The Media program is designed for students who want to redefine the possibilities of photography, video, film and sound. The curriculum immerses candidates in the creative world of time-based practices. Based in conceptual and practical production, the program provides historical, social and aesthetic backgrounds for the understanding of modern media, and emphasizes creativity, versatility and intelligence over technical specializations. 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, suggested not to exceed two per quarter

FOUNDATION LEVEL (7 courses/30 units)

VIS 60 Introduction to Digital Photography
VIS 70N Introduction to Media

Choose two Media Studies courses:
VIS 83 Photographic History
VIS 84 Film History
VIS 84B Film Aesthetics
VIS 85A Media History
VIS 85B Media Aesthetics

Choose two Art Making courses:
VIS 1 or 2 or 3 Introduction to Art Making
VIS 11 Introduction to Visual Culture
VIS 41 Design Communication
VIS 80 Introduction to the Studio Major

Choose one Art History course:
VIS 20 Introduction to Art in Europe and America
VIS 21A Introduction to Art of the Americas
VIS 21B Introduction to Asian Art
VIS 21C Introduction to African Art
VIS 22 Formations of Modern Art

NOTE: VIS 60 or VIS 70N is prerequisite for use of the Media Center facilities.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL (8 courses/32 units)

VIS 164• Photographic Strategies: Looking & Seeing
VIS 174• Media Sketchbook

Choose two Media Practice courses:
VIS 165• Black & White Darkroom
VIS 165A• The Photographic Print
VIS 165B• The Photographer’s Studio
VIS 171• Digital Cinema- Theory and Practice
VIS 172• Motion Design and Visual Effects
VIS 175• Editing- Theory and Practice
VIS 176• 16mm Filmmaking
VIS 177• Scripting Strategies
VIS 178• Sound- Theory and Practice
VIS 179• Intermediate Projects in Media

Choose three Media Studies courses:
VIS 150 Landmarks of World Cinema
VIS 150A Seminar in Film History and Theory
VIS 151 Experimental Cinema
VIS 151A Seminar in Media History and Theory
VIS 152 Media in Social Context
VIS 152D Identity through Transnational Cinemas
VIS 155 Media Artists at Work
VIS 156 Latino American Cinema
VIS 157 Environmentalism in Art and Media
VIS 157D US Civil Rights in Art and Media
VIS 158A Topics in Contemporary Photography
VIS 158B Photography After 1960
VIS 158C History of Social Documentary
VIS 158D Black Subjects/Material in Photography
VIS 159 History of Art and Technology
VIS 194S Fantasy in Film

Choose one Interdisciplinary course:
VIS 100 Introduction to Public Culture
VIS 101 Introduction to Urban Ecologies
VIS 102 Democratizing the City
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

ADVANCED LEVEL (2 courses/8 units)

Choose two Media Practice courses:
VIS 167• Social Engagement in Photography
VIS 168• Pictorialism and Constructed Reality
VIS 169A• Photography in Exhibition/Artists Books
VIS 169B• Advanced Photographic Print
VIS 180A• Documentary Evidence
VIS 180B• Fiction & Allegory

(rev. 03 May 2021)
SENIOR PROJECTS  (3 courses/12 units)

Choose two Media Practice courses:
VIS 181• Advanced Sound and Lighting
VIS 182• Advanced Editing
VIS 182A• Advanced Digital Photography Editing
VIS 183A• Strategies of Self
VIS 183B• Strategies of Alterity
VIS 184• Advanced Scripting
VIS 185• Senior Media Projects

Choose one Interdisciplinary Course:
VIS 108• Advanced Projects in Art
VIS 110 A-K• 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 197• Media Honors Thesis
VIS 198• Directed Group Study
VIS 199• Special Studies in Visual Arts
AIP 197• Academic Internship Program