

The Media Arts Department at the University of North Texas updated its television studios with Brainstorm's InfinitySet, offering students hands-on experience using modern virtual production technology.

Offering 114 bachelor's degrees, 87 master's degrees and 39 doctoral degrees, the University of North Texas (UNT) is one of the United States largest educational institutions. Its renowned The Media Arts department offers graduate and undergraduate degrees in a variety of

media areas including, news production, film production and producing, video game design, media industries. media and cultural studies, and media theory.

In 2021, the Media Arts Department decided to update its television studios and

provide students with hands-on experience in production technologies and techniques. John Johns, Chief Engineer of the department, lead this effort, leveraging his decades of experience in feature film and television. This initiative included incorporating virtual production to expand learning opportunities for students.



By Fall 2022, UNT launched the first Virtual Studio Production class in the state of Texas, marking an important addition to the Media Arts curriculum. And, when it came time to choosing a technology partner, UNT evaluated different virtual studio providers, looking for a solution that would align with their educational needs and production goals. As a consequence of this evaluation, Brainstorm's InfinitySet was selected for its capabilities and the support offered during the process.



Johns stated: "After a few days of research, it became clear that InfinitySet would meet our needs. The Brainstorm team also offered support during the setup process." The integration services were provided by TM Television, a Brainstorm channel partner based in Carrollton, TX.

UNT's setup spans two television studios, each serving different purposes. One is a multi-camera classroom serving about 95 students per week, while the other is dedicated to producing 10 live newscasts involving over 100 students.

Each studio uses Panasonic AK-HC3800 cameras on pedestals and a Panasonic UE-

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150 PTZ camera on a jib crane. UNT also utilizes three Ultimattes to manage the chroma keying in the virtual environment, which are used for either finished composites or providing pre-processed foreground fill and a liner key or matte channel to combine with Infinity Set.

The InfinitySet workstation runs Unreal Engine 5 and it is already prepared to cope with the upcoming tracking upgrades for the studio cameras the Media Arts Department is preparing.

By adopting InfinitySet, the University of North Texas has integrated virtual production into its Media Arts program. The

"Brainstorm's team provided support throughout the process, helping us to implement the tools required to align both our educational and production objectives. This collaboration has helped us introduce virtual production into our curriculum effectively" John Johns **Chief Engineer UNT Media Arts Dept.**

Media Arts Department is now migrating many of their traditional classes to virtual projects, while also adding virtual newscasts and projects for the University's gaming program. This integration allows students to develop skills aligned with current trends in media production.



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