VISUAL ARTS



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Fine Arts – Graphic Design

This degree map is based on the current Academic Catalog and is subject to change. Please note that the degree map is designed to give you a sense of roughly how courses might be distributed over a 4-year degree. Your exact schedule will differ depending on a range of factors though we recommend taking a minimum of 15 credits each fall and spring semester. Regular consultation with your academic advisor is the best way to make sure that you are taking the courses you need in the right order to ensure efficient progress through your degree program.

Sample 4-Year Plan

First Year						
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits			
ART 100 2D Foundations	3	ART 101 3D Foundations	3			
ART 120 Drawing Foundation	3	ART 190 Digital Foundations	3			
Gen Ed - First Year Seminar (1/15)	3	ARTH 210 Ancient to Medieval Art	3			
Gen Ed Course (2/15)	3	Gen Ed Course (4/15)	3			
Gen Ed Course (3/15)	3	Gen Ed Course (5/15)	3			
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15			

Second Year						
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits			
ART 220 Drawing II OR ART 221 Figure Drawing	3	GRDS 200 Introduction to Graphic Design	3			
One course in Printmaking	3	One course in Painting	3			
One course in Photography	3	One course in Sculpture	3			
ARTH 220 Renaissance to Contemporary	3	Gen Ed History or Global Perspectives: Art History course 200 level or higher (7/15)	3			
Gen Ed Course (6/15)	3	Gen Ed Course (8/15)	3			
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15			

Third Year						
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits			
One course in Fabric Design (BL) OR Ceramics (LH)	3	One course in Web Design	3			
One course in Digital Art OR Graphic Design	3	Upper Level Graphic Design course (1/2)	3			
One course in Typography	3	Gen Ed History or Global Perspectives: Art History Course Non-Western (11/15)	3			
Gen Ed – Arts/ Music, Theater, or Dance (9/15)	3	Junior Seminar: GRDS 483 Design Theory and Practice	3			
Gen Ed Course (10/15)	3	Gen Ed course (12/15)	3			
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15			

Fourth Year					
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits		
Upper Level Graphic Design course (2/2)	3	Graphic Design Internship or Practicum	3		
GRDS 490 Graphic Design Focus	3	CAPSTONE: GRDS 491 Graphic Design Thesis Course	3		
Graphic Design (GRDS) or Digital Art Elective	3	Visual Art Elective	3		
Gen Ed course (13/15)	3	Gen Ed course (15/15)	3		
Gen Ed course (14/15)	3	Free elective course	3		
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15		

Winter/Summer College - Optional

While not required, Winter and Summer sessions are offered each year and may help you stay on track or get ahead. You may take up to seven (7) credits during Winter College and up to 14 credits during Summer College.

VISUAL ARTS BFA (Graphic Design)

Curriculum Checklist 75 credits

BFA CORE (39 credits)

- ____ ART 100 2D Foundations (3)
- ____ ART 101 3D Foundations (3)
- ____ ART 120 Drawing Foundations (3)
- ____ ART 190 Digital Foundations (3)
- ____ ART 220* Drawing II or ART 221* Life Drawing (3) ____ Choose one course in Printmaking (3)
- ART 260*; 261*; 262*; 263*; 264*; 265*; or GRDS 282*
- Choose one course in Photography (3)
- ART 250*; 252*; 253*;254*; 255*; 256*; or 257*
- ____ Choose one course in Painting (3)
- ART 180, 240; 241*; 242*; 243*, 340* or 341*
- ____ Choose one course in Sculpture (3)
- ART 270*; 271*; 272*; 273*; 274*; 275*; 276*; or 277*
 Choose one course in Fabric Design or Ceramics (3)
- Ceramics: ART 210; 211; 212*; 213*; 214*; 310*; or 311*
- Fabric Design: ART 230*; 231*; 232*; 233*; or 234*
- ____ GRDS 200 Intro to Graphic Design (3)
- ____ ARTH 210 Ancient to Medieval Art (3)
- ____ ARTH 220 Renaissance to Contemporary Art (3)

Concentration (21 credits)

- ____ Choose one course in Typography (3)
- GRDS 201* or 202*
- ____ Choose one course in Web Design (3)
- GRDS 277* or 378*
- Choose two upper level courses in Graphic Design (6)
- GRDS 277*; 282*; 283*; 311*; 322*; 333*; 355*; 366*; or 378*
- ____ GRDS 490* Graphic Design Focus (3)
- Choose one Graphic Design Internship or Practicum (3)
 - Practicum: GRDS 397*
 - Internship: GRDS 398*
 - Capstone Thesis Course: GRDS 491* Graphic Design Thesis (3)

BFA Junior Seminar (3 credits)

____ GRDS 483* Design Theory and Practice (3)

Visual Arts Electives (12 credits)

- Choose one NON-WESTERN Art History elective (3)
- ARTH 230; 253; 330*; or 350*
- ___ ARTH 251 History of Graphic Design (3)
- Choose one Graphic Design or Digital Elective (3)
 - ART 290*; 291*; or 292*
 - GRDS 201*; 202*; 277*; 282*; 283*
- ___ Choose one Visual Arts Elective (ART, ARTH or GRDS) (3)
- <u>EXCLUDING</u> ARTH 110 and ARTH 120

Portfolio Reviews (0 credits)

____ Sophomore Portfolio Review (0)

____ Junior Portfolio Review (0)

*Denotes advanced coursework Students must take a minimum of 42 credits of advanced coursework. Advanced coursework can be met in major courses, minor courses, free elective courses, and general education courses. Courses that meet this requirement are designated in Banner.



General Education Requirements

(45 credits)

Note: Some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in your major program including directed Gen Ed courses noted below

- Foundations (15 credits)
 - Directed Gen Ed in History Choose one:
 - ARTH 230 Intro to Asian Art
 - ARTH 257 History of the Art Market
 - ARTH 302* The Greco-Roman World
 - ARTH 303* Medieval Art and Society
 - ARTH 304* Italian Renaissance Art
 - ARTH 307* 19th Century Art
 - ARTH 340* Islamic Art and Architecture
- Interconnections (9 credits)
 - Citizenship & Responsibility (6 credits from at least two goals)
 - Directed Gen Ed Global Perspectives, Choose one:
 - ARTH 253 History of Fiber and Fashion
 - ARTH 330* Latin American Art
 - ARTH 350* Art of Africa and Oceania
 - Natural World & Technologies (9 credits)
 - Creativity & Expression (6 credits)
 - ARTS NASAD Requirement = Choose one: • Any course in Music, Theater or Dance

Degree Requirements

All students must obtain a minimum of 120 credits, complete all General Education requirements, and all requirements for the selected major. Meet with your advisor and consult Degree Works to monitor your progress and for all graduation requirements.

A minimum GPA of 2.0 in the major and overall are required.