

The Golden Age of Dutch Art



Utrecht Summerschool

20 – 31 July 2026

Course Director: Anna Koldewiej MA

Day-to-day program

This course includes lectures in the classroom, independent literature study as well as on-site excursions. You will be asked to participate in class as well as during the excursions: to ask relevant art historical questions and discuss artworks and their meaning, together in class or as group or individual short presentations. You will receive more information and a more detailed schedule (including departure times for the excursions and planning and subjects of the presentations) at the first day of the course.

With each lecture you will receive some literature, which helps you to remember what is taught in class, and to prepare for the final exam. The program includes lunch breaks as well as time for self-study and preparation time for your presentations.

WEEK 1

Monday 20 July **09:30-c.16:00**

Welcome

Lecture 1: *What to expect from this course? Introduction on Dutch art*

Lecture 2: *Predecessors: Early Netherlandish Art and Renaissance in Northern Europe*

Introduction library + registration museum cards

Tuesday 21 July **09:30-c.17:00 + optional drinks**

Lecture 3: *The beginning of the Dutch “Golden” Age, A historic background*

Lecture 4: *Genre painting and the organization of the arts in the Dutch 17th century*

Afternoon excursion in Utrecht: Dom, Historical city walk or Museum Catharijneconvent, St. Eloyen Gasthuis + optional closing drinks

Wednesday 22 July **09:30-c.17:00**

Lecture 5: *The ‘nature genres’ (landscapes to still lifes)*

Lecture 6: *The Famous Masters, part I (Rembrandt van Rijn)*

Afternoon: time for self-study in groups (preparation for group presentations on Thursday)

Thursday 23 July **09:30-c.16:00**

Lecture 7: *East meets West, the influence of the international trade on Dutch 17th century art*

Afternoon: Group presentations in class

Friday 24 July **09:00-c.18:00**

Day excursion to Leiden: Museum de Lakenhal & Architecture tour

WEEK 2

Monday 27 July **09:30-c.12:30**

Lecture 8: *The Famous Masters, part II (Frans Hals, Johannes Vermeer and contemporaries)*

Afternoon: time for self-study (preparation for Rijksmuseum tours on Tuesday)

Deadline: Choose subject final presentation

Tuesday 28 July **09:00-c.18:00**

Day excursion to Amsterdam: Rijksmuseum & Rembrandthuis

Wednesday 29 July **09:30-c.12:00**

Lecture 9: *Applied arts in the Dutch 17th century*

Afternoon: time for self-study (preparation for final presentations in The Hague on Thursday)

Thursday 30 July **09:00-c.18:00**

Day excursion to The Hague: Mauritshuis

This excursion day the students will guide the group, based on their new knowledge about Dutch art: individual presentations on location.

Deadline: Submit accompanying hand-out

Friday 31 July **10:00-c.14:00**

Exam

Closing lunch (optional)