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

FOUNDATIONS 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
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 2018)