

VISUAL STUDIES: ART AND CULTURE OF SEEING, BA

Visual Studies at the University of Pennsylvania prepares students to forge innovative connections across the disciplines that study vision and images. Students acquire a critical awareness of seeing and the problems and possibilities for investigating, thinking, and writing about seeing in the 21st century. Fundamentally interdisciplinary, the Visual Studies Program partners with the Departments of Philosophy, Psychology, History of Art, Fine Arts, and Architecture. Students may also find interest in Penn Programs such as Cinema Studies and Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies or outside of the School of Arts and Sciences in the Annenberg School of Communications, and the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

In Sector B, students explore the status of images as representations or models of visual experience and as bearers of information, and they develop skills in interpreting artifacts visually.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major>) for graduation in this major is 35. Double majors may entail more course units.

For more information: <https://www.sas.upenn.edu/visual-studies>

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Stage 1 - Core Courses</i>		
VLST 101	Eye, Mind, and Image	1
VLST 102 or VLST 103	Form and Meaning 3 Dimensions: Time and Space	1
<i>Stage 2 - Core Courses</i>		
Select 2 course units in each Sector:		6
A. Philosophy and Science of Seeing: ²		
PSYC 111/ VLST 211 or BIBB/ PSYC/VLST 217	Perception Visual Neuroscience	
PSYC 311/ VLST 212 or VLST 305	Research Experience in Perception What is an Image?	
Select one of the following:		
PHIL/PPE 244/VLST 221	Introduction to Philosophy of Mind	
PHIL 423/223/ VLST 223	Philosophy and Visual Perception	
PHIL 330/ VLST 222	Philosophy of Perception	
B. Art and the Culture of Seeing:		

ARTH 102/ VLST 232 or ARTH 278 or ARTH 286	Renaissance to Contemporary: Introduction to Western Art, 1400 to the Present American Art Modern Art: Picasso to Pollock	
ARTH 294/ VLST 236 or VLST 303	Art Now The Rise of Image Culture: History and Theories	
Select one of the following:		
ARTH 103/ EALC 013/ VLST 233	Art and Civilization in East Asia	
ARTH 104/ SAST 200/ VLST 234	Introduction to Art in South Asia	
ARTH/VLST 235	Introduction to Visual Culture of the Islamic World	
C. Art Practice and Technology:		
VLST 102 or VLST 103	Form and Meaning (course not used in Stage 1) 3 Dimensions: Time and Space	
Select one course unit in the following:		
FNAR 061/ VLST 261	Video I	
FNAR 123/ VLST 253	Drawing I	
FNAR/VLST 264	Art, Design and Digital Culture	
or one approved alternate course (See Website)		
VLST 301	What is Visual Studies?	1
<i>Stage 3 - Concentration Requirements</i>		
Art and the Culture of Seeing: ²		
Select 4 course units in Art/Culture of Seeing		4
Select 1 course unit of Philosophy/Science or Art Pract & Tech		1
<i>Stage 4 - Capstone Course</i>		
VLST 395	Senior Project (Year-Long Course)	1
Total Course Units		35

- ¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<http://www.college.upenn.edu/sectors-policy>).
- ² Important - Check for Pre-Requisites on PSYC and some FNAR courses.
- ³ Four courses (4 course units) in your concentration and one course (1 course unit) from another Sector. (Note: No Stage 2 courses may be double-counted in Stage 3).

Honors

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.70 in the major.

- Senior Project Completed (Grade of A)

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2018 and later. Students should

consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.
