School of Arts and Humanities

Visual and Performing Arts with Dance Concentration (BA)

Students who complete the major in Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) pursue an interdisciplinary study of the arts by selecting among courses in historical context, studio practice, performance ensemble, creative writing, and ideas and interpretation of the arts. In the VPA core course, students will experience the theory and practice of the arts in a workshop setting and, in studio or ensemble courses, will gain practical experience in at least one area of the visual or performing arts or creative writing. Courses in the historical context and interpretation of the arts will enable students to understand how style, subject matter, and materials may respond to different motivations and purposes. Students may also choose to enroll in courses associated with concentrations in communication, dance, theatre, film, music, or visual arts.

Since the following catalog course descriptions are very general, students are urged to consult the detailed course descriptions available on the web site for the School of Arts and Humanities. Unless otherwise noted, courses in Visual and Performing Arts are open to all students in the University.

Bachelor of Arts in Visual and Performing Arts with Dance Concentration

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)¹

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

Clinical Associate Professor: Michele Hanlon
Senior Lecturers: Misty Owens, Monica M. Saba

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours²

Communication: 6 semester credit hours

COMM 1311 Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
RHET 1302 Rhetoric

Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours

Choose one course from the following:

MATH 1306 College Algebra for the Non-Scientist
MATH 1314 College Algebra

Or select any 3 semester credit hours from Mathematics core courses

Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours
Select any 6 semester credit hours from Life and Physical Sciences core courses.

Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours

Choose one course from the following:
- HUMA 1301 Exploration of the Humanities
- LIT 2331 Masterpieces of World Literature
- PHIL 1301 Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 2316 History of Philosophy I
- PHIL 2317 History of Philosophy II

Or select any 3 semester credit hours from Language, Philosophy and Culture core courses.

Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours

Choose one course from the following:
- ARTS 1301 Exploration of the Arts
- AHST 1303 Survey of Western Art History: Ancient to Medieval
- AHST 1304 Survey of Western Art History: Renaissance to Modern
- AHST 2331 Understanding Art
- DANC 1310 Understanding Dance
- THEA 1310 Understanding Theatre
- FILM 2332 Understanding Film
- MUSI 1306 Understanding Music
- MUSI 2322 Music in Western Civilization

American History: 6 semester credit hours

Choose two courses from the following:
- HIST 1301 U.S. History Survey to Civil War
- HIST 1302 U.S. History Survey from Civil War
- HIST 2301 History of Texas
- HIST 2330 Themes and Ideas in American History
- HIST 2332 Civil War and Reconstruction

Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours

- GOVT 2305 American National Government
- GOVT 2306 State and Local Government
Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours
Select any 3 semester credit hours from Social and Behavioral Sciences core courses

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours
Choose two courses from the following or other Component Area Option courses:
  ARHM 2340 Creativity
  ARHM 2342 Connections in the Arts and Humanities
  ARHM 2343 Science and the Humanities
  ARHM 2344 World Cultures

II. Major Requirements, Lower-Division: 9 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum
9 semester credit hours from the following:
  DANC 1310 Understanding Dance
3 semester credit hours from a DANC studio
3 semester credit hours from a DRAM/DANC/MUSI studio ensemble course

III. Major Requirements, Upper-Division: 42 semester credit hours

Major Core Courses: 9 semester credit hours
  AP 3300 Elements of Art and Performance
  ARHM 3342 Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies in the Arts and Humanities
  AP 3340 Writing in the Arts

Major Distribution and Elective Courses: 24 semester credit hours
  DANC 3347 Dance Composition
  DANC 3345 Dance Performance or DANC 4317 Dance Performance II
3 semester credit hours of upper-division Visual and Performing Arts Historical Context courses
12 semester credit hours of 3000/4000-level Dance Studio and Ensemble courses
3 semester credit hours of upper-division Visual and Performing Arts elective

Major-Related Courses: 9 semester credit hours
Students may select any combination of upper-division courses in Arts and Humanities, Humanities, Historical Studies, Philosophy, Literature, and/or Languages.
IV. Elective Requirements: 27 semester credit hours

Free Electives: 27 semester credit hours

Both upper- and lower-division courses may be used as electives, but students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division courses to qualify for graduation. Students are encouraged to enroll in lower-level courses in other performance areas, such as theatre and music.

Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of ARHM 1100.¹

1. Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of UNIV 1010 and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.

2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.

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