

MA Research Skills and Methods core module: **Preliminary Information**

This module focuses on the key skills that you will require in order to conduct innovative research at a Masters level, and for you to get the most out of the course as a whole. *Research Skills and Methods* is a core module, which all History of Art MA students must complete. Some of the module's aims are to:

- Provide guidance regarding expectations for MA work and advanced scholarly research
- Assist students to make the transition from undergraduate to MA and, potentially, PhD work
- Introduce a range of significant methodologies and insights from the forefront of the discipline
- Encourage students to adopt and adapt methodologies to suit their own developing intellectual interests
- Teach students to utilise appropriate scholarly conventions in their work, such as referencing, constructing bibliographies, using sources correctly, etc.

To adequately prepare yourself for the module, and for the MA in general, you should acquaint yourself with the latest art-historical research. Below is a list of resources, websites and journals to get you started. If you do not have easy access to these, do not worry: you will do upon your arrival to York, via our library:

- Association of Art Historians <http://www.aah.org.uk/>
- College Art Association <http://www.collegeart.org/>
- Culture 24 <http://www.culture24.org.uk/home>
- York University Library <http://www.york.ac.uk/library/> (provides a portal to many art-historical resources, including ARTstor, JStor, etc.).
- Art History Journal
- Burlington Magazine
- Oxford Art Journal
- October journal
- Sculpture Journal
- Third Text
- Visual Culture in Britain

Another excellent starting point is our department website (<http://www.york.ac.uk/history-of-art/>). It is an exciting time at the department, with several faculty members conducting ground-breaking and critically-acclaimed exhibitions, including *Mondrian and His Studios*, co-curated by Michael White, *Building the Picture: Architecture in Italian Renaissance Painting*, co-curated by Amanda Lillie, and the recently-closed *Turner and the Sea*, co-curated by Richard Johns. It is well worth attending one of these exhibitions, but if you cannot do so, reading the exhibition catalogues and reviews, can provide you with a valuable insight into the latest methodological practices utilised in the discipline.

If you have not studied History of Art before, or if you would benefit from a refresher, we recommend that you choose the *Theory and Historiography* module as one your options in the Autumn Term.