

GRAPHIC DESIGN, B.DES.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Design degree in Graphic Design, a minimum of 121 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	3-9
Requirements for the Major	73

0-6 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 0-6 credits of GA courses.

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
GD 1S	First-Year Seminar in Graphic Design	1
GD 100	Introduction to Graphic Design	3
GD 101	Design Foundation I	3
GD 102	Design Foundation 2	3
GD 200	Graphic Design Studio I	3
GD 201	Typography	3
GD 202W	The History of Graphic Design	3
GD 203	Typography 2	3
GD 300	Design Photography	4
GD 301	Experience Design Process + Methods	4
GD 302	Applied Communication	4
GD 303	Applied Experience Design	4
GD 400	Time and Sequence	4
GD 402	Senior Problems	4
GD 495	Internship	3
IST 250	Introduction to Web Design and Development	3
IST 256	Programming for the Web	3
PHOTO 202	Fundamentals of Professional Photography	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
AA 121	Design Thinking and Creativity	3
or GD 115N	Visualizing Information	
Select 6 credits from History of the Arts coursework, which may be counted toward General Education Arts requirement		6
Select two of the following:		6
GD 297	Special Topics	
GD 304	Practical Communications	

GD 310	Studio Apprenticeship
GD 397	Special Topics
GD 401	Package Design
GD 404	
GD 495	Internship
GD 497	Special Topics

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.