GRAPHIC DESIGN, BFA

for the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

The curriculum in graphic design requires 122 credit hours and prepares the student for entrance into the professional practice of design visual communications. Studio work addresses graphic design fundamentals (typography and image making), design history and contemporary practices, research methods, user experience, and social responsibility. Students engage with complex problems and are asked to identify opportunities where design can intervene. In addition, students have the opportunity to develop their personal interests by taking advantage of a highly interdisciplinary selection of elective courses offered by the School of Art + Design, including photography, video, traditional printmaking, sustainability, and advanced interaction design.

Students in the School of Art and Design must complete the Campus General Education requirements (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/). Some Art and Design courses will also apply toward the General Education requirements (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/).

Students majoring in this degree program must complete the First Year Curriculum requirements before beginning other major requirements.

A portfolio review is required for admission to the School of Art and Design.

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Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 122 hours.

University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300- or 400-level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The University and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part8/3-801/) (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog (http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/).

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in Art and Design.

Code	Title	Hours
Composition I		4-6
Advanced Composition		3
Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)		6
fulfilled by ARTH 110 and ARTH 211		
Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)		6
Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)		6
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)		3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)		3
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)		3
fulfilled by ARTH 110		
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)		6-10
Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)		0-15

First Year Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
FAA 101	Arts at Illinois	1
ARTF 101	Contemporary Issues in Art	2
ARTE 101	Art, Design, and Society	2
ARTH 110	Introduction to the History of Art and Visual Culture	3
ARTF 103	Design I	3
ARTF 105	Design II	3
Select one Drawing course:		3
ARTF 102	Observational Drawing	
ARTF 104	Expressive Drawing	
ARTF 106	Visualization Drawing	
Total Hours		**17**

Art History Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ARTH 211	Design History Survey	3
Advanced art history (200-level or above)		6
Total Hours		**9**

Graphic Design Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ARTD 151	Introduction to Graphic Design	3
ARTD 218	Interaction Design Foundation	3
ARTD 222	Typography 1	3
ARTD 251	Graphic Design Toolbox	2
ARTD 270	Design Methods	2
ARTD 318	Interaction Design	2
ARTD 333	Typography 2	3
ARTD 351	Graphic Design Inquiry	4
ARTD 371	Graphic Design Practicum	2
ARTD 418	Advanced Interaction Design	3
ARTD 444	Typography 3	3
ARTD 451	Ethics of a Designer in a Global Economy	4
ARTD 471	Graphic Design Capstone	3
Total Hours		**37**

Art & Design Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Art & Design Electives (ARTS, ARTD, ARTE, ARTH, or ARTJ courses not otherwise required in major)		12

Summary of credits for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

Code	Title	Hours
General Education		
First-Year Curriculum		17
Art History		9
Major		37
Art & Design Electives		12
Free electives to bring the total hours earned to 122, including a minimum of 40 credits at the 300- or 400-level.		
Total Hours		**122**

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This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a third level of a language other than English. For more information, see the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/).

First Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
FAA 101	1	ARTE 101	2
ARTF 101	2	ARTF 105	3
ARTF 103	3	ARTD 151	3
ARTH 110	3	Composition I or Language Other than English (3rd level)	4
ARTF ### (Drawing Category)	3	General Education course	3
Composition I or Language Other than English (3rd level)	4		
	16		15

Total Hours 31

Second Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
ARTD 222	3	ARTD 333	3
ARTD 251	2	ARTD 218	3
ARTD 270	2	ARTH 211	3
General Education course	3	General Education course	3
General Education course	3	General Education course	3
Art & Design Elective (ARTS, ARTD, ARTE, ARTH, or ARTJ courses not otherwise required in the major)	3		
	16		15

Total Hours 31

Third Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
ARTD 451	4	ARTD 444	3
ARTD 351	2	ARTD 418	3
ARTD 318	2	Art & Design Elective (ARTS, ARTD, ARTE, ARTH, or ARTJ courses not otherwise required in the major)	3
ARTH 200-level or above (Advanced Art History)	3	General Education course	3
General Education course	3	General Education course	3
	14		15

Total Hours 29

Fourth Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Art & Design Elective (ARTS, ARTD, ARTE, ARTH, or ARTJ courses not otherwise required in the major)	3	Art & Design Elective (ARTS, ARTD, ARTE, ARTH, or ARTJ courses not otherwise required in the major)	3
ARTD 371	2	ARTD 471	3
ARTD 351	2	General Education course	3
ARTH 200-level or above (Advanced Art History)	3	Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3	Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3		
	16		15

Total Hours 31

Total Hours: 122

for the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

1. Acquire proficient skills in recognizing, researching, organizing, and visualizing abstract ideas to produce graphic compositions for effective communication of messages across digital, print, experiential, and speculative media.
2. Critically select industry standard and emerging tools and technology, analyzing their roles in the creation, reproduction, and distribution of visual messages.
3. Understand typography as a system and its appropriate use for readability, legibility, and conveying meaning across digital and print media.
4. Develop the capability to realize a design idea through an iterative creative process of research, prototyping, refinement, and implementation, articulating criticism of the field.
5. Adapt and use evolving research methods and frameworks of the graphic design and user experience disciplines.
6. Apply knowledge of perception, cognition, and embodied experience to multimodal design practices, enhancing the efficacy of communication through diverse sensory channels.
7. Recognize and analyze the multifaceted professional, social, environmental, and ethical implications of the graphic design discipline.

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School of Art & Design

School of Art & Design (https://art.illinois.edu/)
Art & Design faculty (https://art.illinois.edu/about/faculty-directory/)
Coordinator of Undergraduate Academic Affairs:Michael Foellmer (foellme1@illinois.edu)
143 Art and Design Building, Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 244-8462

College of Fine & Applied Arts

Fine & Applied Arts (https://faa.illinois.edu)

Admissions

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Undergrad Admissions (https://admissions.illinois.edu/myillini-apply/)
FAA Undergraduate Advising (https://faa.illinois.edu/student-resources/current-students/academic-affairs-office/undergraduate-advisors/)
Undergrad Admissions:admissions@illinois.edu