

# VISUAL AND DRAMATIC ARTS

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## THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

### CHAIR

Brian Huberman

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George Smith

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Christopher Sperandio

### ARTIST TEACHER

Paul Hester

### LECTURERS ON THEATRE

Christina Keefe

Matthew Schlieff

### VISITING LECTURER ON THEATRE

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, options, etc.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN VISUAL AND DRAMATIC ARTS

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (Undergraduate Students section, pages 2–5).

### *Bachelor of Arts in Visual and Dramatic Arts*

#### *Studio Art Track Single Major (13 courses required)*

#### *Freshman and Sophomore Years*

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

ARTS 325 *Life Drawing*

ARTS 388 *Critical Studies for Studio Practice*

One HART (History of Art) elective

Two ARTS, FILM, or THEA electives

One ARTS Special Problems (may be taken any year of undergraduate study)

#### *Junior Year*

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Four ARTS electives in painting, printmaking, sculpture, and photography (two fall; two spring)

Junior Field Trip (spring semester)

#### *Senior Year*

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ARTS 499 *Senior Studio* (Six credit hours fall; four credit hours spring.) Students must enroll in ARTS 499 in both the fall and spring semesters of their senior year. A portfolio review is required prior to enrolling.

**Studio Art Track**

**Double Major**

**(11 courses required)**

*Freshman and Sophomore Years*

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

ARTS 325 *Life Drawing*

ARTS 388 *Critical Studies for Studio Practice*

One ARTS, FILM, HART, or THEA elective

One ARTS Special Problems (may be taken any year of undergraduate study)

**Junior Year**

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Four ARTS electives (two fall; two spring) in painting, printmaking, sculpture, and photography

Junior Field Trip (spring semester)

**Senior Year**

ARTS 499 *Senior Studio* (Six credit hours fall; four credit hours spring.) Students must enroll in ARTS 499 in both the fall and spring semesters of their senior year. A portfolio review is required prior to enrolling.

Visual arts majors are strongly encouraged to explore arts-related courses offered in other departments that may enrich the studio major, such as philosophy, anthropology, science, history, cultural studies, language, writing, comparative studies, etc. Students should speak with their Visual and Dramatic Arts faculty advisor prior to enrolling.

The junior year field trip will be designed to help visual arts majors focus on the upcoming senior year of intensive studio work. Trips may include local Houston alternative art, theatre, and film venues; museums; artist studios; and exhibitions as well as travel to destinations within the United States to visit significant arts sites and works.

**Film Track**

**Single Major**

**(12 courses required)**

FILM 225 *Introduction to Filmmaking and Editing*, or any introductory level ARTS elective

FILM 327 *Documentary Production*

FILM 328 *Filmmaking I*

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

Six elective courses in film (FILM), studio practice (ARTS), or theatre (THEA). May not include more than three 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 Dramatic Arts faculty advisor.

Junior Field Trip (recommended)

**Film Track**

**Double Major**

**(10 courses required)**

FILM 225 *Introduction to Filmmaking and Editing*, or any introductory level ARTS elective

FILM 327 *Documentary Production*

FILM 328 *Filmmaking I*

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

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

Two 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 Dramatic Arts faculty advisor.

Junior Field Trip (recommended)

Film track majors are strongly encouraged to explore arts-related courses offered in other departments that may enrich the film major, such as philosophy, anthropology, science, history, cultural studies, language, writing, comparative studies, etc. Students should speak with their Visual and Dramatic Arts faculty advisor prior to enrolling.

The junior year field trip will be designed to help visual arts majors focus on the upcoming senior year of intensive studio work. Trips may include local Houston alternative art, theatre, and film venues; museums; artist studios; and exhibitions as well as travel to destinations within the United States to visit significant arts sites and works.

***Theatre Track  
Single Major  
(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-Crew*

ARTS 388 *Critical Studies for Studio Practice*  
This counts as 1 of the 2 elective courses in theory/criticism. Must be taken during freshman, sophomore, or concurrent in junior year.

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

One elective course 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.

Junior Field Trip (recommended)

***Theatre Track  
Double Major  
(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-Crew*

ARTS 388 *Critical Studies for Studio Practice*  
This counts as one of the two elective courses in theory/criticism. Must be taken during freshman, sophomore, or concurrent in junior year.

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

One elective course 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.

Junior Field Trip (recommended)

Theatre track majors are strongly encouraged to explore arts-related courses offered in other departments that may enrich the theatre major, such as philosophy, anthropology, science, history, cultural studies, language, writing, comparative studies, etc. Students should speak with their Visual and Dramatic Arts faculty advisor prior to enrolling.

The junior year field trip will be designed to help all VADA majors focus on the upcoming senior year of intensive production work. Trips may include local Houston alternative art, theatre, and film venues; museums; artist studios; and exhibitions as well as travel to destinations within the United States to visit significant arts sites and works.

### **TRANSFER CREDIT**

No more than two courses may be transferred for the single or double major to satisfy degree requirements for BA in Visual and Dramatic Arts degree. The two transfer credit courses must be studio, film, or theatre practice courses required for all majors. Advanced placement credit may not be used by Visual and Dramatic 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 as well as the National Theater Institute program, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, as transfer credit to fulfill major requirements (following university transfer credit guidelines).

See also Transfer Credit in Undergraduate Students section, pages 15–16 .

### **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 also are open to nonmajors who want to gain a greater appreciation for the art of theatre.

There are two main-stage productions (one fall and one spring) and the possibility of two student showcases offered each year in Hamman Hall—a 500-seat proscenium theatre facility. The department invites distinguished guest artists each semester to direct and produce the two main-stage productions. Participation in productions is open to all students.

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.

### **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 seven-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, playwriting, 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).

### **RICE FILM PROGRAM**

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 include Werner Herzog, Rakhshan Banietemad, 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 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 seven Glassell Core Fellowship recipients each year to teach studio practice and critical theory courses. These Core Fellowship recipients, selected by the MFAH from

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the highly competitive and prestigious Glassell School of Art Core Fellowship Residency Program, are post-graduate artists and art educators.

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