VISUAL AND DRAMATIC ARTS

THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

CHAIR
Brian Huberman

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS
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ARTIST TEACHER
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LECTURERS ON THEATRE
Christina Keefe
Matthew Schlief

VISITING LECTURERS
Jim Huston
Paige Willson

LECTURER ON FILM & MEDIA STUDIES
Charles Dove

DEGREES OFFERED: BA

Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts majors are students who concentrate their focus of study in the visual and dramatic arts, with emphasis in the studio arts, film, or theatre tracks. Each student should discuss with their faculty advisor the selection of courses and any other matters of concern in the student’s academic life such as study and travel abroad, scholarships and internships, career goals or options, etc.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN VISUAL AND DRAMATIC ARTS

Bachelor of Arts in Visual and Dramatic Arts

Single Major
Studio Art Track
(13 courses required)

ARTS 225 Basic Drawing (ARTS 101 accepted as equivalent)

ARTS 205 Photography I or ARTS 301 Painting I

ARTS 325 Life Drawing or ARTS 340 Color Drawing

ARTS 311 Intaglio I or ARTS 365 Sculpture I

ARTS 499 Senior Exhibition Project

6 elective courses in visual arts studio practice (ARTS), film (FILM), or theatre (THEA). May not include more than 3 film (FILM) or theatre (THEA).

2 elective courses in film history/theory (FILM), theatre (THEA), or art history (HART).

NOTE: Open selections qualified by course prerequisites. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with a visual and dramatic arts faculty advisor.

Film Track
(12 courses required)

ARTS 225 Basic Drawing (ARTS 101 accepted as equivalent)

FILM 327 Documentary Production

FILM 328 Filmmaking I

FILM 280 History and Aesthetics of Film or FILM 329 Film Form, or FILM 432 Film Genre: The Western

6 elective courses in film (FILM), studio practice (ARTS), or theatre (THEA). May not include more than 3 studio arts practice (ARTS), or theatre (THEA).

Two elective courses in theory/criticism of
studio arts (ARTS), theatre (THEA), or film/ media studies (offered in the Departments of Anthropology, English, French Studies, History, etc.).

NOTE: Open selections qualified by course prerequisites. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with a visual and performing arts faculty advisor.

**Theatre Track**
*(13 courses required)*

ARTS 225 *Basic Drawing* (ARTS 101 accepted as equivalent)

THEA 100 *Theatre Technology* or THEA 101 *Costume/Clothing Construction*

THEA 300 *Introduction to Theatre Design* or THEA 301 *Acting I*

THEA 303 *Introduction to Theatre*

THEA 331 *Theatre Production*

6 elective courses in theatre (THEA), studio arts practice (ARTS), or film (FILM). May not include more than 3 studio arts practice (ARTS) or film (FILM).

2 elective courses in visual arts studio practice (ARTS), film production, history, or theory/criticism (FILM), dramatic literature (ENGL), or art history (HART).

NOTE: Open selections qualified by course prerequisites. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with a visual and dramatic arts faculty advisor.

**Bachelor of Arts in Visual and Dramtic Arts Double Major**

**Studio Art Track**
*(11 courses required)*

ARTS 225 *Basic Drawing* (ARTS 101 accepted as equivalent)

ARTS 205 *Photography* or ARTS 301 *Painting I*

ARTS 325 *Life Drawing* or ARTS 340 *Color Drawing*

ARTS 311 *Intaglio I* or ARTS 365 *Sculpture I*

ARTS 499 *Senior Exhibition Project*

4 elective courses in studio arts practice (ARTS), film production (FILM), or theatre (THEA). May not include more than 2 film (FILM) or theatre (THEA).

2 elective courses in film history/theory (FILM), theatre (THEA), or art history (HART).

NOTE: Open selections qualified by course prerequisites. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with a visual and dramatic arts faculty advisor.

