Programme

Art and Science, 1750-1900

Details

Monday 22 January to Friday 26 January 2024.

Overview

We tend to assume that artists and scientists operate within quite separate spheres. This is a misconception. In reality art and science are interconnected. This course is a chance to explore the importance of their relationship over the last few hundred years.

Starting in the late 18th century, each day introduces a different aspect of scientific research – from geology and anatomy to photography and X-rays – finishing with the work of conservators in the present day. We explore some of the ways in which artists have drawn inspiration from the work of scientists, and we also examine the role of artists in expanding our understanding of the physical world and our place within it. We look at areas, notably photography and anatomy, where the boundaries between science and art are blurred, and we consider the contributions of scientists today, working behind the scenes in museums and galleries to reveal much that is invisible to the human eye and provide new insights into the materials, making and dating of works of art.

Your course leader

Graduated at Oxford University and the Courtauld Institute. In 2001 she completed a PhD thesis on French painters in Rome during the 19th century. A lecturer specialising in 19th-century art history, she is currently a course director at the Victoria & Albert Museum, where she organises courses and study days on the history of art and design.

Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.

Includes tea, coffee, biscuits and water on arrival

V&A Academy
Programme

Art and Science

Day 1 – 22 January 2024

Nature and Art

10.30 Lecture: *Introduction to the Course* Kathy McLauchlan
    Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

12.00 Lecture: *Earth’s History in Landscape Art* Richard Fallon
    Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

13.00 Lunch Break

14.00 Lecture: *Art and Taxonomy* Justine Hopkins
    Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

Day 2 – 23 January

The Impact of Photography

10.30 Lecture: *Photography and Art* Martin Barnes
    Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

12.00 Group A: Gallery Talk: *Photography Galleries* Hana Kaluznick

    Group B: Handling Session: *Capturing Movement* Martin Barnes

13.00 Lunch Break

14.00 Group B: Gallery Talk; *Photography Galleries* Hana Kaluznick

14.00 Group A: Handling Session: *Capturing Movement* Lydia Caston
Day 3 – 24 January
Optics and Pigments

10.30  Lecture: *The Role of Light* Jo Rhymer  
       Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

12.00  Lecture: *Innovations in Colour* Justine Hopkins  
       Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

13.00  Lunch Break

14.30  Group A: Visit to the National Gallery: 18th-19th Century Galleries Justine Hopkins  
       Group B: Visit to the National Gallery Jo Rhymer

15.30  Group B: Visit to the National Gallery: 18th-19th Century Galleries Justine Hopkins  
       Group A: Visit to the National Gallery Jo Rhymer

Day 4 – 25 January
The Human Body

10.30  Lecture: *Anatomy in Art* Natasha McEnroe  
       Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

12.00  Group A: Handling Session: *Anatomical Studies* Zoe Dosta  
       Group B: Visit to the Wellcome Galleries, Science Museum Stewart Emmens

13.00  Lunch Break

14.00  Group B: Handling Session: Anatomical Studies Zoe Dosta  
       Group A: Visit to the Wellcome Galleries, Science Museum Kate Dabin

Day 5 – 26 January
Invisible Worlds

10.30  Lecture: *Painting the Invisible* Justine Hopkins  
       Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre
12.00  Beneath the Surface: The Hidden Face of Objects **Nick Veasey**
Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

13.00  Lunch Break

14.00  Lecture: A Forensic Analysis of Art **Kira Zumkley**
Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre