

School of

# PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

## MAJORS

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- Art BA
- Graphic Design BFA
- Dance BFA
- Theatre BA
- Theatre BFA
- Studio Art BFA

## MINORS


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- Art History Minor
- Art Minor
- Dance Minor
- Graphic Design Minor
- Sculpture Minor
- Theatre Minor

## CONTACT US

 601.266.4161  [spva@usm.edu](mailto:spva@usm.edu)

 [usm.edu/spva](http://usm.edu/spva)

 [@usmartsandsciences](https://www.instagram.com/usmartsandsciences)

Post-secondary students in the State of Mississippi often choose to attend a Mississippi community college (MS CC) and earn an associate degree before transferring to The University of Southern Mississippi to complete their bachelor's degree. To make this transition as smooth as possible and to ensure no credits are lost, we have created this transfer guide. In most, but not all, cases, students may complete a bachelor's degree in what we refer to as a '2+2' format:

2 years at a MS CC for an associate degree, which includes general education coursework





+

2 years at USM to complete the bachelor's degree

Please use the key below to determine which courses you must, should, or could take at a Mississippi community college before transferring to Southern Miss.

## KEY



 <b>MUST</b>	Students who do not complete these requirements at a MS CC cannot complete their bachelor's degree in the 2+2 format.
 <b>SHOULD</b>	Students should complete these requirements at a MS CC in order to have the smoothest transition to Southern Miss. It may still be possible to complete a bachelor's degree in the 2+2 format without taking these courses, but it will be challenging.
 <b>COULD</b>	Students could complete these requirements at a MS CC if they desire. Not taking these courses prior to transferring will not affect a student's ability to complete their bachelor's degree in the 2+2 format.
 <b>CALCULUS READINESS</b>	Calculus is required on this degree plan. Students should arrive at Southern Miss ready to take Calculus I, which means they must have completed Trigonometry or have a Math ACT subscore $\geq 26$ . Students may complete Calculus I prior to transferring if they desire.



**NOTE:** *This document is intended as a guide; it does not guarantee graduation in the 2+2 format. Degree requirements are subject to change. Please consult the school of your desired major for up-to-date requirements.*

Additional majors are available from the other Southern Miss colleges.

### College of Education & Human Sciences

Hattiesburg 601.266.4568

Gulf Park 228.214.3340

### College of Nursing & Health Professions

Hattiesburg 601.266.5445

AskCNHP@usm.edu

### College of Business & Economic Development

Hattiesburg 601.266.4659

Gulf Park 228.214.3447

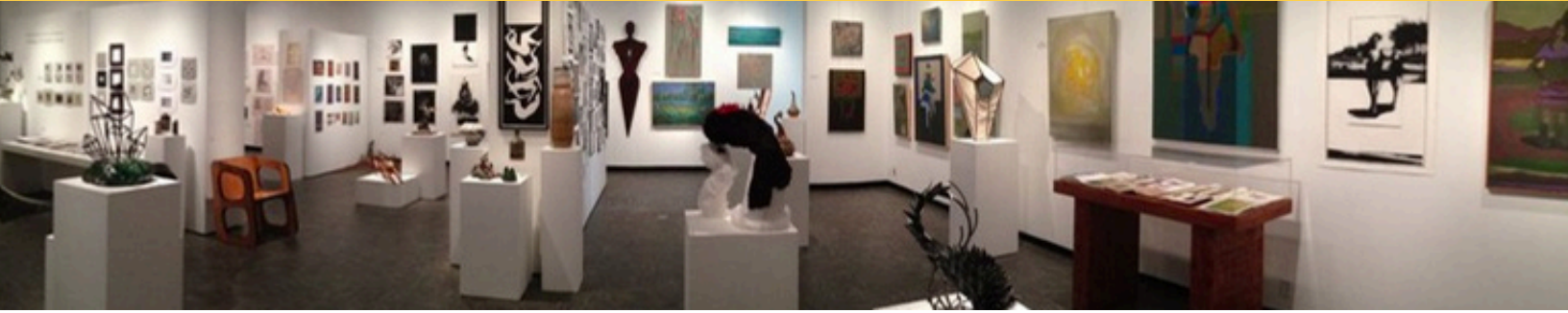
business@usm.edu



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTHERN**  
**MISSISSIPPI**

# ART

ART BA, GRAPHIC DESIGN BFA, STUDIO ART BFA



## PROGRAM INFO

At Southern Miss, our visual arts degrees prepare you for creative careers and advanced study. Choose from a Bachelor of Arts with flexible studio art and art history options, a Bachelor of Fine Arts focused on professional studio art, or a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design designed for the fast-paced design industry.