**Film Track**
*(10 courses required)*

ARTS 225 *Basic Drawing* (ARTS 101 accepted as equivalent)

FILM 327 *Documentary Production*

FILM 328 *Filmmaking I*

FILM 280 *History and Aesthetics of Film* or FILM 329 *Film Form* or FILM 432 *Film Genre: The Western*

4 elective courses in film (FILM), studio arts practice (ARTS), or theatre (THEA). May not include more than 2 studio practice (ARTS) or theatre (THEA).

2 elective courses in studio arts practice (ARTS), theatre (THEA), or film history/theory (offered in the Departments of Anthropology, English, French Studies, History, etc.).

NOTE: Open selections qualified by course prerequisites. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with a visual and performing arts faculty advisor.

**Theatre Track**
*(11 courses required)*

ARTS 225 *Basic Drawing* (ARTS 101 accepted as equivalent)

THEA 100 *Theatre Technology* or THEA 101 *Costume/Clothing Construction*

THEA 300 *Introduction to Theatre Design* or THEA 301 *Acting I*

THEA 303 *Introduction to Theatre*

THEA 331 *Theatre Production*

4 elective courses in theatre (THEA), studio arts practice (ARTS), or film (FILM). May not include more than 2 studio arts practice (ARTS) or film (FILM).

2 elective courses in visual arts studio practice (ARTS), film production, history, or theory/criticism (FILM), dramatic literature (ENGL), or art history (HART).

NOTE: Open selections qualified by course prerequisites. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with a visual and performing arts faculty advisor.
All graduating senior studio track majors are required to participate in the senior art exhibition held each spring during commencement week. Prior to the senior exhibition, graduating senior majors, who are focusing in the studio arts track are required to take a 1-credit-hour senior exhibition class during their senior year: ARTS 499 Senior Exhibition Project.

**TRANSFER CREDIT**

No more than 2 courses may be transferred for the single or double major to satisfy degree requirements for BA in Visual and Dramatic Arts degree. The 2 transfer credit courses must be studio, film, or theatre practice courses required for all majors. Advanced placement credit may not be used by visual arts majors to fulfill department degree requirements. Entering transfer students who are transferring coursework from another accredited college or university will be allowed to transfer their undergraduate art courses. Students must speak with the department chairman immediately upon transferring to Rice.

The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts will accept academic work completed in the Spring at NYU program and the National Theater Institute, Eugene O’Neill Theater Center program as transfer credit to fulfill major requirements (following university transfer credit guidelines).

See also Transfer Credit in the Information for Undergraduate Students section of the *General Announcements*.

**EXHIBITIONS, LECTURES, AND ARTS PROGRAMS AT RICE**

The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts mounts several art and photography exhibitions and stage productions each year. In addition exhibitions and related activities organized by the Rice Art Gallery enrich the teaching program of the Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts, as well as the larger university and Houston communities.

The department enjoys an ongoing close relationship with local theatres, museums, and galleries. The department offers opportunities for students to work and study with local art venues and alternative art spaces by way of collaborative events and programs. The collections and exhibitions of local museums often are the subject of course lectures. Lectures, symposia, and talks are sponsored by the department and are designed to bring local, national, and international scholars, actors, directors, critics, and studio artists to campus to speak on a broad range of topics and current interests.

**Rice Theatre program**

Rice Theatre Program curriculum offers a solid foundation in all aspects of theatrical production from acting and directing to technology and design for students who wish to pursue a professional career in theatre or continue on to a graduate program. Theatre courses are also open to nonmajors who want to gain a greater appreciation for the art of theatre.

There are 2 main-stage productions (one fall and one spring) and 2 student showcases offered each year in Hamman Hall—a 500-seat proscenium theatre facility. The department invites distinguished guest artists each year to direct and produce the 2 main-stage productions. Participation in productions is open to all students currently enrolled in theatre courses as well as students
who have taken theatre courses as non-majors. The end of semester showcases feature the work of students currently enrolled in theatre courses.

