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 completing a major core that includes courses in writing, interdisciplinary studies, professional development, historical context, theory and practice. The VPA major culminates in a Senior Capstone. Students who are majoring in VPA can focus their studies by choosing from nine possible concentrations.

The Dance concentration focuses student work in ballet, modern, jazz, tap, and Latin social dance. Student will develop knowledge and skills in dance history, technique, composition, and performance studies.

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. At least one-half of the semester credit hours for a major must be taken at UT Dallas.

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  
**Associate Professor of Instruction**: Monica M. Saba  
**Senior Lecturer**: Misty Owens

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours²

**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
- DANC 1310 Understanding Dance
- DANC 1305 Introduction to World Dance Forms
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: 6 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum
0 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum from the following:
- DANC 1310 Understanding Dance
- DANC 1305 Introduction to World Dance Forms
3 semester credit hours from a DANC studio
3 semester credit hours from a DANC/THEA/MUSI studio ensemble course

III. Major Requirements, Upper-Division: 42 semester credit hours
Major Core Courses: 18 semester credit hours
- ARHM 3342 Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies in the Arts and Humanities
- VPAS 3300 Elements of Art and Performance
  or Related Upper-Level Course from the School of Arts and Humanities
VPAS 3340 Writing in the Arts
VPAS 4389 Theory and Practice of the Visual and Performing Arts
VPAS 4390 Senior Capstone
Select 3 semester credit hours of Professional Development Courses from the following:
  ARTS 3311 Contemporary Art Practices
  ARTS 4310 Studies in Contemporary Exhibitions
  COMM 4370 Communication and Leadership
  COMM 4371 Communication and Professionalism
  ISAH 4V50 Internship
  VPAS 4310 Entertainment Law

Dance Concentration Requirements: 24 semester credit hours
  DANC 3340 Dance in Historical Context
  or Upper-Level Visual and Performing Arts Historical Context course
  12 semester credit hours of 3000/4000-level Dance Studio and Ensemble courses
  DANC 3347 Dance Composition
  DANC 3345 Dance Performance
  or DANC 4317 Dance Performance 2
  3 semester credit hours of upper-division Visual and Performing Arts elective

IV. Elective Requirements: 30 semester credit hours

Free Electives: 30 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.
3. A required Preparatory course that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours may be counted in Core Curriculum.
4. Course cannot come from the DANC prefix.