

VISUAL ARTS - MEDIA / CINEMATIC ARTS MAJOR COMPARISON CHART

The **Visual Arts – Media** Major offers a production-focused curriculum immersing students in film, video, photography, and sound design alongside extensive study in media theory and exposure to interdisciplinary, visual art coursework. Alternatively, the **Cinematic Arts and Film Studies** major examines cinema through a cross-departmental humanities lens.

VISUAL ARTS-MEDIA	VISUAL ARTS-MEDIA	CINEMATIC ARTS & FILM STUDIES	CINEMATIC ARTS & FILM STUDIES
CATEGORY	UNITS	CATEGORY	UNITS
Foundational Level	Total: 28 units	Lower Division Core	Total: 28 units
Introduction Media Production (Film / Video); Introduction to Photo	8	Foundational Production (Editing, Cinematography, Directing)	12
Media Studies	8	Lower-Division Electives	12
Intro to Art-Making Interdisciplinary (Vis Arts)	8	Vis-Arts Media Introduction	4
Art History	4	N/A	
Intermediate Level	32 Units	Upper-Division Core (Intermediate)	36 Units
Media Production (Film/ Video / Photo Classes)	16	Production (Vis Arts - Media and Communication Classes)	16
Media Studies	12	Film Studies	20
Intermediate Interdisciplinary (Vis Arts)	4	N/A	
Advanced Level	20 units	Upper-Division Core (Senior Projects)	8 Units
Media Production (Film/ Video / Photo Classes)	8	Practicum	4
Senior Media Projects	8	Capstone	4
Upper Division Interdisciplinary (Vis Arts)	4	N/A	0
TOTAL UNITS	80 (20 Classes)	TOTAL UNITS	72 (18 Classes)

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Visual Arts – Media Major

Students focusing on film, video, and photography receive extensive hands-on studio experience alongside instruction in media history and theory. Upper-division courses (exclusive to majors) emphasize technical mastery of digital cinema, analog film, photography, and sound design in state-of-the-art facilities, preparing graduates to be filmmakers, video artists, and photographers.

- **Focus:** Active production, interdisciplinary art-making (narrative/documentary film, video art, digital media, photography) and media theory.
- **Interdisciplinary Breadth:** Electives in Computing Arts, Speculative Design, painting, sculpture, and performance.
- **Senior Projects** Self-directed creative project (short film, photo book, video installation). Up to 12 units of faculty-mentored independent study available via the Honors Program.
- Unit Breakdown:
 - **Production:** 40 units (2 introductory, 4 intermediate, 2 upper-division, 2 senior projects)
 - Media Studies: 20 units (*5 classes*)
 - **Interdisciplinary Vis Arts:** 16 units (4 classes in Studio, ICAM, etc.)
 - Art History: 4 units (*1 class*)

Cinematic Arts and Film Studies Major

Offered by the Institute of Arts and Humanities, this program draws courses from Visual Arts, Communication, Literature, and other humanities departments to foster deep literacy in film history, critical theory, and cinematic form.

- **Focus:** Scholarly, theoretical, and historical analysis of cinema (global, independent, experimental, Hollywood).
- **Production Foundations:** Lower-division fundamentals (directing, editing, cinematography) and intermediate courses in Visual Arts and Communication to equip both scholars and filmmakers with technical understanding.
- **Senior Capstone:** Dedicated practicum and capstone project.
- Unit Breakdown:
 - **Production:** 32 units (4 foundational, 4 intermediate, 0 upper-division)
 - Film Studies: 32 units (*8 classes*)
 - Practicum & Capstone: 8 units (*2 classes*)