Graphic Design

Why Graphic Design?

The Graphic Design Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program provides you with a comprehensive educational experience that develops creativity, technical expertise and professional industry knowledge. The program's curriculum integrates theory and practice that fosters your ability to create expressive, effective visual communication.

As you progress through the coursework, you will gain proficiency in traditional media and cultivate computer design skills, analytical skills and critical thinking. The curriculum is supplemented with guest lecturers, service learning projects, internships and other experiential learning opportunities.

During your studies, you will create a well-rounded, professional digital portfolio that showcases a variety of skills and projects and includes a resume, contact information and references. The program concludes with capstone courses where you will explore career opportunities in graphic design and apply newly acquired skills and professional job attitudes.

Degree & Certificate Options

When you study Graphic Design at MCC, you have the following degree and certificate training options.

- Graphic Design Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree
- Graphic Design Certificate

Program Goal

The mission of the Graphic Design program is to provide students with a solid foundation in design education for entry-level careers and/or transfer to 4-year institutions.

Program Modality

Students have the option to complete the degree fully on campus, fully online or using a hybrid of both.

Admission Requirements

In addition to college-wide admission requirements, students must have:

- An interview with a member of the full-time faculty prior to admission to the program.
- An Adobe Creative Cloud Subscription.
- A computer/laptop that supports Creative Cloud system requirements.

Employment Pathways

- Advertising
- Digital Media Specialist
- Editorial Design
- Entry-Level Graphic Design
- Freelance Graphic Design
- Packaging Design
- Social Media Design
- Surface Pattern Design

Potential Salary*

There is a wide range of jobs in the graphic design industry. See below for the average annual salary range in central NH for a *Graphic Designer.*

ENTRY LEVEL	MID-RANGE	EXPERIENCED
$31,369	$53,308	$107,225

Career Coach 2024, mccnh.lightcastcc.com

Transfer Opportunities

- Keene State College
- Maine College of Art
- Plymouth State University
- Southern New Hampshire University
- University of New Hampshire
- UMass Lowell
- ...and many more!

Graphic Designers visually communicate ideas and messages for commercial or promotional purposes.

Degree & Certificate Requirements

Graphic Design Degree

Degree Program - First Year

First Year	Fall Semester	TH	LAB	CR
GDES110M	Page Layout and Design	2	3	3
GDES114M	Graphic Design I	2	3	3
GDES115M	Digital Imaging	2	3	3
ARTS123M	Drawing I	2	3	3
ENGL110XM or ENGL110M	College Composition I with Corequisite or College Composition I	4	0	4
FYE100M	MCC Essentials	1	0	1
	Total	**13**	**12**	**17**

First Year	Spring Semester	TH	LAB	CR
GDES122M	Color Theory for Graphic Design	2	3	3
GDES124M	Typography	2	3	3
GDES150M	Digital Publishing Methods	2	3	3
GDES155M	Computer Illustration	2	3	3
ENGL113M	Introduction to Public Speaking	3	0	3
	Social Science Elective (*ANTH, ECON, GEOG, HIST, POLS, PSYC, SOCI*)	3	0	3
	Total	**14**	**12**	**18**

Degree Program - Second Year

Second Year	Fall Semester	TH	LAB	CR
GDES210M	History of Graphic Design	3	0	3
GDES211M	Visual Design	2	3	3
GDES213M	Graphic Design II	2	3	3
GDES229M	Professional Practice for Graphic Design	2	3	3
MATH145M or MATH145XM MATH200M	Quantitative Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning - Corequisite or Finite Mathematics	4	0	4
	Total	**13**	**9**	**16**

Second Year	Spring Semester	TH	LAB	CR
GDES225M	Graphic Design III	2	3	3
GDES228M	Graphic Design Experiential Learning	2	3	3
	Science Elective (*BIOL, CHEM, ENVS, ESCI, GEOL, PHYS*)	3	0	3
	Foreign Language/Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3	0	3
	Total	**10**	**6**	**12**
	Total Credits - 63			

NOTE: Students have the option to complete Graphic Design classes fully on campus, fully online or using a hybrid of both!

Graphic Design Certificate

Successful graduates of the Graphic Design Certificate will be able to add to their professional portfolio. They will be prepared for continued growth in their career field and for entry-level jobs in advertising agencies, printing companies, publishing firms and companies that maintain in-house graphic design departments. Co/prerequisite requirements for courses listed in the certificate will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

In addition to college-wide admissions requirements, students in the Graphic Design Certificate program must meet the Graphic Design admissions requirements outlined on the front page of this document and be currently employed in the field of graphic design and need to update professional and technical skills or have already completed a college degree.

		TH	LAB	CR
GDES110M	Page Layout and Design	2	3	3
GDES114M	Graphic Design I	2	3	3
GDES115M	Digital Imaging	2	3	3
GDES122M	Color Theory for Graphic Design	2	3	3
GDES124M	Typography	2	3	3
GDES150M	Digital Publishing Methods	2	3	3
GDES155M	Computer Illustration	2	3	3
GDES213M	Graphic Design II	2	3	3
GDES225M	Graphic Design III	2	3	3
GDES228M	Graphic Design Experiential Learning	2	3	3
GDES229M	Professional Practice for Graphic Design	2	3	3
	Total Credits - 33			

Questions?
Please Contact Us!

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