

VISUAL STUDIES

Admission Requirements

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

Students must apply and be admitted to their primary graduate program and The Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the Visual Studies dual-title degree program. Applicants interested in the dual-title degree program may make their interest known on their applications to their primary graduate program, and should ensure their personal statements reflect their interest in the Visual Studies dual-title graduate program. After admission to their primary program, students must apply for admission to and meet the admissions requirements of the Visual Studies dual-title program. Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title degree program in Visual Studies prior to taking the qualifying examination in their primary graduate program.

With the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies in their primary graduate program, students already enrolled in a co-operating graduate program at Penn State may apply to the Visual Studies program after they are admitted as graduate students in their primary graduate programs. Applicants must submit the following materials to the Visual Studies Academic Advisory Committee, which will determine admission to the program:

- A letter of approval from the Director of Graduate Studies in your primary graduate program
- A copy of your Graduate School Application which was originally submitted to your primary graduate program
- Official transcripts from previous coursework, including transcripts that accompanied application to the Graduate School and transcripts of coursework completed at Penn State (Photocopies of transcripts sent from the home department are acceptable)
- Official GRE scores (Photocopies of GRE scores sent from the home department are acceptable)
- A writing sample
- A personal statement that describes how the dual degree program fits with your scholarly interests
- 1 letter of recommendation from a Visual Studies faculty member at Penn State