

Department	ART HISTORY AND THEORY
Study programme	MASTER
Course year	2nd YEAR
Semester	AUTUMN
Study year	2024/2025

MANDATORY	Mandatory courses
FREE CHOICE	Free choice courses*
ELECTIVE	Elective courses can be chosen only after required programme of department courses is approved by department

DEPARTMENT COURSES

CODE	COURSE TITLE	ECTS
MākZ1818	Latvian Artists and Russian Avant-Garde Art	3
MākZ6208	Semiotics of Visual Culture	3
MākZ1819	Urban Development of Riga and its Medieval Architecture	3
MākZ2188	History of Latvian Ethnography. Latvian Traditional Skills. Ethnography in Latvian Professional Art 19-21th Century	3
MākZ1677	Anatomy	2
MākZ5125	Creative Methods in Art Pedagogy	3
MākZ6D23	Contemporary Art and Underground Culture Scene in the Eastern Europe under and after Communism	3

*As theoretical lectures are delivered to the students of the Art Academy of Latvia in Latvian, some theoretical subjects in English are offered separately to the visiting students.

ELECTIVE COURSES

The list of courses will be published during the first week of semester start!

Online registration for elective courses is open during the first two weeks of semester start. Each course is for limited number of students. To start the course at least 5 students must be registered for it. If less than 5 students are registered, course won't be available.

DEPARTMENT COURSES

COURSE TITLE	DESCRIPTION	LECTURER
Latvian Artists and Russian Avant-Garde Art	The course provides an insight into Latvian artists' involvement with the Russian Avant-Garde art from the 1910s to the 1930s. Through visiting art exhibitions and recommended literature studies, students become acquainted with the complex legacy of key figures in these relationships, such as Gustavs Klucis, Aleksandrs Drēviņš and Kārlis Johansons.	Stella Peļše
Semiotics of Visual Culture	Semiotics, practical literature studies.	Andris Teikmanis
Urban Development of Riga and its Medieval Architecture	Development of Riga as a hanseatic city. Early urban structures and its remnants: Riga defence wall and towers, Complex of so called Convent-Hof, Castle of Teutonian order, Willage of Russian tradesman, St. George's and other churches. The Riga Dome Church, Civil architecture and interiors, Three Brothers House, The Guild of Black Heads, Guild of Craftsman (or Small Guild), Guild of Tradesman (or Great Guild), St. Peter's, St. John's and St. Jacob's Churches	Ojārs Spārītis
History of Latvian Ethnography. Latvian Traditional Skills. Ethnography in Latvian Professional Art 19-21th Century	History of Latvian ethnography. Traditional skills of Latvians. Ethnography in Latvian professional art in the 19–21st century. The course aims to create an understanding of the field of ethnography (tangible and intangible cultural heritage), the significance of ethnographic heritage in the Latvian cultural and artistic identity. Knowledge of the development of ethnography in Latvia, the most important researchers, and material repositories is provided. Students acquire skills to recognize ethnographic heritage: types of folk architecture, interior subjects, household items, types of crafts. The tradition of Latvian Song and Dance Festival, particularly folk costumes and ornamentation, is analyzed separately. At the end of the course, students can competently identify Latvian ethnic cultural heritage and see its uniqueness in the context of world culture and art.	Inese Sirica
Contemporary Art and Underground Culture Scene in the Eastern Europe under and after Communism	The course is dedicated to understanding of some important special features of art and culture of the region where Latvia (and the LAA students) belongs to – Eastern Europe. History and interpretation of the culture of the region during Soviet rule is yet to be written but it is important for the aspiring artists, designers, curators and art critics who live and work here understand its speciality and uniqueness in Europe. The course starts from the wide historical and cultural introduction to the subject and then continues with a discussion of on several important cases of contemporary art and underground cultural scene in USSR (Russia, Latvia), Czechoslovakia and Poland. In the middle of the course there will be another wide introduction – this time to the post-Soviet period. Second part of the course will be dedicated to the changes which happened in contemporary art and underground culture of the region after 1991.	Kirils Kobrins

Anatomy	Digitalized and interactive anatomy for art and design students to improve their drawing, painting, and sketching skills in anatomy. Based on Anatomy Next — anatomy learning tools for students and teachers. Anatomy Next is a very successful, world-known educational technology start-up to help students learn anatomy faster and more efficiently.	Uldis Zariņš
Creative Methods in Art Pedagogy	The course prepares students for planning and conducting art-based visual arts classes for school age children. Such an experience can be useful in teaching for both - formal and non-formal education. Graduates will gain theoretical knowledge and practical experience in transforming an idea based on creative practice (art or design) into a teaching practice.	Ilze Vītola