The Department of Art & Visual Culture

CURATORIAL STUDIES MINOR

**SAVC 235 Introduction to the Object**  
4 cr

**SAVC 305 Seminar in Curatorial Practice**  
3 cr

**SAVC 335 Mining the Museum**  
3 cr

**SAVC 375 Rules of Engagement**  
2 cr

**SAVC 435 Theory and Criticism in Exhibition Practice**  
3 cr

**SAVC 475 Curatorial Practicum**  
3 cr

**18 Credits**

For more information, please contact Rachel Brown, Program Manager, AUC Collective for the Study of Art History and Curatorial Studies  |  [rachel.brown@spelman.edu](mailto:rachel.brown@spelman.edu), 404-270-4121
SAVC 235 Introduction to the Object
This foundation course for the Curatorial Studies minor introduces a common vocabulary and conceptualization for discussing works of art. It provides a shared frame of reference for all students who are interested in the field of curatorial studies. Using exhibitions and works from the permanent collections in AUC institutions as case studies, this course also equips students to examine the role of institutions, curators, and other museum professionals.

SAVC 305 Seminar in Curatorial Practice
This course introduces curatorial methodologies and strategies for developing a broad range of exhibitions (monographic, thematic and permanent collection shows, media-based and interactive projects, etc.). It examines how museums produce knowledge, considering the ways in which art history and visual culture studies have been informed by museum collection and display policies. This course is designed for students who are curious about curatorial projects and curating practices.

SAVC 335 Mining the Museum
Mining the Museum positions museums as dynamic, changing, non-neutral spaces that should be respected as extraordinary cultural assets, that should be enjoyed and challenged, critiqued, and scrutinized. This course focuses on seminal exhibitions that inform current perception of and interactions with museums. Using exhibitions and works from the permanent collections of AUC institutions as case studies, this course examines the role of institutions, curators, and other museum professionals.

SAVC 375 Rules of Engagement
This seminar provides a basic introduction to the topics and individuals that shape and inform curatorial practice. Through roundtable discussions, structured classroom exercises, field trips, and workshops that are facilitated by a variety of arts professionals, students will discuss and analyze the challenges, limits, rules, and opportunities that have historically governed curatorial fields. Students will develop foundational skills that will help prepare them to begin developing their own curatorial voice.

SAVC 435 Theory and Criticism in Exhibition Practice
This advanced seminar explores the ways in which our contemporary understanding of art, history, and culture is constructed and informed by public display in museums, galleries, and the global landscape. Using a series of case studies, it considers issues of representation, display, reception, and wider social contexts in which art and culture are experienced in museums and public spaces.

SAVC 475 Curatorial Practicum
In this advanced seminar students will research and write a proposal for an exhibition, which will be a culminating, capstone project for the curatorial minor. The final project may be a physical or digital exhibition. Students will also be encouraged to explore opportunities to partner with arts, education, and community organizations in the Atlanta area, and explore alternative exhibition designs and education initiatives both within and outside of traditional venues.