A CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS AND ART HISTORY...A CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS AND ART HISTORY...A CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS AND ART HISTORY...A CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS AND ART HISTORY...

BHĀVA

Current Courses

CRAFTING VISION, STUDYING LEGACY

ART HISTORY CLASSES || NET COACHING (VISUAL ARTS)
ART & RESEARCH GUIDANCE || CAREER CONSULTATION IN VISUAL ARTS

Preamble

My engagement with teaching began well before my formal academic journey in art history. It was shaped by the influence of teachers who, above all else, inspired a genuine desire to learn. This early exposure instilled in me a deep appreciation for the process of learning and a parallel aspiration to share that enthusiasm through teaching.

When I formally entered the field of art history at Kala Bhavana, this foundational spirit of inspiration found renewed direction. It was under the guidance of the late Parvez Kabir that I encountered an introduction to the myriad Ways of Seeing, which profoundly shaped my intellectual outlook. His teaching sparked a sense of curiosity and critical inquiry, encouraging a sustained and wonder-filled engagement with the visual world. This moment marked the beginning of my journey in art history, grounded in both reflection and the impulse to inspire others in turn.

From the very inception of Bhāva, our aim was to cultivate a space of open intellectual inquiry—an academic environment where students could engage freely, ask questions without hesitation, and critically examine the surrounding world. This vision was deeply informed by my own experience with art history as a discipline, which not only encouraged me to question established narratives but also prompted a process of unlearning ingrained biases—those subtle yet persistent influences we often carry from early social and cultural conditioning.

At Bhāva, one of our primary responsibilities is to support students in identifying and unpacking these inherited assumptions. By doing so, we aim to enable a more conscious and critical engagement with the visual world—an engagement that extends beyond the boundaries of formal curriculum.

Speaking of academic curriculum, Bhāva is committed to addressing the diverse and layered dimensions of visual art, culture, and history. Our goal is to equip students with the analytical tools and contextual understanding necessary to navigate the complexities of today's media-saturated and often contradictory digital landscape. In doing so, we encourage them to ask difficult questions, challenge dominant narratives, and critically assess the underlying structures of knowledge systems.

Founder

Dr Rahul Majumder
PhD, MVA, BFA [History of Art]
Purbapally, Santiniketan

Current Courses Offered

1. UGC-NET (Visual Arts), Course Code: NET_VA

- Lecture-based, detailed PPT-aided classes.
- Emphasis on chronological understanding with critical & strategic insights into the prep.
- MCQ tests in between topics.

2. Thesis/Dissertation Guidance, Course Code: VA_Disst

- Semi-structured, practice-based classes for Master's Dissertation & PhD Thesis in Visual Arts.
- Study theoretical nuances of research designs.
- Learn technical skills of writing academic papers in templated formats of Writing guides.

3. Art History: Customized, Course Code: AH_Full or AH_Custom

- Customized* Chronological Study of Indian, Western & Far-eastern Art History or core Art History topics.
- Lecture-based, detailed PPT-aided classes.
- Follows standard institutional syllabus.
- Emphasis on creating critical insights & contextual understanding.

4. CUET (Fine Arts) Coaching, Course Code: CUET_VA

- Brief, lecture-based, PPT-aided classes focusing on a coherent understanding of the given topics.
- Emphasis on critical & strategic insights into the prep.
- MCQ tests in between topics.

5. Guidance in artistic vocabulary, Course Code: AV_Custom
for the students of practical disciplines

- Develop strategies to navigate and overcome creative block in artistic practice.
- Brief, lecture-based, PPT-aided classes on how to develop an engaging visual language.
- Emphasis on the practicality of materials and medium, via contemporary practices.

6. Career Consultation

- session-based (single or multiple sessions) practical consultation on creating a path in this fast-changing world of the Visual art fraternity.

7. UGC-NET (Visual Arts): Crash Course, Course Code: NET_CC
Upcoming

- Crisp, fast-paced, lecture-based, detailed PPT-aided crash course.
- Emphasis on chronological understanding through detailed image resources.
- Separate classes for specific exam strategies by experienced faculty.
- Access to digital resources after the course.

To be Noted

At *Bhāva*, our academic structure is designed to foster both critical engagement and independent learning in visual arts and art history.

Pedagogical Approach

All courses are conducted through lecture-based sessions supported by detailed PowerPoint presentations, providing visual and conceptual clarity. Interactive discussions are both appreciated and encouraged, as they foster a discursive learning environment.

Course Content and Flexibility

For certain courses, particularly solo or one-on-one formats, the list of topics should be considered tentative. Based on the specific learning goals and background of the student, topics may be adjusted or expanded prior to the commencement of the course, in consultation with the faculty.

Duration and Class Structure

The timing and number of classes are often shaped by the level of student engagement and the nature of the content. While some topics can be completed within a shorter timeframe, others may require extended attention.

Learning Materials and Note-Taking

Relevant digital resources and reference materials will be provided to supplement in-class learning. However, students are strongly encouraged to take personal notes during sessions.

Independent Inquiry and Extended Learning

While the classes are designed to cover a broad spectrum of topics within the visual arts and art history, students are encouraged to pursue independent lines of inquiry beyond the course content. Faculty members will offer suggestions and reading recommendations, and are open to providing additional resources based on the student's interests or research direction. Curiosity and self-initiated learning are highly valued within the academic ethos of *Bhāva*.

Assessment-Oriented Preparation (UGC-NET and Beyond)

Courses specifically tailored for UGC-NET (Visual Arts) preparation include features such as topic-specific multiple-choice tests (MCQs) to support exam readiness.

We warmly welcome you to join us at Bhāva—a space for inquiry, reflection, and dialogue—as we embark together on a journey to discover the myriad ways of looking at Visual art, critically and consciously.

For more information on class and fee structure, center policies and other miscellaneous details, please call **+91-8116064828** or Visit us at **Purbapally [Behind Aparajita Guesthouse], Near Jora-Bari, Santiniketan.**

Kindly book a prior appointment.