

School of the Arts and Communication

John Laughton, *Dean*

Christine G. S. Leichliter, *Assistant Dean*

Click here for [Visual and Performing Arts courses](#).

The School of the Arts and Communication combines professional training in the disciplines with a strong liberal arts education. Established in 2007, the School is comprised of departments in the traditional visual and performing arts as well as programs that study film, video, radio and television, new media, and communication theory. We believe that in addition to being well trained in a discipline, today's graduates need to experience interdisciplinarity, cultural diversity, and community engagement. We focus on small classes as well as student-faculty research and performance collaboration. Our students regularly present at regional, state, national, and international conferences. Our program in Interactive Multimedia trains students to be media savvy; it draws on the latest developments in all the disciplines in the School plus computer science, journalism, and engineering. The Art and Interactive Multimedia programs are in a new, state of the art complex while the Music and Communication Studies are housed across the common in their own facilities that include concert halls, theaters, and radio and television production studios.

Art

The Department offers students a choice of a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fine Arts, Graphic Design or Digital Arts as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Art Education or Art History. In addition, the Department offers minor programs in Art History, Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Digital Arts and Photography. The BFA programs enable students to develop a high level of conceptual and technical ability as well as a broader understanding of the arts beyond the studio.

Communication Studies

Within the Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, students have their choice of three tracks: Interpersonal/Organizational Communication; Public/Mass Communication (including an Interdisciplinary Concentration in Health Communication); and Radio/Television/Film. In addition, the Communication Studies Department participates in the interdisciplinary Theatre and Drama minor in which students can study the theatre and perform in a variety of productions.

Interactive Multimedia

One of the first undergraduate majors in the country in this field, the program offers a Bachelor of Arts in Interactive Multimedia as well as a minor. The IMM program prepares students for advanced study or to enter careers such as video editing, animation, web design and development, mobile media, and game design.

Music

Accredited by NASM (National Association for Schools of Music), the national accreditation organization for music in the United States, the Department offers a Bachelor of Music with specializations in Performance or in Music Education, and a new Bachelor of Arts in Music. In addition to their regular coursework, music students participate in a variety of large and small ensembles as well as private studio.

School of The Arts and Communication Courses

Courses with the prefix VPA are offered under the School of the Arts and Communication in addition to those listed under their respective departments.