The Edith O’Donnell Institute of Art History at the University of Texas at Dallas is a center for innovative research and graduate education in the history of art. Our Master’s degree program immerses students in a global history of art across geography, chronology, and medium, and brings to life a range of methodological approaches. Through rigorous coursework, paid museum and research assistantships, and funded research travel, students build a strong foundation in art history, historiography, and professional practice.

Our Master’s students thrive in small seminars on a broad range of topics, and benefit from dedicated mentorship by stellar faculty and affiliated scholars. Final thesis projects draw on the O’Donnell Institute’s outstanding research resources as well as privileged access to artworks in area collections. Students participate in O’Donnell Institute research initiatives and collaborations with our institutional partners, which include the Crow Museum of Asian Art, the Dallas Museum of Art, the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, The Oplontis Project and the Museo e Real Bosco di Capodimonte in Naples, Italy.

At the O’Donnell Institute’s headquarters at UT Dallas and the Dallas Museum of Art, students have the rare opportunity to participate in the intellectual life of a center for advanced research. Students may tailor their programs of study to focus on specific areas such as art criticism, curation, cultural heritage practices, archeology, provenance studies, publishing, and the digital humanities. After two years of intensive study, research, and mentoring, Master’s students graduate from the program with excellent preparation for doctoral study, museum careers, and professions in the arts.

The O’Donnell Institute invites applications for the Fall 2022 entering class of our Master’s Program in Art History. A limited number of scholarship opportunities are available to candidates who demonstrate exceptional academic merit and potential. Priority will be given to applications submitted by January 15, 2022; the final deadline for applications is May 15, 2022.