

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN ARTS

Digital Arts & New Media -
Film & Digital Media - Music -
Social Documentation - Theater Arts -
Visual Studies

Digital Arts & New Media M.F.A.

<http://danm.ucsc.edu>

(831) 459-1919

Digital Arts & New Media (DANM) researches the creative potentials and social implications of emerging technologies and digital cultural practices. Our two-year MFA program emphasizes artistic and technological innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and social action.

DANM is driven by an ethos of empathy and cooperation, a passion for joining art and technology, and a commitment to positive change locally and globally. Guided by a systemic approach, DANM strives to generate innovation that has broad social impact, shaping a more peaceful, equitable, and sustainable world.

DANM faculty are internationally renowned artists and scholars. Our Principal Faculty come from across the Arts Division and the Baskin School of Engineering. Our many Affiliate Faculty expand our expertise even further, offering students an unparalleled depth and breadth of mentors and interdisciplinary opportunities throughout a top-tier research university.

The MFA Program is designed around four interdependent pursuits:

Collaboration—The Research Project Groups are a hallmark of our distinctive curriculum. With close faculty mentorship, small clusters of students collaborate for at least three terms on a thematic project. Topics vary each year, and past themes include Art & Science, Experimental Play, Socially Engaged Art, and Performance and Embodiment.

Pedagogy—DANM prepares students for a future in teaching through practical experience. Students may be awarded teaching assistant positions as part of their overall support packages. Opportunities exist to teach one's own class and to serve as faculty a research assistant. These experiences contribute to our alumni success in academic careers.

New Praxis—New Praxis in DANM is comprised of “critique” and “practicum” which provide students with both the critical vocabulary and practical skills necessary to pursue their own individual goals as artists. This aspect of our program reflects upon the world in order to change it by translating ideas into action.

Studies—Studies in DANM include required core seminars and electives. Core courses explore an array of recent methods and approaches in digital arts and culture. Electives explore specific topics by engaging in dialogues at the intersection of theory and practice, leading to the MFA thesis project and paper.

DANM students whose work dovetails with faculty research in Film & Digital Media (FDM) and who have established a working relationship with FDM faculty will receive special consideration for application to the FDM Ph.D. program at UCSC.

Film & Digital Media Ph.D.

http://film.ucsc.edu/phd_program

fdmphd@ucsc.edu

The Ph.D. program in Film and Digital Media challenges the traditionally conceived borders between creative and critical practice. The program enables potential dialogue between creative practice and theoretical knowledge as related forms of intellectual work and provides the conditions for students to realize a wide range of possible projects, including those that exist across the traditional divides of critical studies and production. Focusing on a diverse range of cultural production that includes cinema, television, video art, and Internet-based media, the Ph.D. program participants interrogate the historical, aesthetic, political, ideological, and technological aspects of these media forms across a range of international contexts, investigating their points of connection and convergence as well as their relationship to broader cultural and historical change.

In our research and teaching, we explore the intersections of what have been, or have become, separated modes in our field of media studies: theory and practice. We seek to nurture dialogue between creative practice and scholarly inquiry as related forms of intellectual work. Our approach to media studies and media production incorporates a range of technologies and platforms, stressing their historical and intertextual relationships.

A new generation of media makers and media interpreters has the power to re-shape the world. Making and studying media today necessitates a global and historical perspective. By thinking and working across boundaries of nation, culture and identity, we are creating new forms of knowledge and new media forms that respect and investigate differences of race, class, gender, sexuality and nation.

Students who earn a Ph.D. in Film and Digital Media will gain the skills, knowledge, and understanding that will enable them to: Demonstrate that student's critical study of media informs the student's media-making practices; Demonstrate knowledge of video and/or digital media production; Demonstrate critical thinking and analytical skills appropriate doctoral work in to the discipline of film and digital media; Demonstrate research skills appropriate to doctoral work in the discipline of film and digital media; Demonstrate scholarly writing skills appropriate to doctoral work in the discipline of film and digital media

Candidates must have demonstrated skill in critical, theoretical and historical scholarship, and a demonstrated interest in film, television, video and new media studies. We are particularly interested in candidates with demonstrated experience in some form of artistic production, and an interest in combining creative work with critical and theoretical study. Candidates should also be aware that we will prioritize those who, in their application, outline a project or form of work that integrates critical and creative work together in a hybrid form that would be difficult or impossible to pursue in either a conventional humanities program or a studio or production degree program. The Ph.D. program in Film & Digital Media is designed to provide a platform for the creation of hybrid work that would not be possible to accomplish elsewhere.

Music M.A., D.M.A., Ph.D.

<http://music.ucsc.edu/programs/graduate>

mga.mus@ucsc.edu

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree program in music has emphases in composition, musicology/ethnomusicology, or performance practice, and integrates studies in performance, composition/analysis, and research. The program seeks to maintain a balance of skills and interests and to encourage a diversity of approaches among its graduate students. In consultation with a faculty adviser, the student pursues a two-year course of studies culminating in a final project that combines an original composition, written thesis, or essay with a related public performance or lecture recital. The student's role in the performance may range from that of a performer or conductor to that of a coach (of original compositions or a selected repertoire).

The curriculum includes courses in research methods, analysis, composition, and performance practices in Western music from the

THE DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES

<https://gradadmissions.ucsc.edu>



UC SANTA CRUZ



Renaissance to the 21st century and in the musics of India, Latin America, and Asia.

Graduates of the M.A. program have become successful candidates for doctoral programs, academic positions, and other technical and professional careers in music.

