

## **The Art Department's Guidelines for Art Historical Scholarship**

*(Revised May 23, 2025)*

### ***College Standards for Scholarship:***

"Scholarship is the second most important criterion in promotion and tenure, tenure only, and promotion to professor reviews. Candidates are expected to demonstrate scholarly development, accomplishment, and promise.

A successful scholar:

1. is actively engaged in the advancement of knowledge and/or artistic creation;
2. has produced high-quality, original works of scholarship in the form of publications and/or exhibitions;
3. participates actively in scholarly discourse with professional peers, such as through involvement in conferences, presentation of invited lectures, or published reviews of other scholars' work."

### ***Special challenges for Art Historians:***

Art historians face a number of challenges when it comes to scholarship. These challenges include, but are not limited to, the following: significant travel to remote locations abroad; extended study of original works on-site; archival research requiring the knowledge of foreign languages and special permissions that are difficult to obtain; the acquisition of original objects for exhibitions; the negotiation of loans and insurance costs; travel to specialized libraries in the US and abroad; and lengthy publication times.

The department recognizes the following areas of scholarship:

- Books (authored or edited)
- Exhibition catalogs
- Articles in journals or conference proceedings (either in print or online)
- Book chapters
- Curating museum and gallery exhibitions
- Digital scholarship
- Curating online exhibitions
- Responsibilities for creating, maintaining, and managing archival resources (either in print or online)
- Translations
- Annotated bibliographies and chronologies
- Encyclopedia entries

- Book or exhibition reviews

The Art Department believes that the ranking of these scholarly contributions is determined by the candidate's field of study. This determination will be made in consideration of both department colleagues and external evaluators.

### **Digital Scholarship**

The department acknowledges that digital scholarship is a rapidly evolving field and affirms the necessity of regularly updating its criteria for evaluating scholarly contributions in this area. Currently, the Art Department considers the creation, curation, and publication of digital databases, virtual reality (VR) models, and other web-based resources relevant to a faculty member's area of expertise as meaningful forms of scholarly activity. Furthermore, the department recognizes that original digital databases can serve as a valuable foundation for both pedagogical and research scholarly outputs, including publications in traditional and digital formats.

### **Engagement with the Scholarly Community**

The Art Department expects faculty to be engaged with the larger scholarly community. A record of scholarly engagement is demonstrated through any of the following activities:

- Participation in conferences and symposia
- Invited lectures
- Involvement with organizing conferences or symposia
- Chairing panels at conferences

### **Grants and fellowships**

The department encourages faculty to apply for grants and fellowships. The acquisition of these awards is an indication of the national and international regard for which they are held.