



FOUR-YEAR STUDENT DEGREE PLAN
2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

Degree:	Bachelor of Fine Arts	Credits required for degree:	120
Major:	Graphic Design	Credits required in major:	72
Concentration:		Estimated semesters to complete this degree plan:	8

1st Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	2nd Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	15
ARTS 105 3D: Objects + Space	3	ARTH 105 or 105H Introduction to Visual Culture (or Honors)	3
ARTS 110 Drawing	3	DSGN 110 Design Thinking	3
GRDE 136 Design Lab	3	GRDE 231 Graphic Design I: Form and Structure	3
ENGL 111 Foundations of 21st-Century Writing (Core)	3	BUSE 130 Business of Design	3
Columbia Core Requirement (CCCX)	3	Columbia Core Requirement	3
3rd Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	4th Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	15
ARTH 225 History of Communication Design	3	ANIM 270 Motion Graphics I	3
GRDE 238 Typography I	3	GRDE 232 Graphic Design II: Semiotics and Form	3
GRDE 240 Digital Design I	3	Columbia Core Requirement	3
INMD 130 Immersive Environments I	3	Columbia Core Requirement	3
Columbia Core Requirement	3	College-Wide Elective	3
5th Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	6th Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	15
GRDE 331 Graphic Design III: Visual Identity and Narrative	3	GRDE 305 Publication Design	3
GRDE 348 Typography II	3	GRDE 332 Graphic Design IV: Narrative and Research Studio	3
Graphic Design BFA Elective (DSGN280) OR College-Wide Elective	3	Graphic Design BFA Elective (ANIM 370 or INMD 235) OR College-Wide Elective	3
Columbia Core Requirement	3	Columbia Core Requirement	3
College-Wide Elective	3	College-Wide Elective	3
7th Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	8th Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	15
GRDE 340 Digital Design II	3	GRDE 350 Digital Design III	3
GRDE 438 Typography III	3	GRDE 432 Design Methodologies	3
Graphic Design BFA Elective (DSGN280) OR College-Wide Elective	3	GRDE 485 Portfolio	3
Columbia Core Requirement	3	Columbia Core Requirement	3
College-Wide Elective	3	College-Wide Elective	3

Notes on the Four-Year Student Degree Plan:

This degree plan is a suggested sequence. Students should consult with their advisor to create an individual plan.

All students are required to complete a minimum of 30 credits in Columbia Core Requirements.

Major Electives are required courses chosen from a list in the course catalog.

College-Wide Electives are courses not counted toward the Columbia Core or Major Requirements.

All undergraduates must complete 6 credits of Inclusive Perspectives and Pedagogy (IPP) coursework.

Students are encouraged to declare a Minor to fulfill College-Wide Elective credits.

Full-time status is 12+ credits, but tuition covers 12–18. Students are encouraged to take 15–16 credits per semester to stay on track for graduation and maximize value.



TRANSFER STUDENT DEGREE PLAN
2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

Degree:	Bachelor of Fine Arts	Credits required for degree:	120
Major:	Graphic Design	Credits required in major:	72
Concentration:		Estimated semesters to complete this degree plan:	5

1st Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	2nd Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	15
ARTS 105 3D: Objects + Space	3	ARTH 105 or 105H Introduction to Visual Culture (or Honors)	3
ARTS 110 Drawing	3	BUSE 130 Business of Design	3
GRDE 136 Design Lab	3	DSGN 110 Design Thinking	3
INMD130 Immersive Environments I	3	GRDE 231 Graphic Design I: Form and Structure	3
Columbia Core Requirement (CCCX)	3	GRDE 240 Digital Design I	3
3rd Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	4th Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	15
ANIM 270 Motion Graphics I	3	GRDE 331 Graphic Design III: Visual Identity and Narrative	3
ARTH 225 History of Communication Design	3	GRDE 305 Publication Design	3
GRDE 232 Graphic Design II: Semiotics and Form	3	GRDE 348 Typography II	3
GRDE 238 Typography I	3	Graphic Design BFA Elective (ANIM 370 or INMD 235)	3
GRDE 340 Digital Design II	3	Graphic Design BFA Elective (ANIM 370 or INMD 235)	3
3rd Semester Courses (Typically the Fall Semester)	Credit Hours	4th Semester Courses (Typically the Spring Semester)	Credit Hours
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	Total Semester Credit Hours	0
GRDE 485 Portfolio	3		
GRDE 332 Graphic Design IV: Narrative and Research Studio	3		
GRDE 432 Design Methodologies	3		
GRDE 438 Typography III	3		
GRDE 350 Digital Design III	0-3		
Graphic Design BFA Elective (DSGN 280), if needed	3		

Notes on the Transfer Student Degree Plan:

This plan assumes at least 60 transfer credits and completion of Columbia Core requirements. Inclusive Perspectives and Pedagogy (IPP) coursework and Columbia Experience must be completed at Columbia and cannot be fulfilled with transfer credits.

This degree plan is a suggested sequence. Students should consult with their advisor to create an individual plan.

All students are required to complete a minimum of 30 credits in Columbia Core Requirements.

Major Electives are required courses chosen from a list in the course catalog.

College-Wide Electives are courses not counted toward the Columbia Core or Major Requirements.

All undergraduates must complete 6 credits of All undergraduates must complete 6 credits of Inclusive Perspectives and Pedagogy (IPP) coursework. Students are encouraged to declare a Minor to fulfill College-Wide Elective credits.

Full-time status is 12+ credits, but tuition covers 12-18. Students are encouraged to take 15-16 credits per semester to stay on track for graduation and maximize value.