Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) is a major that offers 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, 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 Film Concentration

**Degree Requirements** (120 semester credit hours)

*View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester*

**Faculty**

**I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours**

**Communication: 6 semester credit hours**

- RHET 1302 Rhetoric

And choose one course from the following:

- COMM 1311 Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
- COMM 1315 Public Speaking

**Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours**

- 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**
Select any 3 semester credit hours from Language, Philosophy and Culture core courses

Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours

[FILM 2332 Understanding Film]³

Or select any 3 semester credit hours from Creative Arts core courses

American History: 6 semester credit hours

Select any 6 semester credit hours from American History core courses

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

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Component Area Option core courses

II. Major Requirements, Lower-Division: 0-3 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum⁴

Lower-division preparatory courses (0-3 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum):

[FILM 2332 Understanding Film]³

3 semester credit hours Art & Performance Lower-Level Elective³

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

6 semester credit hours from the following:

[FILM 3321 Film in Historical Context]
[FILM 3325 Film Authorship]
6 semester credit hours from the following:

Upper-division film electives

AHST 3324 History of Photography

6 semester credit hours of upper-division courses from Studio and Ensemble courses
6 semester credit hours of upper-division Visual and Performing Arts electives

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: 33-36 semester credit hours

Free Electives: 33-36 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.

Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of ARHM 1100.  

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.

3. A required Preparatory course that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours may be counted in Core Curriculum.

4. 0 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum, if the student has not previously completed other courses to satisfy these core curriculum requirements.

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