students will further be introduced to the basic tenets and methodologies of provenance research. This training will partner students with researchers from the fields of art history, archaeology, social anthropology, history, and law studies. Courses take place at the Institute of Art History and cooperating partner departments. They cover periods from the Middle Ages to the present.

Details

Diploma:

Master of Arts in Art History with special qualification in Curatorial Studies, Museology, and Provenance Research, University of Bern

Offer:

Monomaster 120 ECTS
Fully integrated into your studies with no additional tuition fees

Duration:

4 Semesters

Languages of instruction:

German, English, French

Start:

Autumn or spring semester

Prerequisite:

- Bachelor’s degree in Art History Major or Minor from a university with a total of at least 105 or 60 ECTS points
- Bachelor’s degree from a university in another discipline, as long as specified additional requirements will be completed

Course contents

Museology:

- Critical curating
- Art handling
- Techniques for the promotion of culture
- Communication
- Art Education and Public Relations
- Social media in museums
- Restoration and Conservation
- Collection strategies
- Target group management

Provenance Research:

- The modern art market
- Switzerland as a center for art dealing
- Research of objects with unknown or problematic provenance
- The history of art plundering and theft
- Legal aspects of the art market and trade in art objects
- Project management
- Project oriented group work and collaboration
- Legal anthropology and the restitution of art objects
- The history of European collecting since the 16th century

Program Directors

Chair of Pre-Modern Art History
Prof. Dr. Beate Fricke

Chair of Early Modern Art History
Prof. Dr. Urte Krass

Chair of the History of Architecture
and Monument Preservation
Prof. Dr. Bernd Nicolai

Chair of Modern and
Contemporary Art History
Prof. Dr. Peter J. Schneemann

Chair of the History of Textile Arts
Prof. Dr. Birgitt Borkopp-Restle

Projects, Instructors, and Cooperations

Project work is mainly overseen by visiting lecturers with expertise in the fields of curatorial and museum studies, as well as provenance research, including curators, conservators, art mediators, or gallery owners. Cooperations with a wide array of institutional partners guarantee the diversity of course offerings. Studies in provenance research are led by the Institute of Art History together with the Center for Global Studies. The Monomaster program also offers courses that take place in cooperation with international as well as national and local institutions.

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