Graduate students in the composition program (M.A., D.M.A.) choose between two areas of emphasis: algorithmic/computer-assisted composition, and world music composition. Faculty and students interpret these areas flexibly in incorporating an extraordinarily wide variety of approaches and aesthetics. Graduate students work closely and collaboratively with their advisers to forge programs based upon each student's unique priorities.

Algorithmic/Computer-Assisted Composition is not one field but many. Each composer in this emphasis utilizes the computer in different ways and to different extents. Some composers work primarily with instruments; some primarily with electro-acoustic materials, some with both. Faculty working in this area of emphasis assist students in strengthening their technical abilities in all aspects of their craft. Students work to develop their fluencies in music theory, mathematics, programming, and compositional technique necessary to realize their aesthetic goals.

The Ph.D. in Music degree program provides students with an integrative framework for music scholarship, emphasizing the ways in which musicology and ethnomusicology interact and complement one another. Coursework encourages students to discover commonalities and distinctions among the world's music cultures through an examination of cross-cutting parameters, such as pitch and rhythm systems; the relationship of music to text, dance, religion, gender, and politics; and issues of ethnography.

Students also select from a series of more specialized cross-cultural courses that draw on the particular specialties of UCSC's music faculty. Students may also supplement their studies with courses from other departments on campus, such as anthropology or the history of consciousness program. In addition to cultural approaches to world musics, the program encourages the integration of scholarly research with musical performance, emphasizing the ways in which performance serves both rhetorical and symbolic ends within various cultural settings. "Performance practice" plays a significant role in this program, and can encompass research activities as diverse as fieldwork, historical editing, and recording, as well as publishing of books and articles on compositional and performance traditions

Social Documentation M.F.A.

<http://film.ucsc.edu/socdoc/>
socdoc@ucsc.edu

SocDoc is designed for future documentarians committed to social change and to documenting communities, cultures, issues, and individuals who are marginalized in our current landscape of representation. SocDoc goes beyond story-telling into the intimacy of people's lives, the causes underlying social injustice, the issues too pressing to ignore.

With training from professionals outstanding in their fields, students gain the skills and confidence to enter the increasingly sophisticated world of documentary production. As important as training in equipment is training in world-view, from the ethics of documentary to perspectives of narrative, and markers of evidence.

Students who earn an M.F.A. in Social Documentation will gain the skills, knowledge, and understanding that will enable them to critically analyze social issues pertaining their documentary subject matter. They acquire analytical writing skills, producing advanced project proposals and developing creative treatments, and demonstrate an understanding of historical models of documentary practices. Graduates gain expertise in documentary project planning and experience with different types of cameras, lighting, and sound recording equipment, and with various editing tools in post-production. They are able to analyze their field recordings according to story structure and character development in order to develop their own work, and leave with the ability to implement distribution, social media and transmedia applications to their documentary projects.

Theater Arts M.A.

<http://theater.ucsc.edu/programs/graduateprogram>
(831) 459-2974

Our M.A. program serves as a bridge from undergraduate work to professional work in a range of performance-related fields. We encourage students to explore performance from a broad perspective, then to hone in on one capstone project that will test them to the best of their abilities. These projects have included practice-focused and scholarly-based research in Directing, Performance, Design, Technical Theater and Stage Management, Dramaturgy, and Dramatic Literature.

The Master of Arts degree combines intellectually rigorous coursework with challenging artistic practice. Like our undergraduate curriculum, our graduate program integrates the study of ancient and modern theater texts and practices, and it examines diverse approaches to performance. It encourages collaboration, initiative, and cross-disciplinary thinking.

Visual Studies Ph.D.

http://havic.ucsc.edu/visual_studies_phd
visualstudies@ucsc.edu

The Visual Studies Ph.D. is an interdisciplinary program designed for students who wish to pursue a graduate degree focused on the social and cultural production of human vision (visuality) and on the distinctive roles played by art and artifacts in societies from around the globe. The program is both interdisciplinary and flexible. Students work closely with their advisors and the director of graduate studies to craft a personalized course of study that advance their intellectual and professional goals. Our graduates study a range of theoretically relevant methodologies for the study of visuality, explore diverse cultural perspectives across time and space, and develop the necessary skills and knowledge to secure and excel in academic, curatorial and other professional careers.

The program employs a wide range of visual evidence for examination, without being constrained by traditional hierarchies of art or art history. The primary sources examined in our courses and in the work of our faculty and students include materials as diverse as landscaping, ritual, performance, material culture, bodily adornment, popular entertainment, digital art and data, photography, film, advertising, and design, as well as painting, sculpture and architecture.

Our Ph.D. program is particularly adept at illustrating significant differences in how disparate cultural groups interpret their visual worlds, given the breadth of cultural perspectives taught by our faculty. With scholars focusing on cultures in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Pacific Islands, Visual Studies at Santa Cruz offers students an unparalleled opportunity to consider the role of social and cultural forces in guiding how and what humans see.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Mastery of the history of visual culture theory and methods, the ability to describe and analyze internal & external criticisms, debates, and reformulations of the field, both historical and current.
- Utilization of research methods and analysis appropriate for carrying out independent and original research.
- The ability to plan curricula and learning programs, to express ideas clearly and explain them to others, and to assess student work fairly and accurately.
- Effective communication skills in presenting research findings in oral and written forms.
- Professional preparation, including the ability to write grants, to submit publications to journals and presses, and to participate in professional organizations and conferences.