Curriculum
The PhD in Visual and Performing Arts degree program is designed primarily for individuals who wish to conduct advanced research and to teach at the college level, and can lead to a wide variety of non-academic careers as well. It is open to qualified candidates who desire to enhance their knowledge and skills.

The program provides students with a flexible, interdisciplinary context within which to pursue their studies, built on connections among specific courses and areas of interest. Each student plans an individual program of studies in consultation with an assigned advisor.

Visual and Performing Arts is an interdisciplinary program of study, so students take the majority of their coursework in Visual and Performing Arts courses, but must also take two seminars each in both History of Ideas and Literature. Students pursuing the PhD in Visual and Performing Arts may submit a creative project as part of their dissertation.

Career Options
Graduates of the program seek positions such as: artists, performers, teachers, researchers, arts administrators, arts entrepreneurs, arts writers/critics, editors, museum staff, consultants, archivists and other positions in research or professional practice. Career settings may include higher education, non-profits, cultural and historical organizations, publishing houses, government agencies, international development organizations, museums and archives, business/corporate entities and independent consulting.

Degree Program
The PhD in Visual and Performing Arts requires 60 semester credit hours minimum beyond the master's degree. For complete admission and degree requirements, view the Graduate Catalog at catalog.utdallas.edu.
School of Arts and Humanities
Centers

The School of Arts and Humanities has several centers that provide a foundation for growth both internally and throughout the community:

The Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies
further contemporary attempts at understanding, speaking about, interpreting and representing this difficult period in history.

The Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Museums (CISM) trains graduate students in the cultural politics of display and the history of museums.

The Confucius Institute increases mutual respect and cooperation specifically between the people of China and the Southwest region by promoting the study of China’s language, history and culture.

The Center for Translation Studies has a broad mission: enhancing the visibility and establishing the importance of the translator as the most important mediator between cultures; supporting the scholarly analysis and creation of literary translations; establishing partnerships with writers, scholars and publishers around the world.

The Center for U.S.-Latin America Initiatives (CUSLAI), directed by Rodolfo Hernandez Guerrero, reflects the importance of Latin America to the United States and, specifically, to the northern portion of Texas, in the context of historical mutual understanding and co-existence. In 2013, UT Dallas expanded formally its presence and cooperation with Latin America, based on the interdisciplinary and applied approach used with Mexico through its former Center for U.S.-Mexico Studies (CUSMS). Since the creation of CUSMS in 1995, UT Dallas has expanded its presence and cooperation within Latin America in such countries as Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay. CUSLAI will consolidate existence agendas between UT Dallas and Latin America higher educational institutions to offer mechanisms of communication and learning experiences for U.S. and Latin American scholars, researchers and students in science, technology, management, social sciences, arts and humanities.

The Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology supports programs and projects that address the human implications of scientific investigation and technological innovation.

The Edith O’Donnell Institute of Art History is a center for innovative research and graduate education in the history of art. Research and teaching at the O’Donnell Institute focus on artworks held in Dallas-Fort Worth collections, which together open onto a history of art that ranges across geography, chronology and medium. The O’Donnell Institute is dedicated to intellectual creativity, exchange and collaboration in the form of lectures and symposia, exhibitions, publications and collaborations with area institutions.

utdallas.edu/ah/centers
The School of Arts and Humanities emphasizes education that seeks and creates connections, combining critical with creative thought, theory with practice and arts and humanities with other fields of knowledge. Our goal is to foster in students intense curiosity informed by rigorous attention and the ability not only to solve challenging problems but also to communicate the process and importance of the solution.

Our graduate programs provide students with a flexible, interdisciplinary context in which to pursue a personalized course of study. Rather than identifying narrow, fixed disciplinary areas, we have designed our graduate degrees around broadly defined areas of interest. The interrelationship and mutual influence of these broad areas is emphasized as the essential aspect of our approach to graduate education.

The School of Arts and Humanities offers the advantages of a research university and the nurturing atmosphere of a liberal arts college. Students in the School of Arts and Humanities are encouraged to explore the boundaries and the interrelationships of the major fields of study within the school. Consistent with this focus on the integration of the arts and humanities and a commitment to interdisciplinary education, the school has no conventional departments. Rather, its curriculum is designed to allow study that crosses and transforms traditional disciplinary lines. This flexible design allows faculty members to create learning communities based on mutual interests and in response to the educational needs of students.

ah.utdallas.edu

Additional Facts
Several faculty members have been awarded prestigious fellowships, including those from the Guggenheim, Fulbright, Alexander S. Onassis and Woodrow Wilson foundations. Others are recipients of the Füst Literary Award, as well as awards from the National Endowments for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The school’s centers further enhance students’ educational experience by bringing the concept of globalism to campus, by bringing world events into focus through research and by encouraging innovation and creativity.