



Graphic Communication A.A.A.

Career Community: Art, Design, and Media

Curriculum Code: 1533

Effective: Fall 2025 – Summer 2030

Purpose of the Major

A graphic designer is an artist/communicator who creatively and effectively designs informational or promotional materials for output in print, web and/or a variety of mass media situations. Artistic skills related to producing effective visual information are essential for a graphic designer. An understanding of the principles of typography, color theory, computer graphic applications, web design, and pre-press techniques is necessary. Graphic designers are employed by design studios, advertising agencies, printing companies, publishers, newspapers, sign companies, and businesses that generate their own publications. Not all courses in this program transfer to all colleges. Students planning to transfer should see an academic advisor before enrolling in any course.

Milestone

In addition to the required General Education courses in Math and English, completion of ARTS 102, ARTS 162, and ARTS 175 for the Graphic Design subspecialty, and ARTS 102 and ARTS 173 for the Web Design subspecialty, with a 2.0 or higher are key components for success in completing this program. Knowledge obtained in these courses is the foundation for learning in other required courses. Students are encouraged to contact their faculty if they need additional assistance with learning the concepts presented in these courses.

Additional Information

Students in this program choose either the Graphic Design or Web Design subspecialty pathway to determine the courses to take each semester. Upon completion of a subspecialty, any additional subspecialty courses will not count toward the student's enrollment level for determining financial aid eligibility.

Contact Information

For further information, including career options, course substitutions and waivers, etc., contact the Communication, Media and the Arts Department, Gannon Building, Room 1222, telephone number 517-483-1546 or the Academic Advising Department, Gannon Building – StarZone, telephone number 517-483-1904.

Major Required Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credit / Billing Hours
ACAD 100	First-Year Experience	1 / 1
ARTS 102	2-D Design	3 / 4
ARTS 131	Drawing I	3 / 5.25
ARTS 151	Color	3 / 5.25

Course Code	Course Title	Credit/ Billing Hours
ARTS 162	Type Communications	3 / 4
ARTS 164	Digital Illustration	3 / 4
ARTS 171	Adobe Photoshop	3 / 4
ARTS 173	Web Design I	3 / 4
ARTS 179	Web Design II	3 / 4
ARTS 195	Employ/Busn Issues for Artists	1 / 1
ARTS 229	Web Design III	3 / 4
ARTS 269	The Portfolio	2 / 2
ARTS 281	Art Internship	3 / 3
COMM 120 or COMM 130 or COMM 200 or COMM 240 or COMM 260 or ENGL 122 or ENGL 132	Dynamics of Communication Fundamentals Public Speaking Small Group Communication Interpersonal Communication Nonverbal Communication Composition II Honors Composition II	3 / 3 3 / 3 3 / 3 3 / 3 3 / 3 4 / 4 4 / 4
ENGL 121 or ENGL 131	Composition I Honors Composition I	4 / 4 4 / 4
MATH 119 MATH 120 STAT 170	Math - Applications for Living College Algebra Introduction to Statistics	4 / 4 4 / 4 4 / 4

Notes:

ACAD 100 may be waived when students meet one of the following College-approved waiver criteria:

- Completion of 12 college-level credits with minimum grades of 2.0 as shown on the LCC transcript (including transfer, if applicable), or
- Employment in the field of, or a field related to, the degree being sought, or
- For Health Careers students, successful completion of CHSE 100.

Students wishing to waive ACAD 100 should contact their advisor.

Major Required Courses, Limited Choice –Select one

Course Code	Course Title	Credit/ Billing Hours
ARTS 132	Figure Drawing	3 / 5.25
ARTS 153	Drawing II	3 / 4

Note: For future transfer to Central Michigan University choose ARTS 132.

Major Required Courses for Graphic Design Subspecialty

Course Code	Course Title	Credit/ Billing Hours
ARTS 175	Creative Design and Publishing	3 / 4

Course Code	Course Title	Credit/ Billing Hours
ARTS 183	Design History	3 / 3
ARTS 251	Graphic Design Communications	3 / 4
ARTS 252	Graphic Design Publications	3 / 4
ARTS 253	Graphic Design Branding	3 / 4

Major Required Courses for Web Design Subspecialty

Course Code	Course Title	Credit/ Billing Hours
ARTS 226	Storyboards & Animatics	3 / 4
ARTS 232	Comp Graphics/2-D Animation	3 / 4
CITD 120	SQL Concepts	3 / 3
CITW 185	Web Development PHP & MySQL	4 / 4

Major Required Courses – Limited Choice – Natural Sciences or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab – *Select one lab course or choose from [LCC General Education Applied Degrees: Natural Sciences or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab](#)*

Course Code	Course Title	Credit/ Billing Hours
ASTR 201	Introductory Astronomy	4 / 5
BIOL 120	Environmental Science	4 / 6
PHYS 120	The Art of Physics	4 / 5

Note: For future transfer to Central Michigan University choose BIOL 120.

General Education – Applied Degrees

- English Composition or Applied English
Major Required Courses meet this requirement.
- English (second course)/Communication or Applied Communication
Major Required Courses meet this requirement.
- Humanities and Fine Arts or Social Sciences or Applied Social Sciences
Major Required Courses meet this requirement.
- Mathematics or Applied Mathematics
Major Required Courses meet this requirement.
- Natural Sciences or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab
Major Required Limited Choice Courses meet this requirement.

Additional Credits

After completing the course and credit requirements as noted on this pathway, students who fall short of the 60-credit minimum required for an Associate Degree may select any course(s) needed to reach 60 credits, except those courses noted in number 7 in the [Institutional Requirements for Associate Degrees](#). Students are encouraged to use Degree Works and meet with an Advisor to ensure all requirements are met and for course recommendations.

Minimum Total Credit Hours

64 credits / 79.5 billing hours

Recommended Course Sequence for Graphic Design Subspecialty

Semester I (Fall)
ACAD 100
ARTS 102 – Milestone course
ARTS 131
ARTS 162 – Milestone course
ARTS 171
ENGL 121 or ENGL 131

Semester II (Spring)
ARTS 132 or 153
ARTS 151
ARTS 173
ARTS 175 – Milestone course
ARTS 183

Semester III (Summer)
COMM 120 or COMM 130 or COMM 200 or COMM 240 or COMM 260 or ENGL 122 or ENGL 132
MATH 119 or MATH 120 or STAT 170

Semester IV (Fall)
ARTS 164
ARTS 179
ARTS 195
ARTS 251
Gen Ed – Natural Sciences or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab

Semester V (Spring)
ARTS 229
ARTS 252
ARTS 253
ARTS 269
ARTS 281

Recommended Course Sequence for Web Design Subspecialty

Semester I (Fall)
ACAD 100
ARTS 102 – Milestone course

Semester I (Fall)
ARTS 131
ARTS 162
ARTS 171

Semester II (Spring)
ARTS 132 or 153
ARTS 151
ARTS 164
ARTS 173 – Milestone course
MATH 119 or MATH 120 or STAT 170

Semester III (Summer)
ENGL 121 or ENGL 131
Limited Choice – Natural Sciences or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab

Semester IV (Fall)
ARTS 179
ARTS 195
ARTS 232
CITD 120
COMM 120 or COMM 130 or COMM 200 or COMM 240 or COMM 260 or ENGL 122 or ENGL 132

Semester V (Spring)
ARTS 226
ARTS 229
ARTS 269
ARTS 281
CITW 185

LCC makes every effort to limit revisions to the pathways during their effective timeframe. However, the College reserves the right to update certificate and degree titles, and make course changes as needed, without prior notice. The College also reserves the right to discontinue programs when warranted.