ARHS 6329: History and Methods of Art History

Wednesdays 2-4:50pm Visual Resources Laboratory, Hamon Arts Library Basement

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This seminar introduces principal movements, methods, and writings of academic art history. Emphasis will fall on theory and practice of the discipline, though we will lend attention to broader questions of aesthetic discourse, historical interpretation, cultural critique, and scholarly exchange/intervention. Readings include studies both influential and topical, as well as the tendentious, the delightful, and the well written. All are intended to equip students with a road-map understanding of the art historical practice, and to help each student formulate her/his individual place within the evolving discipline. We will pay special attention to skills of critical practice and scholarly exposition. ARHS 5305 is as much about claiming one's own voice in the disciplinary conversation as it is an introduction to art-historical theory and historiography.