The PhD in Visual and Performing Arts degree program is designed primarily for individuals who wish to conduct advanced research and to teach at the college level, and can lead to a wide variety of non-academic careers as well. It is open to qualified candidates who desire to enhance their knowledge and skills.

The program provides students with a flexible, interdisciplinary context within which to pursue their studies, built on connections among specific courses and areas of interest. Each student plans an individual program of studies in consultation with an assigned advisor.

Visual and Performing Arts is an interdisciplinary program of study, so while students take the majority of their coursework in Visual and Performing Arts courses, they may also take seminars in History of Ideas, Philosophy, or Literature. Students pursuing the PhD in Visual and Performing Arts may submit a creative project as part of their dissertation.

**Program Description**
The PhD in Visual and Performing Arts requires 60 semester credit hours minimum. Students must also demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language and complete an academic or creative dissertation. For complete admission and degree requirements, view the Graduate Catalog at [catalog.utdallas.edu](http://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 PhD in Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) graduates will conduct advanced research and creative practice in the Visual and Performing Arts. The PhD in VPA will prepare graduates to communicate, teach (collegiate level), research, analyze, and create within their areas of emphasis and expertise.

- Apply new knowledge and perspectives about the arts within culture and society
- Use relevant and appropriate methods to participate in scholarly research and discourse to expand knowledge within their field of expertise
- Compose and publish scholarly works and participate in peer review
- Create and think independently, analytically, and critically, acknowledging complexity in visual and performing arts within cultural contexts and current practices
- Develop leadership skills in the classroom and within the collegiate and local community to engage others in creation, performance, and production of works
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.

Contact Information
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www.utdallas.edu
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