As an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, we provide 24/7 access to cutting-edge studios. Graphic Design students use large-format printers, laser etching, screen printing, and direct-to-garment technology. Ceramics and Sculpture studios offer hands-on opportunities in woodworking, metal casting, welding, wheel-throwing, glaze mixing, and kiln firing.

All art majors also have access to well-equipped drawing, painting, and printmaking studios—giving students the tools and space to develop their skills and creativity.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

These programs prepare students for careers as graphic and multimedia designers, historians, artists, educators, gallery managers, creative directors and more.

📞 601.266.4972 ✉️ [spva@usm.edu](mailto:spva@usm.edu)

🌐 [usm.edu/performing-visual-arts](http://usm.edu/performing-visual-arts)

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## KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Art majors start with our Art Foundations program—a dynamic first-year experience that builds core skills in drawing, design, and color theory. From there, students advance to specialized courses in studio art and art history.

Our curriculum develops not only technical expertise but also creativity, visual analysis, and critical thinking. Students learn to see the world differently and express ideas powerfully through their art.

## OPPORTUNITIES



### SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are based on portfolio review and area of study.



### STUDY ABROAD




Students and faculty alike present and travel to both regional and national conferences. The Art & Design programs also participate in the Southern Miss British Studies Program.

# ART BA

2+2











Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...

-  **MUST** Take the foundations program below in the first year, either at a community college or at USM.
-  **SHOULD** Complete the fourth semester of a world language.
-  **COULD** Take Art History I & II.

## CHECKLIST

## COURSES

Updated August 2025

	Courses at Community College	Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1313</b>	<b>ART 101</b> Drawing I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1323</b>	<b>ART 102</b> Drawing II
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1433</b>	<b>ART 111</b> Design I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1443</b>	<b>ART 112</b> Design II
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1453</b>	<b>ART 113</b> Three-Dimensional Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b> through fourth semester	<b>FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH</b> Regularly offered at USM
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 2713</b>	<b>ART 232</b> History of Art I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 2723</b>	<b>ART 234</b> History of Art II



**NOTE:** This document is intended as a guide. Please contact the School of Performing and Visual Arts at 601.266.4161 or [spva@usm.edu](mailto:spva@usm.edu) to check on current degree requirements.

# STUDIO ART BFA

1+3



**MUST**

Take the foundations program below in the first year, either at a community college or at USM.



**COULD**

Take Art History I & II.








## CHECKLIST

## COURSES

Updated August 2025

### Courses at Community College

### Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss

<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1313</b>	<b>ART 101</b> Drawing I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1323</b>	<b>ART 102</b> Drawing II
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1433</b>	<b>ART 111</b> Design I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1443</b>	<b>ART 112</b> Design II
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1453</b>	<b>ART 113</b> Three-Dimensional Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 2713</b>	<b>ART 232</b> History of Art I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 2723</b>	<b>ART 234</b> History of Art II

## NOTES

The BFA cannot be completed in a 2+2 format. All skill development must be completed with USM faculty. Studio art courses beyond the equivalents to ART 101, 102, 111, 112, and 113 will only transfer as general elective credit and cannot be used toward the major.



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# GRAPHIC DESIGN BFA

1+3



**MUST**

Take the foundations program below in the first year, either at a community college or at USM.



**COULD**

Take Art History I & II.








## CHECKLIST

## COURSES

Updated August 2025

### Courses at Community College

### Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss

<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1313</b>	<b>ART 101</b> Drawing I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1323</b>	<b>ART 102</b> Drawing II
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1433</b>	<b>ART 111</b> Design I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1443</b>	<b>ART 112</b> Design II
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 1453</b>	<b>ART 113</b> Three-Dimensional Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 2713</b>	<b>ART 232</b> History of Art I
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>ART 2723</b>	<b>ART 234</b> History of Art II

## NOTES

The BFA cannot be completed in a 2+2 format. All skill development must be completed with USM faculty. Studio art courses beyond the equivalents to ART 101, 102, 111, 112, and 113 will only transfer as general elective credit and cannot be used toward the major.



