

Degree: Associate of Applied Science

Degree: Bachelor of Fine Arts

Major: Graphic Arts

Major: Graphic Design

Credits completed at McHenry County College: 66*

Credits at Columbia College Chicago: 62

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.

1 st Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
DGM 125 Digital Drawing I	3	ARTS 210 Drawing I
ENG 151 Composition I	3	ENGL 111 Writing and Rhetoric I
GRA 100 Adobe Design Suite	3	GRDE 136 Design Lab
GRA 185 Color Theory	3	ARTS 199 Topics in Foundation Skill (x 3)
WEB 105 Web Fundamentals	3	Collegewide Elective**
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	

2 nd Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
ART 167 Graphic Design I	3	GRDE 231 Graphic Design I: Form and Structure
ART 168 Computer Art	3	Collegewide Elective**
DGM 107 Introduction to Digital Legalties	3	Collegewide Elective**
GRA 180 History of Graphic Design	3	ARTH 225 History of Communication Design
WEB 115 HTML & CSS	3	Collegewide Elective**
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	

Summer Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
ART 150 Humanities through the Arts or ART 151 Art Appreciation**	3	Humanities course
ENG 152 Composition II**	3	ENGL 112 Writing and Rhetoric II
Total Semester Credit Hours	6	

3 rd Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
ANI 100 2-D Animation (Prog Elective)	3	Collegewide Elective (Sub for ANIM 270 Motion Graphics I)
DGM 123 Digital 2D Design	3	ARTS 105 Foundation Studio
GRA 183 Typography I	3	GRDE 238 Typography for Graphic Design
GRA 267 Graphic Design II	3	GRDE 232 Graphic Design II: Semiotics and Form
IAI Physical or Life Science course	3	Physical or Life Science course
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	

4 th Semester Courses	Credits	Columbia Course/IAI GECC Category
DGM 275 Portfolio Design	3	DSGN 350 Portfolio
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3	Collegewide Elective**
WEB 175 Website Development I	3	GRDE 240 Website Design I
Program Elective	3	Collegewide Elective**
IAI Social and Behavioral Science course	3	Social and Behavioral Science course
Total Semester Credit Hours	15	

Completion of AAS Degree: 60 credit hours

*Though the AAS requires only 60 credit hours, it is recommended that MCC students complete 66 credit hours by taking ENG 152 and an IAI Humanities course (work with your MCC advisor to select courses). Taking less than 66 hours at MCC may impact your degree completion at Columbia.

**Collegewide electives will be applied toward required graduation hours at Columbia College Chicago.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO COURSES

5th Semester Courses

BUSE 130 Business of Design	3
ENGL 112 Writing and Rhetoric II*	3
GRDE 305 Publication Design	3
GRDE 331 Graphic Design III: Visual Identity and Narrative	3
Mathematics course	3
Total Semester Credit Hours	15

6th Semester Courses

ARTS 333 Letterpress Studio or GRDE 336 Design Lab II	3
GRDE 332 Graphic Design IV: Narrative & Research Studio	3
GRDE 340 Website Design II	3
Innovation and Impact course (Columbia Experience)	3
200-Level Social Science course	3
Total Semester Credit Hours	15

7th Semester Courses

ADAD 317 Photo Communication	3
COLL 200 Internship	0
GRDE 348 Experimental Typography	3
GRDE 431 Graphic Design V: Branded Environments	3
Humanities course*	3
Science course with lab	4
Total Semester Credit Hours	16

8th Semester Courses

GRDE 480 Graphic Design Practicum: Client Design Studio	6
200-Level Humanities course with DEI designation	3
Social Science course	3
Collegewide Elective	4
Total Semester Credit Hours	16

Completion of BFA Degree: 128 credit hours

Credits

Credits

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Credits

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.

Students who complete the AAS would be waived from the following major requirements: ARTH 105 Introduction to Visual Culture and DSGN 110 Design Thinking.

Columbia College Chicago participates in the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI). Students who complete the AAS degree prior to transferring to Columbia College Chicago have the choice of completing the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) at Columbia or the Columbia Core Curriculum. Students will work with their Columbia advisor on the best course of action. Additionally, all degree-seeking Columbia students are required to complete 9 credit hours of 200-level (or higher) coursework, Columbia Experience courses as indicated, as well as at least two courses (6 credit hours) with a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) designation to meet graduation requirements.

READY TO APPLY?

Visit colum.edu/apply

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Columbia
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