Theatre Program faculty are actively involved in professional theatre and film locally, nationally, and internationally and actively pursue opportunities to involve advanced students in that work. In addition, advanced students are encouraged to apply for internship positions whenever possible. Rice students have been accepted in competitive internships such as The Alley Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and The Peter Hall Company. In addition, students are encouraged to study theatre abroad and transfer course credit back to Rice. Approval for transfer credit must be sought prior to enrollment in a study-abroad program by contacting the director of the Theatre Program.

In even number years, the Theatre Program, sponsored by the Alan and Shirley Grob Endowment for Shakespeare in Performance, hosts the Actors From the London Stage—one of the oldest established touring Shakespeare theater companies in the world—for a week-long residency of workshops, performances, and lectures. Each tour presents a full-length play by Shakespeare performed by five classically trained actors who come from such prestigious companies as the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Royal National Theatre of Great Britain, and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

**Film at Rice**

Our film program works in concert with the Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts’ academic mission to enrich our students’ undergraduate experience. Our film and media studies students are provided state-of-the-art screening facilities to examine and study the historical and methodological aspects of movies from around the world in 16, 35, or 70 millimeter with Dolby Digital Sound. Film production students can showcase their work during the academic year on our new silver screen in recently renovated projection facilities. Each year we screen films from around the world—foreign features, shorts, documentaries, and animation—as part of our ongoing partnership with the diverse cultural communities of the City of Houston. Film at Rice reaches beyond the university’s hedges to create, engage, and encourage scholarly thought and dialog on the many issues that impact our world. Among the internationally known filmmakers who have appeared on our campus over the years are Werner Herzog, Rakhshan Baniemad, Atom Egoyan, Shirin Neshat, Martin Scorsese, Andy Warhol, George Lucas, and Dennis Hopper.

**Exhibitions, Lectures, and Arts Programs at Rice**

The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts mounts several art and photography exhibitions and stage productions each year. In addition, exhibitions and related activities organized by the Rice University Art Gallery enrich the teaching program of the Department of Visual Arts as well as the larger university and Houston communities.

The department enjoys an ongoing close relationship with local theatres, museums, and galleries. The department offers opportunities for students to work and study with local art venues and alternative art spaces by way of collaborative events and programs. The collections and exhibitions of local museums are often the subject of course lectures.

Lectures, symposia, and talks are sponsored by the department and are designed to bring local, national, and international scholars, actors, directors,
critics, and studio artists to campus to speak on a broad range of topics and current interests.

**Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Glassell School of Art Core Fellows**

The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts, in partnership with the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Glassell School of Art, supports up to six Glassell Core Fellowship recipients each year to teach studio practice and critical theory courses. These Core Fellowship recipients, selected by the MFAH from the highly competitive and prestigious Glassell School of Art Core Fellowship Residency Program, are post-graduate artists and art educators.

**Spring at NYU**

New York University's Tisch School of Art and Steinhardt School of Education offers students the opportunity to study studio art, film, and theatre each spring semester in New York City. Through this program, students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the study of art at NYU's outstanding facilities with leading faculty artists. Students interested in participating in the Spring at NYU program should contact their VADA faculty advisor and the NYU Tisch School of Art and/or the Steinhardt School of Education directly. The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts will accept academic work completed at NYU as transfer credit to fulfill major requirements (following university transfer credit guidelines).

**National Theater Institute**

The National Theater Institute is the educational arm of the renowned Eugene O’Neill Theater Center. The program is designed to complement a liberal arts education with three distinct study-away programs, all offering rigorous, risk-taking theater exploration. The semester-long program at the O'Neill Center in Connecticut, the NTI Moscow Art Theater semester, and the 7-week Theatermakers summer program confront the serious theater student with opportunities to discover new creative possibilities.

The National Theater Institute offers an extensive conservatory-based training program for the dedicated student. Distinguished master teaching artists guide the classes in courses in acting, directing, design, playwrighting, stage combat, voice, and movement. The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts will accept academic work completed at the National Theater Institute as transfer credit to fulfill major requirements (following university transfer credit guidelines).

See ARTS, FILM, HART, and THEA in the Courses of Instruction section for course descriptions.