Associate in Applied Science in Graphic Design Technology

Program Overview

Upon completion of this degree, students will have experienced an orientation to contemporary systems of visual communication and client-driven, design-based practices. This degree is MTA compliant (p. 37), but it also prepares learners to move directly into a professional experience in their field upon graduation. The program fosters habits of mind conducive to building a creative and active learning community. It promotes curiosity, flexibility, and openness to new information systems and approaches to learning in the service of creating expansive and enhanced spaces for persistence, engagement, and shared responsibility for the success of the curriculum.

To Learn More About This Program

Contact Sam Walker at 269-783-2109 or swalker01@swmich.edu.

Degree Requirements

To earn this degree, students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, complete a minimum of 60 credit hours, and fulfill the course requirements of the program listed below. Students are permitted to complete a higher-level math course than shown below. Each general education course, prerequisite course, internship, and capstone course must be completed with a final grade of C or better.

Course Offerings

Students pursuing an Associate in Applied Science in Graphic Design Technology may complete select courses for this program online. Courses within this program may also be offered on-site at our Dowagiac or Niles campus.

General Education Courses

COMMUNICATIONS

Course ID	Course	Credits
ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W	Freshman English 2 (or with workshop)	3 to 4 credits
ENGL 104 or SPEE 104	Freshman English 3 or Intro to Human Communication	3 credits

MATHEMATICS

Course ID	Course	Credits
MATH 128	Contemporary Mathematics	4 credits

NATURAL SCIENCE

Course ID	Course	Credits
ENST 112	Environmental Science	4 credits
GEOG 110	Physical Geography	4 credits

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Course ID	Course	Credits
PSYC 101	General Psychology	3 credits
SOCI 201	Principles of Sociology	3 credits

HUMANITIES

Course ID	Course	Credits
ART 204	Art History 2	3 credits
HUMA 202	Intro to American Pop Culture	3 credits

Major-Specific Required Courses

Course ID	Course	Credits
EDUC 120	Educational Exploration and Planning	1 credit
ART 100	Intro to Digital Art and Design	3 credits
ART 101	Two-Dimensional Design	3 credits
ART 102	Drawing 1	4 credits
ART 213	Typography in Design	3 credits
ART 219	Graphic Design 1	3 credits
ART 220	Graphic Design 2	3 credits
ART 230	Digital Publishing	3 credits
ART 258	Interactive Design	3 credits
ART 265	Portfolio Production	3 credits

Complete 1 course from the list below

Course ID	Course	Credits
ART 105	Photographic Design	3 credits
ART 225	Digital Photography	3 credits

Complete 1 course from the list below

Course ID	Course	Credits
ART 255	Art Internship	2 credits
BUSI 200	Small Business Management	3 credits
COMM 110	Introduction to Mass Communication	3 credits
COMM 115	Writing for Mass Media	3 credits

Total Program Credits: 64-65

Additional Notes About the A.A.S. in Graphic Design Technology Program

- A prerequisite course may be needed prior to enrollment in some courses within this program. Specific prerequisite requirements are listed in the Course Description section in the Course Catalog. A summary of the prerequisites is listed below in the Example Course Sequence.
- This program as outlined meets MTA requirements.
- Courses taken out of sequence may delay a student's ability to complete the program in a timely manner. Please consult your advisor regularly.
- Each student should submit a graduation application at least one full semester before they plan to graduate.
- This program is subject to change. Students should consult with their advisor for program updates.

Example Course Sequence

The following is a sample of a semester-by-semester approach to completing this program.

FIRST SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of C Required)
EDUC 120 Educational Exploration and Planning	1 credit	ENGL 115, ENGL 103W, ENGL 103, ENGL 104, or English test score (Level 2 or higher); concurrent enrollment in ENGL 115 allowed
ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W Freshman English 2 (or with workshop)	3 to 4 credits	ENGL 103W: English test score (Level 2 or higher) ENGL 103: ENGL 115 or English test score (Level 3); concurrent enrollment in ENGL 115 allowed
PSYC 101 General Psychology	3 credits	ENGL 115, ENGL 103W, ENGL 103, ENGL 104, or English test score (Level 2 or higher); concurrent enrollment in ENGL 115 allowed
ART 100 Introduction to Digital Art and Design	3 credits	Basic Computer Literacy
ART 101 Two-Dimensional Design	3 credits	None
ART 102 Drawing 1	4 credits	None

SECOND SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of C Required)
ENGL 104 Freshman English 3 or SPEE 104 Intro to Human Communication	3 credits	See Course Description for details
ART 105 Photographic Design or ART 225 Digital Photography	3 credits	ART 105: None ART 225: ART 100
ART 204 Art History 2	3 credits	ENGL 115, ENGL 103W, ENGL 103, ENGL 104, or English test score (Level 2 or higher); concurrent enrollment in ENGL 115 allowed
ART 213 Typography in Design	3 credits	ART 100; ART 101 (concurrent enrollment allowed)
MATH 128 Contemporary Mathematics	4 credits	AUTO 113, CONS 113, or WELD 113, Math test score (Level 3 or higher), or concurrent enrollment in MATH 128C

THIRD SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of C Required)
ENST 112 Environmental Science	4 credits	None
ART 219 Graphic Design 1	3 credits	ART 100
ART 230 Digital Publishing	3 credits	ART 100
ART 258 Interactive Design	3 credits	ART 100
HUMA 202 Introduction to American Pop Culture	3 credits	ENGL 115, ENGL 103W, ENGL 103, ENGL 104, or English test score (Level 2 or higher); concurrent enrollment in ENGL 115 allowed

FOURTH SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of C Required)
ART 220 Graphic Design 2	3 credits	ART 213; ART 219; ART 230 (concurrent enrollment in ART 265 required)
ART 265 Portfolio Production	3 credits	ART 213; ART 219; ART 230; ART 258 (concurrent enrollment in ART 220 required)
GEOG 110 Physical Geography	4 credits	None
SOCI 201 Principles of Sociology	3 credits	ENGL 115, ENGL 103W, ENGL 103, ENGL 104, or English test score (Level 2 or higher); concurrent enrollment in ENGL 115 allowed
ART 255 Internship, COMM 110 Introduction to Mass Communication, COMM 115 Writing for Mass Media, or BUSI 200 Small Business Management	2 to 3 credits	See Course Description for details