

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Fine Arts with a Major in Graphic Design (BFA)

Degree Program Guide

The Degree Program Guide is a suggested curriculum to complete this degree program in four years. It is just one of several plans that will work and is presented only as broad guidance to students. Each student is strongly encouraged to develop a customized plan in consultation with their academic advisor. Additional information can also be found in Degree Works.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Freshman		
Fall		
Select one of the following: ¹		3
ARTS 202	Two-Dimensional Design and Color Theory	
ARTS 203	Three-Dimensional Design	
ARTS 231	Drawing I: Fundamentals of Drawing	
ARTS 279	Digital Basics	
Select one of the following: ¹		3
ARTS 202	Two-Dimensional Design and Color Theory	
ARTS 203	Three-Dimensional Design	
ARTS 231	Drawing I: Fundamentals of Drawing	
ARTS 279	Digital Basics	
ENGL 110C	English Composition ¹	3
Language and Culture I (May be waived; See requirement details)		0-3
Mathematical Skills		3
Credit Hours		12-15
Spring		
Select one of the following: ¹		3
ARTS 202	Two-Dimensional Design and Color Theory	
ARTS 203	Three-Dimensional Design	
ARTS 231	Drawing I: Fundamentals of Drawing	
ARTS 279	Digital Basics	
Select one of the following: ¹		3
ARTS 202	Two-Dimensional Design and Color Theory	
ARTS 203	Three-Dimensional Design	
ARTS 231	Drawing I: Fundamentals of Drawing	
ARTS 279	Digital Basics	
Select one of the following: ¹		3
ENGL 211C	Writing, Rhetoric, and Research	
ENGL 231C	Writing, Rhetoric, and Research: Special Topics	
Elective or Language and Culture II (May be waived; See requirement details)		0-3
Oral Communication		3

ARTS 200 level course ¹		3
Credit Hours		15-18
Sophomore		
Fall		
GDES 280	Introduction to Graphic Design ¹	3
ARTS 204	Foundational Concepts in Studio Art ¹	3
ARTH 150	Global Survey of Art History ¹	3
The Nature of Science I		4
Literature		3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
GDES 365	Basic Typography ¹	3
ARTS 200 or 300 level course ¹		3
ARTS 200 or 300 level course ¹		3
ARTH 200 level survey course ¹		3
The Nature of Science II		4
Credit Hours		16
Junior		
Fall		
GDES 371	Design Concepts ¹	3
GDES 378	Brand Identity ¹	3
ARTH Writing Intensive Course ¹		3
ARTS or GDES 200, 300 or 400 level course ¹		3
Human Creativity (May not use ARTH 121A or ARTS 122A)		3
Philosophy and Ethics		3
Credit Hours		18
Spring		
Human Behavior		3
GDES 300/400-level Graphic Design elective course ¹		3
ARTH 300/400-level Elective course ¹		3
Interpreting the Past		3
ARTS 200, 300 or 400 level course ¹		3
Credit Hours		15
Senior		
Fall		
GDES 490	Design Seminar ¹	3
GDES 300/400-level Graphic Design elective course ¹		3
GDES 300/400-level Graphic Design elective course ¹		3
ARTH 300/400-level elective course ¹		3
Impact of Technology (May be fulfilled in the major with ARTH 435W)		0-3
Credit Hours		12-15
Spring		
GDES 491	Design Capstone ¹	3
GDES 368	Design Internship ¹	3
Upper-Division General Education Course		3
Upper-Division General Education Course		3
Information Literacy and Research (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#information)		3

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Elective	1
Credit Hours	16
Total Credit Hours	120-129

¹ Grade of C or better required

The Graphic Design curriculum is sequential; required graphic design courses must be taken in the order listed above. Continuance in the graphic design major requires a grade of C or better in all prerequisite courses and requirements in the graphic design sequence.