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# DANCE



## PROGRAM INFO

Our studio-based, performance-intensive courses teach students to create and teach dance while developing their own artistry. Faculty mentor students in shaping and pursuing career paths. Internship opportunities connect studies to the professional world. Individualized instruction—a hallmark of our program—supports exploration of dance through historical and contemporary lenses.

The dance program is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Dance.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

With a dance degree, career options vary based on your interests and skills. Possibilities include professional dancer, choreographer, teacher, movement therapist, arts administrator, fitness instructor, dance critic, and stage manager.

## KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Students study modern, ballet, and jazz techniques, anatomy, dance history, and production, with options to explore somatics, conditioning, music analysis, dance technology, yoga, floor barre, Pilates, and more. Dance making is explored through courses in improvisation, composition, and choreography.

In composition, students learn the fundamentals of creating solos and group works. In choreography, dancers engage in semester-long processes to set work on our Repertory Dance Company.

## OPPORTUNITIES



### SCHOLARSHIPS

We award several scholarships annually based on talent and financial need.



### STUDY ABROAD

Students and faculty alike present and travel to both regional and national conferences such as NDEO, ACDA, Alabama Dance Festival, Mississippi Dance Festival, American Dance Festival, Mark Morris Dance Group's winter intensive, the International Association of Blacks in Dance Conference, World Dance Alliance Mini Conference, and more.



### INTERNSHIPS

An internship in the professional dance world is a requirement for all majors. Internships are developed in conjunction with the student's advisor with the purpose of furthering the education and exposure to an area of professional interest for the student.

Recent internship opportunities include USM's British Studies dance program in London, the American Dance Festival, lead intern for the Mississippi Dance Festival, and choreographing for summer stock musical performances. Additional opportunities in dance education, dance therapy, arts administration, marketing, and more are available.

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# DANCE BFA **2+3.5 or 4**

## ALL EMPHASES



### SHOULD

Dance as much as possible at community college to achieve dance skill at the 200-level.

Updated August 2025

### NOTES

The BFA cannot be completed in a 2+2 format. Students wanting to begin at a community college are encouraged to dance as much as possible before transferring.

Student skill level will be evaluated upon transfer, and if the dancer has mastered 200-level exit competencies, then they will be given credit for any 200-level dance courses taken at the CC. 100-level dance courses are not equivalent to any Dance BFA requirements.



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# THEATRE

## BACHELOR OF ARTS & BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS



### PROGRAM INFO

The BFA in Theatre is for students focused on future careers as performers, technicians, or designers. The BA in Theatre promotes a broad array of coursework with a flexible approach to specialization for a more comprehensive and well-rounded education in theatre studies. The BA is particularly appropriate for young directors, stage managers, and dramaturgs. This degree plan balances analysis and creativity with the awareness of theatre's importance to society.

We are an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

### KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

In a production-oriented environment, students take courses in:

- Directing
- Acting
- Design & technology, including lighting, sound, costuming, and scenery
- Theatre history
- Professional preparation
- A selection of additional coursework tailored to individual student interest

### SCHOLARSHIPS



The theatre program offers scholarship consideration to students who complete their online registration, attend "Curtain Up Welcome Day", and complete a successful audition/interview.

There are also highly exclusive and competitive scholarships awarded by the theatre faculty on a talent or need basis. These awards range from \$100-\$8,000.

### STUDY ABROAD



Travel and exposure to the broader world of theatre are critical to the development of actors. We participate in a ten-state region in both the Southeastern Theatre Conference and the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Our British Studies program features internationally renowned guest artists in musical theatre, Shakespeare, and contemporary drama. Programs in London theatre and in the performing arts at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland have been offered as well. These credit programs are eligible for financial aid.

Noncredit travel is also available: the New York Theatre Tour and the London Theatre Tour delight students and community members during spring break.

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# THEATRE BA

2+2



Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...



**COULD**






Take the theatre courses below before transferring.  
Explore minor options.

## CHECKLIST

## COURSES

Updated August 2025

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Courses at Community College	Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss
 SPT 1233 or SPT 2283	<b>THE 120</b> Fundamentals of Acting
 SPT 1273	<b>THE 304</b> Stage Makeup
 SPT 2263	<b>THE 320</b> Directing
 SPT 1223	<b>THE 361</b> Beginning Movement
 EXPLORE MINOR OPTIONS	

# THEATRE BFA ALL EMPHASES

## NOTES

The BFA cannot be completed in a 2+2 format. As with the other BFA degrees, skill development must be mentored by USM faculty.



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