The Master of Arts in Visual and Performing Arts degree program is designed to allow graduates to pursue a career in the arts or arts-related fields, or to continue into doctoral study.

Visual and Performing Arts is an interdisciplinary program of study, so students take the majority of their coursework in Visual and Performing Arts courses, but may also take seminars in History/History of Ideas, Philosophy and Literature.

Program Description
Students seeking the MA in Visual and Performing Arts elect a professional option or a research option. The research option requires students to demonstrate proficiency in an approved foreign language and to complete a portfolio. Students pursuing the research option for the MA in Visual and Performing Arts may submit a creative project as part of their portfolio.

The MA in Visual and Performing Arts requires the completion of a minimum of 33 semester credit hours. For complete admission and degree requirements, view the Graduate Catalog at catalog.utdallas.edu.

Career Opportunities
Graduates of the program seek positions such as: artists, performers, teachers, researchers, arts administrators, arts entrepreneurs, arts writers/critics, editors, museum staff, consultants, archivists and other positions in research or professional practice. Career settings may include higher education, non-profits, cultural and historical organizations, publishing houses, government agencies, international development organizations, museums and archives, business/corporate entities and independent consulting.

Marketable Skills
UT Dallas MA in Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) graduates will be able to engage in enhanced understanding, application, practice, and study of the techniques, methods, theories, and forms of the visual and performing arts.

- Use knowledge, facts, and evidence to express independent analytical thinking about complex concepts in the arts, culture, and society through written, creative, and performative means
- Apply advanced performance, analytical, creative, and critical thinking skills in the workplace
- Plan, prepare, and present creative works in appropriate venues
- Adapt effectively to new and emerging technologies

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utdallas.edu/ah/programs/graduate/
The School of Arts and Humanities emphasizes education that seeks and creates connections, combining critical with creative thought, theory with practice and arts and humanities with other fields of knowledge. Our goal is to foster in students intense curiosity informed by rigorous attention and the ability not only to solve challenging problems but also to communicate the process and importance of the solution.

Our graduate programs provide students with a flexible, interdisciplinary context in which to pursue a personalized course of study. Rather than identifying fixed disciplinary areas, we have designed our graduate degrees around broadly defined areas of interest. The interrelationship and mutual influence of these broad areas is emphasized as the essential aspect of our approach to graduate education.

The School of Arts and Humanities offers the advantages of a research university and the nurturing atmosphere of a liberal arts college. Students in the School of Arts and Humanities are encouraged to explore the boundaries and the interrelationships of the major fields of study within the school. Consistent with this focus on the integration of the arts and humanities and a commitment to interdisciplinary education, the school has no conventional departments. Rather, its curriculum is designed to allow study that crosses and transcends traditional disciplinary lines. This flexible design allows faculty members to create learning communities based on mutual interests and in response to the educational needs of students.

**Additional Facts**

Several faculty members have been awarded prestigious fellowships, including those from the Guggenheim, Fulbright, Alexander S. Onassis and Woodrow Wilson foundations. Others are recipients of the Füst Literary Award, as well as awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The school’s centers further enhance students’ educational experience by bringing the concept of globalism to campus, by bringing world events into focus through research and by encouraging innovation and creativity.

The National Science Foundation recently awarded a major grant to the school’s Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology to study the mentoring and education that occurs in science laboratories.
The School of Arts and Humanities has several centers that provide a foundation for growth both internally and throughout the community:

**The Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies** furthers contemporary attempts at understanding, speaking about, interpreting and representing this difficult period in history.

**The Center for Asian Studies** is a hub for Asian scholarly study and cultural fluency. The center is devoted to Asian and Asian-American culture and the interaction of Asia with America.

**The Center for Translation Studies** has a broad mission: enhancing the visibility and establishing the importance of the translator as the most important mediator between cultures; supporting the scholarly analysis and creation of literary translations; establishing partnerships with writers, scholars and publishers around the world.

**The Center for U.S.-Latin America Initiatives (CUSLAI)** reflects the importance of Latin America to the United States and, specifically, to the northern portion of Texas, in the context of historical mutual understanding and co-existence. CUSLAI offers exchange opportunities for U.S. and Latin American scholars, researchers and students in science, technology, management, social sciences, arts and humanities.

**The Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology** supports programs and projects that address the human implications of scientific investigation and technological innovation.

**The Edith O’Donnell Institute of Art History** is a center for innovative research and graduate education in the history of art. Research and teaching at the O’Donnell Institute focus on artworks held in Dallas-Fort Worth collections, which together open onto a history of art that ranges across geography, chronology and medium. The O’Donnell Institute is dedicated to intellectual creativity, exchange and collaboration in the form of lectures and symposia, exhibitions, publications and collaborations with area institutions.

[utdallas.edu/ah/centers]