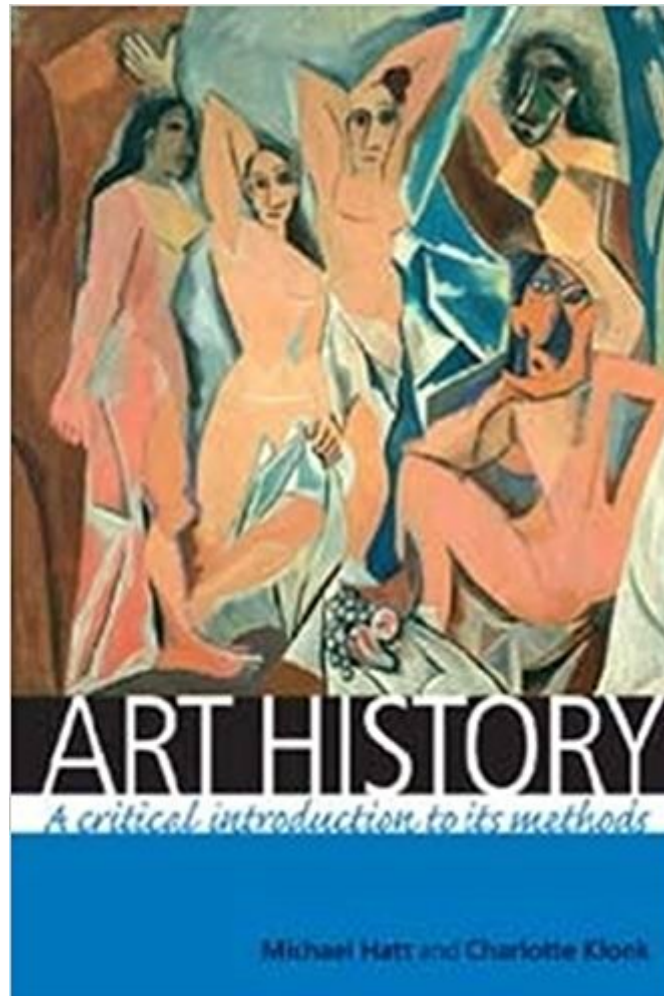




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# Art History: A Critical Introduction To Its Methods



## Synopsis

**Art History:** A critical introduction to its methods provides a lively and stimulating introduction to methodological debates within art history. Offering a lucid account of approaches from Hegel to post-colonialism, the book provides a sense of art history's own history as a discipline from its emergence in the late-eighteenth century to contemporary debates. By explaining the underlying philosophical and political assumptions behind each method, along with clear examples of how these are brought to bear on visual and historical analysis, the authors show that an adherence to a certain method is, in effect, a commitment to a set of beliefs and values. The book makes a strong case for the vitality of the discipline and its methodological centrality to new fields such as visual culture. This book will be of enormous value to undergraduate and graduate students, and also makes its own contributions to ongoing scholarly debates about theory and method.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael Hatt is Head of Research at the Yale Center for British Art and Visiting Professor in the School of History of Art, Film and Visual Media, Birkbeck College, University of London Charlotte Klonk is a Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Study in Berlin

Yes, this book is incredibly informative. It breaks down the development of Art History. It helps the reader to better understand the field and how it came to where it is today. BUT it is incredibly dry. Many of the things that are taught could be better taught through primary source readings. For example, in a class environment, it would be much easier to understand gaze theory by reading

Laura Mulvey's "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema" instead of reading for a page and half while they summarize gaze theory in a feminist context. Yes, it is a tall task to condense the entirety of any discipline into one (short) book, but this book is dull and makes the reader lose interest quickly. I love the subject matter, but I dreaded having assigned readings from this book. What a snore-fest!

As a general intro into the histories of Art this book is magnificent.

Definitely a bit dense. Takes a couple times reading through to grasp the methodologies, but paired with a class on Art History Methodologies, it helps clarify a lot of principles.

This book does a great job of presenting methods in art history in a way that is easy to understand. Hatt and Klonk also do well with presenting problems with the theories and how they are applied in contemporary art history.

Very useful for graduate students and well-written. A must-have book for art history majors! Hatt and Klonk are excellent scholars.

It was very good and diverse. Outside reading was still used, of course, can't get everything in 1 book. Very good explanations and descriptions.

I had to buy this book for an art history course in college. Nevertheless, if you want a comprehensive background on the development of the field of art history and the different methodologies that go into current art historical analysis, this book is for you!

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