VISUAL STUDIES:
PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE 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 A, students learn about the physiology and psychology of seeing; perception of color, movement, space, objects, and events; and issues in philosophy of vision from ancient to contemporary.

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
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College General Education Requirements and Free Electives
| Foundational Approaches + Sectors | + Free Electives | 20
Stage 1 - Core Courses
| VLST 1010 | Eye, Mind, and Image | 1
| VLST 1020 | Form and Meaning | 1
| or VLST 1030 | 3 Dimensions: Time and Space | 1
Stage 2 - Core Courses
Select 2 courses from each Sector: 6
A. Philosophy and Science of Seeing: 2
| PSYC 1340/ VLST 2110 | Perception | 1
| or NRSC 2217/ PSYC 2240/ VLST 2170 | Visual Neuroscience | 1
| PSYC 4340/ VLST 2120 | Research Experience in Perception | 1
| or VLST 3050 What is an Image? | 1
Select one of the following:
| PHIL 2640/ VLST 2210 | Introduction to Philosophy of Mind | 1
| PHIL 4843/ VLST 2230 | Philosophy and Visual Perception | 1
| PHIL 3623 | Philosophy of Perception | 1
B. Art and the Culture of Seeing:
| ARTH 1020/ VLST 2320 | The Artist in History.1400-Now | 1
| or ARTH 278 American Art | 1
| or ARTH 286 Modern Art: Picasso to Pollock | 1
| ARTH 2940/ VLST 2360 | Art Now | 1
| or VLST 303 The Rise of Image Culture: History and Theories | 1
Select one of the following:
| ARTH 1030/ EALC 0100/ VLST 2330 | Art and Civilization in East Asia | 1
| ARTH 1040/ VLST 2340 | Art of Global Asia | 1
| ARTH/VLST 2350 | Introduction to Visual Culture of the Islamic World | 1
C. Art Practice and Technology:
| VLST 1020 | Form and Meaning (course not used in Stage 1) | 1
| or VLST 1030 | 3 Dimensions: Time and Space | 1
Select one of the following:
| FNAR 1010/ VLST 2610 | Video I | 1
| FNAR 0010/ VLST 2530 | Drawing I | 1
| DSGN 0010/ VLST 2640 | Art, Design and Digital Culture | 1
| or one approved alternate course (See Website) | 1
| VLST 3010 | What is Visual Studies? | 1
Stage 3 - Concentration Requirements
Philosophy and Science of Seeing: 2
Select 4 course units of Phil/Science | 4
Select 1 course unit of Art/Culture or Art Pract/Technol | 1
Stage 4 - Capstone Course
VLST 3950A | Senior Project | 0.5
VLST 3950B | Senior Project | 0.5
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 2023 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.