

**History of Art and your future:** There is the old rumor that “History of Art does not offer many job opportunities”. This is absolute rubbish – for a start as long as you have 3 or 4 Good Passes in your A Levels, what subjects they are in, does not really matter. If you honestly know you’ll enjoy learning about Art then you’ll do well when it comes to the exam as you’ll be studying for something that actually interests you. When it comes to doing History of Art at University then again it still does not really matter – a degree is a degree! Employers look for graduates with a good degree pass and if you are studying something you really enjoy then go for it – there are plenty of jobs in the UK for History of Art graduates. Here are some of the jobs you could go for with a History of Art degree: Archivist, Arts Administrator, Auctioneer/Valuer , Editorial Assistant, Exhibitions Officer, Fine Arts Value, Heritage Officer, Historical Buildings Inspector, Lecturer, Art Historian (HE/FE), Librarian, Design, Special/Academic, Magazine Journalist, Museum/Art Gallery Curator, Museum/Gallery Conservator/Restorer, Picture Researcher, Teacher, Secondary School (Art), Antique Dealers , Art Dealers , Arts Organizations , Civil Service, Commercial Galleries. – who says there’s not many jobs with a History of Art degree, Eh? These are just SOME of the jobs an Art Historian can go into! *If you are still feeling slightly indecisive about your A Level choices, then why not read E.H Gombrich’s “The Story of Art?” It’s a clear and concise history of art and is a very interesting read ☺ Also, if you do history of art next year you’ll be ahead of everyone else as this book basically sums up much of the work in the course!*



## A Guide to History of Art – A students view

Like all subjects – you want to learn! And what’s better than learning about something you have a curiosity for and perhaps even have had an interest in from a young age. Doing History of Art is not just for Art students, although if you are an Art or a humanities student having history of art as a subject will definitely strengthen your love and understanding of art and culture! **Throughout the two years you get to cover the history and meaning of many paintings, sculptures, buildings and much more!**



Written by a Camden School for Girls

Year 13 student

History of Art might seem a mystery to you as it is, after all, a subject that is generally not on the school curriculum. Camden is lucky to be one of the few state schools in London that offer it as a subject at level 3 (Alevel). But as good old Rene Magritte said “Art evokes the mystery without which the world would not exist” therefore stating that it’s ok to be confused with art. Art makes us question the world around us, as it is not merely the painting, sculpture and architecture itself but the narrative, patriotism and historical context behind it too. Art is meant to make you confused, you may look at some of the modern art these days and think, is this actually art? It is only by questioning and thinking about the piece of art you are looking at that you begin to conjure up your own interpretation of the piece of art (as well as a bit of book/internet research to help you figure out what the artist themselves had to say about their work). If you enjoy reading about art, doing art or just have an interest for art in general then just go for it!

The reason I chose to study history of art back at GCSE time was because strangely enough I didn’t mind the artist research we had to do in our Art GCSE Sketchbooks and enjoyed writing about their work, so I wanted to find out more about the subject. When it comes to publicly expressing my ideas about art I have to admit I’m terrible at that! But it is an incredibly useful skill to have if you want to study History of Art at A level; the ability to express and present ideas about a particular artist or style, as throughout the year you’ll probably do one or two presentations on an artist and their work. You may even get the chance to participate in ARTiculation, which is a yearly History of Art public speaking event. In 2015 it took place in

Whitechapel Gallery. So even if you are watching the speakers it’s fun to see their different interpretations of the work. Also, as you would have guessed, you get to go on trips to galleries and should be going independently which, considering it’s A levels is really hard to find the time to do so, but you will really benefit from taking a few gallery visits as every bit of extra information you get will increase your knowledge and understanding of art.

Studying history of art allows you to explore more than one period in time. In the first year you cover most movements in art and by the end of the course you’ll be able to use the language of art to talk about a neo-expressionist painting or a mannerist building. So if you enjoy History and learning about different periods of art, then History of Art is for you!

