School of Arts and Humanities

Visual and Performing Arts with Film 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.

Film Studies is an interdisciplinary academic field that considers the history, aesthetics, and ideology of cinema as an art form, as an industry, and as a system of personal, political, and cultural representation. Courses are offered on a variety of topics involving film and moving-image culture, among them authorship, adaptation, world and national cinemas, genres (such as comedy, the musical, horror, and science fiction), and modes (such as documentary, experimental cinema, and film noir).

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 total semester credit hours for major requirements 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 Film Concentration

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)¹

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

Professor: Adrienne L. McLean

Associate Professor: Shilyh Warren

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

Or select any 6 semester credit hours from Communication Core courses (see advisor)

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

Or select any 3 semester credit hours from Creative Arts Core courses (see advisor)

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

Or select any 6 semester credit hours from Government/Political Science Option courses (see advisor)

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 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum

Lower-division preparatory courses (0-6 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum):

FILM 2332 Understanding Film

3 semester credit hours of lower-level Visual and Performing Arts Prep Course
III. Major Requirements, Upper-Division: 48 semester credit hours

**Major Core Courses: 15 semester credit hours**

- [VPAS 3340](#) Writing in the Arts
- [VPAS 4389](#) Theory and Practice of the Visual and Performing Arts
- [VPAS 4390](#) Senior Capstone
  
or [VPAS 4V99](#) Senior Honors in Visual and Performing Art

3 semester credit hours of upper-level Related Courses from the School of Arts and Humanities (excluding the AHST prefix)

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
- [ENTP 3301](#) Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- [ISAH 4V50](#) Internship
- [VPAS 4310](#) Entertainment Law

**Film Concentration: 33 semester credit hours**

9 semester credit hours from the following:

- [FILM 3321](#) Film in Historical Context
- [FILM 3325](#) Film Authorship

6 semester credit hours from the following:

- [FILM 3321](#) Film in Historical Context
- [FILM 3325](#) Film Authorship
- [FILM 3342](#) Topics in Film
- [FILM 4V71](#) Independent Study in Film

6 semester credit hours of upper-division courses of Prescribed Electives from the following:

- [AHST 3324](#) History of Photography
- [ATCM 2322](#) Media Histories
- [ATCM 2321](#) Reading Media Critically
ATCM 3321 Networked Identities
ATCM 3325 Global Media Cultures
ATCM 3331 Critical Making
ATCM 4322 Disability, Technology, and Media
ATCM 4323 Feminism, Technology, and Media
ATCM 4325 Race, Technology, and Media
ATCM 4327 Privacy and Surveillance
BIS 3320 The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry
COMM 3352 Media and Culture
CRWT 3354 Screenwriting Workshop
CRWT 4355 Advanced Screenwriting Workshop
GST 2300 Introduction to Gender Studies

6 semester credit hours of upper-division Visual and Performing Arts electives:

Students may select any combination of upper-division courses in Art History, Communication, Dance, Film Studies, Music, Theatre, Visual Art, and/or Visual and Performing Arts.

6 semester credit hours of Major Related courses:

Students may select any combination of upper-division courses from the School of Arts and Humanities.

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.

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. 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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