

**Degree:** Associate of Applied Science

**Degree:** Bachelor of Fine Arts

**Major:** Graphic Design

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**Credits completed at MATC:** 70

**Credits at Columbia College Chicago:** 50

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design encourages a foundation of design research, forming a basis for visual creation with significant emphasis on creating unique concepts, creative solutions, and outcomes that are client specific. In addition to creating strong visuals, graphic designers create meaning and emotional responses in messages that influence choices we make in our daily lives. Learn more at [colum.edu/academics](http://colum.edu/academics).

1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
ENG 201 English 1	3	ENGL 111 Writing and Rhetoric I
GRDS 103 Design Elements and Principles	3	GRDE 231 Graphic Design I: Form and Structure
GRDS 107 Digital Imaging: Adobe Photoshop	3	*See GRDS 122 below
GRDS 115 Typographic Fundamentals	3	GRDE 238 Typography for Graphic Design
GRDS 122 Vector Graphics: Adobe Illustrator	3	GRDE 136 Design Lab (with GRDS 103)
MATH 123 Math with Business Applications or any 200-Series MATH Course	3	Mathematics course
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>18</b>	

2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
GRDS 104 Research and Concepting	3	GRDE 331 Graphic Design III: Visual Identity and Narrative
GRDS 110 Layout and Publishing: InDesign	3	GRDE 305 Publication Design
GRDS 111 Advertising Design	3	Collegewide Elective*
GRDS 117 Packaging Design	3	Collegewide Elective*
GRDS 128 Portfolio Pathway	1	Collegewide Elective*
PSYCH 199 or any 200-series PSYCH course	3	Social Science course
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>16</b>	

Summer Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
ENG 202 English 2	3	ENGL 112 Writing and Rhetoric II
NATSCI 167 or any 200-series NATSCI course	3	Science course
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>6</b>	

3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
CAS 126 History of Advertising Media/Design	3	ARTH 225 History of Communication Design
CAS 142 Brand and Media Strategies	3	Collegewide Elective*
ECON 195 or any 200-series ECON Course	3	Social Science course
GRDS 116 Interactive Media Design	3	Collegewide Elective*
GRDS 121 Exhibition Design	3	Collegewide Elective*
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	

4 <sup>th</sup> Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
CAS 127 Creative Industry Business Practices	3	Collegewide Elective*
GRDS 112 Graphic Design Workshop	3	Collegewide Elective*
GRDS 113 Digital Media Preparation	3	GRDE 240 Website Design I
GRDS 153 Portfolio Assessment	3	DSGN 350 Portfolio
200-Series HIST course	3	History course
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	

**Completion of AAS Degree: 70 credit hours**

# COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO COURSES

## 5<sup>th</sup> Semester Courses

ADAD 317 Photo Communication	Credits	3
BUSE 130 Business of Design		3
GRDE 232 Graphic Design II: Semiotics and Form		3
200-Level Humanities course with DEI designation		3
Collegewide Elective		3
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

## 6<sup>th</sup> Semester Courses

ANIM 270 Motion Graphics I	Credits	4
GRDE 332 Graphic Design IV: Narrative & Research Studio		3
GRDE 348 Experimental Typography		3
Innovation and Impact course (Columbia Experience)		3
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>13</b>

## 7<sup>th</sup> Semester Courses

COLL 200 Internship	Credits	0
GRDE 340 Website Design II		3
GRDE 431 Graphic Design V: Branded Environments		3
Humanities course		3
Science course with Lab		3
Collegewide Elective		3
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

## 8<sup>th</sup> Semester Courses

ARTS 333 Letterpress Studio or GRDE 336 Design Lab II	Credits	3
GRDE 480 Graphic Design Practicum: Client Design Studio		6
Humanities Literature course		3
Collegewide Elective		3
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

## Completion of BFA Degree: 128 credit hours

In order to be considered for admission to the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA), all applicants following this guide are required to earn a 3.0 in all major courses. Additionally, please note all applicants will be processed as Bachelor of Arts (BA) students until confirmation of enrollment. Contact [transfer@colum.edu](mailto:transfer@colum.edu) with any questions.

Students completing the AAS as outlined in this transfer guide will be waived from the following requirements: ARTH 105 Introduction to Visual Culture, ARTS 105 Foundation Studio, ARTS 1XX Foundation Skills (x3), ARTS 210 Drawing I, and DSGN 110 Design Thinking.

All degree-seeking Columbia students are required to complete the Columbia Core which contains the Essential Liberal Arts and Sciences coursework in addition to Columbia Experience coursework. Columbia also requires additional mission-specific graduation requirements: Nine credit hours of 200-level (or higher) coursework and at least two courses (6 credit hours) with a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) designation to meet graduation requirements.

## Just a few of our internship opportunities

- **Leo Burnett**, one of the largest advertising agencies in the world with clients like Procter & Gamble, McDonald's, and Samsung.
- **Cards Against Humanity**, creator of the infamous card game.
- **Foote, Cone & Belding**, a global advertising agency with clients around the world.
- **Pivot Design**, an award-winning branding, marketing, and advertising agency.
- **Pressley Johnson Design**, one of the premiere design communications firms in the Midwest.
- **50000feet Creative Agency**, a firm that has worked with some of the top brands in the U.S.
- **Shure Microphone's** internal design department.

## Alumni Success

- **Eavan Wallner '14** is a visual designer at Google. After spending four years at Leo Burnett, where she designed for clients such as Allstate, Samsung, and Kraft, Wallner moved to San Francisco to join the design team at Google.
- **Jared Sawdey '17** is a designer at Cards Against Humanity. In his free time, he runs the Chicago-based print cooperative Bad Press.
- **Crystal Zapata '16** is a designer and artist at the Normal Studio in Chicago. Her Italian-design-inspired posters for Bricktown Sound, a bi-weekly dance party, have become recognizable in the city.
- **Erick Morales '17** is a junior designer at One Design Company, an award-winning strategic design and development agency.

## READY TO APPLY?

Visit [colum.edu/apply](http://colum.edu/apply)

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