With a visual arts foundation, the program is designed for students who want to become creative videomakers, filmmakers, photographers, and computer artists, encouraging the hybridity of media. The curriculum combines hands-on experience of making art with practical and theoretical criticism, provides historical, social and aesthetic backgrounds for the understanding of modern media, and emphasizes creativity, versatility, and intelligence over technical specializations. It should allow students to go on to more specialized graduate programs in the media arts, to seek careers in film, television, computing, or photography, or to develop as independent artists. All media majors should see the departmental advisor upon entrance into UCSD.

LOWER DIVISION  7 courses / 30 units  
UPPER DIVISION  13 courses / 52 units  
TOTAL COURSES REQUIRED  20 courses / 82 units

ALL COURSES TAKEN FOR MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MUST BE TAKEN FOR A LETTER GRADE, AND ONLY GRADES OF C- OR BETTER WILL BE ACCEPTED. REFER TO COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR ENFORCED PREREQUISITES.

• Indicates Production Course, enrollment in production courses is limited to two per quarter

FOUNDATION LEVEL  (7 courses/30 units)

VIS 11  Introduction to Visual Arts  
VIS 22  Formations of Modern Art  
VIS 84  History of Film  
VIS 70N  Introduction to Media  

Choose two Art Making courses:
VIS 1 or 2 or 3  Introduction to Art Making  
VIS 41  Design Communication  
VIS 60  Introduction to Digital Photography  
VIS 80  Introduction to the Studio Major  

Choose one History course:
VIS 20  Introduction to Art History  
VIS 21A  Introduction to Art of the Americas  
VIS 21B  Introduction to Asian Art  

NOTE: VIS 70N is prerequisite for use of the Media Center facilities.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL  (6 courses/24 units)

VIS 174•  Media Sketchbook  

Choose four Art Making courses:
VIS 164•  Photographic Strategies  
VIS 165•  Camera Techniques: Analog Futures  
VIS 171•  Digital Cinema: Theory and Production  
VIS 175•  Editing: Theory and Production  
VIS 176•  16mm Filmmaking  
VIS 177•  Scripting Strategies  
VIS 178•  Sound: Theory and Production  

Choose one Interdisciplinary course:
VIS 102•  Cross-Border Urbanization  
VIS 105A•  Drawing: Representing the Subject  
VIS 105D•  The Aesthetics of Chinese Calligraphy  
VIS 106A•  Painting: Image Making  
VIS 107A•  Sculpture: Making the Object  
VIS 142•  Practices in Computing Arts  

VIS 147A•  Electronic Technologies for Art I  
VIS 148•  Visualizing Art Practice  

HISTORY AND THEORY  3 courses/12 units)

Choose three from:
Any Upper Division Art History Course VIS 120-129  
Any Upper Division Film Studies Course VIS 150-159, 194s

ADVANCED LEVEL  (4 courses/16 units)

Choose three Art Making courses:
VIS 167•  Social Engagement in Photography  
VIS 168•  Pictorialism and Constructed Reality  
VIS 180A•  Documentary  
VIS 180B•  Fiction & Allegory in Current Media Practices  
VIS 181•  Sound and Lighting  
VIS 182•  Advanced Editing  
VIS 183A•  Strategies of Self  
VIS 183B•  Strategies of Alterity  

Choose one Interdisciplinary Course:
VIS 108•  Advanced Projects in Art  
VIS 109•  Advanced Projects in Media  
VIS 110 A-J•  Advanced Studio – Various Topics  
VIS 131•  Special Projects in Media  
VIS 132•  Installation Production and Studio  
VIS 143•  Virtual Environments  
VIS 145A•  Time & Process Based Digital Media I  
VIS 147B•  Electronic Technologies for Art II  
VIS 149•  Seminar in Contemporary Computer Topics  
VIS 185•  Senior Media Projects  
VIS 197•  Media Honors Thesis  
VIS 198•  Directed Group Study  
VIS 199•  Special Studies in Visual Arts  
AIP 197•  Academic Internship Program  

(rev. 05 October 2017)