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 Music concentration allows students to develop a strong musical background through private study of their primary instrument or voice, along with music theory, composition/digital music, and history/literature. Opportunities to perform include solo performance, chamber music and large ensembles. Ensembles are available for voice, guitar, strings, winds, percussion, mixed chamber groups, and orchestra.

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 Music Concentration

*Degree Requirements* (120 semester credit hours)

*View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester*

Faculty

**Professors:** Enric Madriguera, Robert Xavier Rodríguez  
**Clinical Professor:** Catherine Parsoneault  
**Clinical Associate Professor:** Gregory Hustis, Linda Salisbury  
**Clinical Assistant Professor:** Michael McVay  
**Senior Lecturers:** Kelly P. Durbin, Kathryn C. Evans, Lori Gerard, Mary Medrick

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 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**
- 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 2306](https://catalog.utdallas.edu/2019/undergraduate/programs/ah/visual-and-performing-arts-music) 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

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**II. Major Requirements: 68 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum**

**History and Theory Courses: 15 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum**

**Practice and Performance Courses: 38 semester credit hours**
4 semester credit hours of lower-level Applied Music courses in primary instrument or voice
8 semester credit hours of upper-level Applied Music course in primary instrument or voice
8 semester credit hours of MUSI ensemble participation. Placement by audition.
15 semester credit hours of upper-level MUSI Electives
  MUSI 4390 Senior Project in Music

Visual and Performing Art Requirements: 15 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
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

IV. Elective Requirements: 10 semester credit hours

Free Electives: 10 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 dance and theatre.
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. Course cannot come from the MUSI prefix.