

School of the Arts and Communication-1

School of the Arts and Communication

Taras Pavlovsky, *Interim Dean*

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The mission of the School of the Arts and Communication is to prepare the next generation of performers, educators, visual artists, scholars, communicators, and multimedia specialists. The School of the Arts and Communication, established in 2007, is composed of three long-standing departments, Art, Communication Studies, and Music, as well as an interdisciplinary program in Interactive Multimedia.

The Department of Art offers the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Fine Arts, Graphic Design and Digital Arts, and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Education and Art History. The Art Department is committed to providing programs of study that develop a high level of conceptual and technical ability, along with resources beyond the studio for a broader education in the arts.

The Communication Studies program is a liberal arts major emphasizing theory and practice in a variety of settings for human and mediated communication. Students enrolled in the communication studies program select one of three concentrations: organizational/interpersonal communication, public/mass communication, and radio/television/film.

The Bachelor of Arts program in Interactive Multimedia offers a cutting-edge, transdisciplinary curriculum intended to prepare students for the next generation of innovation in technology and communication with the goal of creating successful, ethical, and visionary leaders in a multicultural, highly technological, and increasingly global world.

The Department of Music, which has been a center for music study since 1916, offers the Bachelor of Music degree in music performance and in music teaching. The core mission of the department of music is to provide all majors with a strong background in performance both through the ensemble experience and in the private studio. Students in the School and across the College can also choose from a wide array of minors, including an interdisciplinary program in Theatre and Drama.

The Bachelor of Arts program in Interactive Multimedia offers a cutting-edge, transdisciplinary curriculum intended to prepare students for the next generation of innovation in technology and communication with the goal of creating successful, ethical, and visionary leaders in a multicultural, highly technological, and increasingly global world.

In all programs, students develop their specialized skills and knowledge within the rich context of the liberal arts.

School of The Arts and Communication Courses

Below are descriptions of courses offered under the School of the Arts and Communication, prefix VPA, which are in addition to those listed under their respective departments.

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VPA 101/Integrated Visual and Performing Arts

1 course unit

(every semester)

The Integrated Visual and Performing Arts Course is designed to help students appreciate how the visual and performing arts convey meaning, how our understanding of others and ourselves is deepened through a shared experience in the arts, and how cultural differences result in different aesthetic sensibilities. Through engaging in the creative process, students will develop an understanding of common underlying principles such as balance, form, rhythm, texture, etc., as they apply to the visual arts, dance, music, and drama and as they apply to different cultural art forms. The course consists of four modules: Visual Arts, Creative Movement/Dance, Music, and Drama. Each three week module will interpret a creation myth of a specific cultural tradition through a specific art form. Students will develop a common vocabulary and an understanding of the historical and cultural contexts that influence the arts. They will analyze, experience and reflect on the creative process and how it manifests itself in various art forms. Throughout the semester as the students work in theater, dance, music, and the visual arts, they will examine how the arts reflect the values and aesthetics of that time and place and how they contribute to communication about their shared human experience. During the last week, in groups, students will create a culminating performance interpreting creation myth from a culture different from their own through music, dance, theater and the visual arts.