

# VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS MAJOR

Aligning itself with the evolving trends of the 21st century arts world, Worcester State University offers several programs for students, including two majors, double majors for education students, and four minors.

The Major in Interdisciplinary Visual and Performing Arts is one of the few interdisciplinary arts majors in the country. With this major, students go beyond the standard coursework in art, music, and theatre to understand the larger world of visual and performing arts. WSU's VPA major allows students to gain an interdisciplinary view of the arts and an understanding of how to use one art form to inform the other, while also gaining an in-depth knowledge of the art forms that most excite them.

The interdisciplinary major is designed to provide students with a strong foundation in art, music, and theatre, and both a theoretical and practical understanding about how they interact in an interdisciplinary environment. Core courses promote critical thinking, and prepare students intellectually and creatively to complete their capstone/senior thesis projects and launch careers in the arts. Students craft the major to fit their areas of interest – art, music, theatre, etc. - through electives chosen in consultation with advisors. Students apply their coursework to the production, performance, and critical study of creative work through a multitude of exhibit and performance opportunities.

## Requirements for a VPA Major

Minimum requirement for the major is completion of 45 credits, including a five course (15 credit) Foundation curriculum, a seven course (15 credit) Interdisciplinary Core, and 15 credits of electives chosen in consultation with an advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Interdisciplinary Foundation and Core Courses</b>		<b>(45 credits)</b>
<i>Foundation Courses</i>		<i>15</i>
Select 2 courses from 2 foundations and 1 course from the third		
<i>Foundation in Art</i>		
AR-118	Global Art History	
AR-123	Design Fundamentals	
<i>Foundation in Music</i>		
MU-101	Fundamentals of Music and Aural Skills	
MU-280	History of Music	
<i>Foundation in Theatre</i>		
TH-126	Script Analysis	
TH-145	Acting I	
<i>Core Courses</i>		
VP-155	First Year Practicum	1
VP-200	Critical Thinking in the Arts	3
VP-255	Second Year Practicum	1
VP-355	Third Year Practicum	1
VP-364	Interdisciplinary Arts Theory	3
VP-365	Interdisciplinary Arts Practice	3
VP-400		3
<i>Disciplinary Electives</i>		<i>15</i>

Five courses to be taken across the department in AR, MU, TH, or VP. To be selected with advising based on student interest and student need.

**Total Credits**

**45**