School of Arts and Humanities

The School of Arts and Humanities offers three graduate degree programs: History, Humanities, and Latin American Studies.

Degrees Offered

Masters Programs

- Master of Arts in Art History (36 semester credit hours minimum)
- Master of Arts in History (36 semester credit hours minimum)
- Master of Arts in History of Ideas (33 semester credit hours minimum)
- Master of Arts in Humanities (33 semester credit hours minimum)
- Master of Arts in Latin American Studies (36 semester credit hours minimum)
- Master of Arts in Literature (33 semester credit hours minimum)
- Master of Arts in Visual and Performing Arts (33 semester credit hours minimum)

Doctoral Programs

- Doctor of Philosophy in History of Ideas (60 semester credit hours minimum)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities (60 semester credit hours minimum)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Literature (60 semester credit hours minimum)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Visual and Performing Arts (60 semester credit hours minimum)

Certificates Offered

- Certificate in Creative Writing (12 semester credit hours)
- Certificate in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies (15 semester credit hours)
- Certificate in Literary Translation (12 semester credit hours)

Faculty

**Objectives**

The School of Arts and Humanities is committed to interdisciplinary programs that investigate the linkages between the arts and the humanities by fusing critical with creative thinking, theoretical with practical endeavors.

**Facilities**

The School of Arts and Humanities provides specialized facilities for academic research and creative expression. The Jonsson Building contains seminar rooms for classes in history, Humanities, and Latin American Studies as well as faculty offices and a graduate student lounge. The Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building houses studios for painting, photography, and digital and new media arts. Sculpture and printmaking studios are located in the Research and Operations Center West. The SP/N Gallery offers 6,000 square feet of state-of-the-art exhibition space and is home to the Comer Collection of Photography. It is located in the Synergy Park North 2 building. Performance venues for dance, theater, and music include the University Theatre and the Jonsson Performance Hall.

**Admission Requirements**

The University's general admission requirements are discussed on the [Graduate Admission](https://catalog.utdallas.edu/2021/graduate/programs/ah) page.
Each application is considered on its individual merits.

Applicants to all graduate programs must submit a 650-word narrative essay, which should be reflective rather than factual. This essay needs to address academic interests and goals as well as indicate how the specific graduate program and degree might enable the applicant to pursue them.

Applicants seeking admission to a doctoral program for the Spring 2022 semester and beyond must submit an academic writing sample (e.g., seminar paper, critical essay).

Although not required, MA and PhD applicants to the Visual and Performing Arts program are encouraged to provide links to their creative works.

Normally students applying for admission to the Graduate Programs in History of Ideas, Humanities, Literature, and Visual and Performing Arts should have previous academic degrees (BA, BM, BS, BFA, MFA or MA) in arts and humanities fields and a grade point average of 3.3 (especially in upper-division undergraduate or graduate work).

Normally students applying for admission to the Graduate Program in History should have a previous degree (BA or BS) in history or related disciplines and a grade point average of 3.3 (especially in upper-division undergraduate work).

Normally students applying for admission to the Graduate Program in Latin American Studies should have a previous degree (BA or BS) in arts and humanities fields, demonstrated interest and experience in Latin American studies, and a grade point average of 3.3 (especially in upper-division undergraduate work).

The School of Arts and Humanities does not require the Graduate Record Examination for admission to graduate programs.

Full-time and Part-time Students

Students can pursue the graduate degrees in humanities on a full- or part-time basis. Full-time students normally register for nine or more semester credit hours per term. The school takes care to accommodate part-time study by scheduling both day and night classes, thus allowing students flexibility in organizing individual schedules.

Degree Requirements

The University's general degree requirements are discussed on the [Graduate Policies and Procedures](https://catalog.utdallas.edu/2021/graduate/programs/ah) page.

The approach to graduate education in the School of Arts and Humanities is flexible. Within the specific degree requirements listed in the graduate catalog, each student plans a program of studies in consultation with an assigned advisor.

To have courses taken outside the school applied to one of its degrees, students must seek prior approval from the school's Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. They may also petition to have appropriate transfer courses applied to reduce the required number of semester credit hours for a degree at UT Dallas. The school's Associate Dean for Graduate Studies may require students with background deficiencies to take additional courses at the undergraduate or graduate level to remedy those deficiencies.

Active involvement in the process of artistic creation and performance is basic to the design of the Visual and Performing Arts. Therefore, students at the MA level with an emphasis on Visual and Performing Arts
are required to take at least one ensemble/workshop, and those working toward a PhD with an emphasis on this area are required to take at least one additional ensemble/workshop. Students undertaking creative projects for master's portfolios or doctoral dissertations must demonstrate their competency as artists by including in their degree plans a minimum number of studios, ensembles, or workshops related to a proposed medium: two for the MA and four for the PhD.

Research

The research interests of the faculty reflect the interdisciplinary mission of the School. In addition to the research activities of individual faculty, six centers and institutes that promote interdisciplinary research are located within the school: the Center for Translation Studies, the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies, the Center for Asian Studies, the Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology, the Center for U.S.-Latin American Initiatives, and the Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History. Because the School combines the Humanities and the Arts, many faculty are engaged in the creation and performance of artistic works in music, drama, literature, and the visual arts.

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