

Frequently Asked Question (FAQs) about applying to Media Studies

Q1. I am interested in applying to the Media Studies major. When can I do it?

You may apply in the Spring of your 2nd or 3rd year. If you are a third year transfer student, you can apply in the fall of your transfer year, as long as you are taking MDST 2000.

Q2. Are there any requirements that I have to fulfill before applying?

Yes. You can apply to the major **ONLY** if you have fulfilled one of the following conditions:

- If you already took either MDST 2000 or MDST 2010 and your grade was a C+ or higher
- If you are currently enrolled in either MDST 2000
- If you have completed two courses that can be applied towards the MDST major and you got a C+ or higher in both
- If you have completed one course that can be applied toward the MDST major with a C+ or more **AND** you are enrolled in one course that can be applied toward the major

Q2.1. Besides MDST 2000 and MDST 2010, what courses can I use to apply to the major?

You can use most courses that start with MDST. In addition, Media Studies accepts some pre-approved courses from other departments. You can find these in the following lists. Some are in the [Non-US Media](#) Approved Course List. Some are in the [Practice of Media](#) Approved Course List (note that **ONLY** one course from this list can be applied toward the MDST major). Some are in the [Diversity and Identity](#) Approved Course List. And some are in the [Media Concentrations](#) list of courses. Specific questions about accepted courses can be directed to bjg4q@virginia.edu.

Q3. Is there a minimum GPA to apply to the MDST major?

Yes. You have to have an average GPA of 2.500 or higher

Q4. When is the application process?

There are **TWO** applications each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The fall application is **ONLY** for third year transfers. The rest can only apply in the spring.

Q4.1. I am a second year student who did not transfer, when do I apply?

In the spring

Q4.2. I am a second year transfer student, when do I apply?

You can apply in either the spring of your second year if you have fulfilled the requirements specified in Q2 **OR** you can apply in the fall or spring of your third year

Q4.3. I am a third year student, when do I apply?

You can only apply in the fall if you transferred to UVa. If you didn't transfer and you are in your third year, you will apply in the spring.

Q4.4. I am a fourth year student. Can I apply to the major?

No. Fourth year students cannot apply to Media Studies

Q5. When is the spring application process?

The application is typically due at the beginning of March, but the date changes year to year. Check our website.

Q5.1. When is the fall application process?

This application, which is only for transfers, is typically due at the beginning of December, but the date changes year to year. Check our website.

Q6. How long does it take to know whether I was accepted to the major?

Typically we are able to let you know within 10 days of the application due date. You will receive an email with instructions to follow including the request to meet your appointed Media Studies advisor.

Q6.1. If I didn't get in, can I re-apply?

Yes. The only limitation is that we don't accept applications from fourth years.

Q7. If I am accepted into the major, do I have to fill a Major Declaration Form?

Yes. You will complete the declaration with your advisor at your advising appointment.