Art History & Studio majors may pursue either the Studio Art or Art History route to honors, or, alternatively, pursue honors through an Independent Study project. At the end of fall term, senior year, a candidate for honors in History & Studio makes a proposal to two faculty members, one faculty advisor from each wing of the department. If both advisors agree to supervise the project, the candidate with an Art History research paper applies to participate in ARTH 494, the Senior Honors Seminar (also known as the “Thesis Seminar”). If accepted, the student researches and writes the thesis during Winter Study and Spring semester of the senior year. History and Studio students whose honors projects have a Studio emphasis have the opportunity to take the Senior Tutorial (ARTS 418), with permission of the instructor, and to participate in the Senior Studio exhibition. Alternatively, a student may propose an Independent Study honors project to be pursued during Winter Study and the Spring semester under the guidance of the two advisors. The review process for the honors candidates in the senior seminars will proceed according to the regular honors process for the respective wing of the Art Department, and will include both advisors. If the honors project is conducted via an Independent Study, the final project is submitted to the two advisors who will determine whether or not it will receive honors.

Please submit the following documents via email to Beverley Sylvester (bsylvest@williams.edu) by 4:30pm, Dec. 4, 2020:

1. Faculty Advisors Approval Form

Please submit the faculty advisor/s approval form with your faculty advisor’s signatures clearly indicated and all of the appropriate information completed.

2. Art History & Studio Independent Study Senior Honors Thesis Project Proposal

If choosing to do an independent study project as the Thesis, please submit a 1 to 1 ½ page Project Proposal for your topic that clearly identifies your thesis and provides a rationale for the independent study route. You might want to sign up for an independent study course with one or both advisors for your final senior semester. You may also provide a supplemental bibliography.

3. Senior Thesis Winter Work Schedule and Studio/Research Plan

Please outline your studio/research and work plan for January and share with your advisors. If you need access to the Spencer Art building studios over January, you must petition to stay on campus January 4-spring term. This plan also needs to be signed by your advisor indicating their approval of your “winter study” plan.