

This document is provided as an advising resource only. Official curriculum requirements are listed in the JMU Undergraduate Catalog. In the case of discrepancies, the University Catalog is the official curriculum students must follow. This document was reviewed by Karin Tollefson, 8/6/25.

The Art: Graphic Design major requires 78 credit hours in art, art history and art-related courses; 36 are graphic design concentration required and elective courses. Please review the prerequisites for all graphic design courses to better understand the degree sequence.

degree requirements

Required Courses

- General Education: The Human Community¹ 41 credit hours
¹The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. Some credits may be fulfilled by courses required within the major.
 - University elective 1 credit hour
 - Major requirements 78 credit hours (listed below)
- Credit hour total 120**

foundation courses

18 credit hours

- FDS 102. Color and Composition
- FDS 104. Observational Drawing
- FDS 106. Form and Space
- FDS 108. Expressive and Expanded Drawing
- ARTH 205/289. Survey of World Art I: Prehistoric to Renaissance
- ARTH 206. Survey of World Art II: Renaissance to Modern

studio art courses – required

9 credit hours Choose three of the following.

- ART 220 or ART 222. Ceramics
- ART 232. Introduction to Fiber Arts: Structures or 234 Introduction to Fiber Arts: Surfaces
- ART 240. Introductory Metals
- ART 252. Introductory Painting
- ART 260. Introductory Photography: Black and White
- ART 270, ART 272, or ART 274. Printmaking
- ART 276. Introductory Book Arts: Materials and Structures
- ART 280. Sculpture

graphic design courses – required

33 credit hours

- ARTH 303. History of Design
- GRPH 101. Digital Media Design I
- GRPH 200. Image Making
- GRPH 201. Digital Media Design II
- GRPH 206. Typography I
- GRPH 208. Portfolio Review**
Students must participate and pass the GRPH 208 Portfolio Review to continue with upper level coursework and complete the major. May be repeated once.
- GRPH 306. Typography II
- GRPH 312. Web Design
- GRPH 313. Interactive Media
- GRPH 408. Brand Identity
- GRPH 497. Graphic Design Capstone(1–6 credits; 1 credit in the fall; 5 credits in the spring)

graphic design courses – electives

6 credit hours Courses not offered every semester

- GRPH 300. Illustration
- GRPH 301. Digital Media Design III
- GRPH 304. Package Design
- GRPH 375. Letterpress
- GRPH 376. Intermediate Book Arts: Concept, Content, Form
- GRPH 380. Wayfinding, Signage, Exhibit Design
- GRPH 390. Independent Studies in Graphic Design
- GRPH 392. Topics in Graphic Design (*repeatable under different topics*)
- GRPH 496. Internship in Graphic Design
A maximum of six credit hours of internship may count toward the degree.

art and design electives

9 credit hours Art and design electives may include courses from architectural design, art education, graphic design, industrial design, studio art, studio assistant and internships. Excludes all art history courses and ART 200.

- _____
- _____
- _____

art history electives

3 credit hours 300-400 level, excludes ARTH 490, ARTH 495 and ARTH 499

- _____

SUGGESTED semester sequence graphic design courses

Please review the prerequisites for all graphic design courses to fully understand the degree sequence. A complete **SUGGESTED** sequence is on the back of this checklist.

2nd Semester Freshman year

GRPH 101. Digital Media Design I

1st Semester Sophomore year

GRPH 200. Image Making

GRPH 206. Typography I

2nd Semester Sophomore year

GRPH 201. Digital Media Design II

GRPH 208. Portfolio Review

1st Semester Junior year

GRPH 306. Typography II

GRPH 312. Web Design

ARTH 303. History of Design

2nd Semester Junior year

GRPH 313. Interactive Media

Graphic Design Elective

1st Semester Senior year

GRPH 408. Brand Identity

GRPH 497. Graphic Design Senior Capstone (1)

Graphic Design Elective

2nd Semester Senior year

GRPH 497. Graphic Design Senior Capstone (6)

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Advisor's Signature _____ Date _____

Check the JMU catalog and consult with your academic advisor for details.

A PDF version of this form can be viewed and downloaded at:

<http://www.jmu.edu/artandarthistory/programs/academic-program-checklists.shtml>

ART: GRAPHIC DESIGN suggested sequencing

The Graphic Design suggested sequencing represents 30 credits taken per academic year to reach a minimum of 120 credits. It is a 4 year plan from freshman to senior year. It does not take into consideration any courses taken during a summer session. Transfer and change of major students must adjust the sequence to the level they are beginning the curriculum and the classes they have completed. Completing the curriculum in 4 years for transfer and change of major students might not be possible. Please review the prerequisites for all graphic design courses to better understand the degree sequence.

1

First Year (first semester)

	Credit Hours
FDS 102. Color and Composition	3
FDS 104. Observational Drawing	3
ARTH 205/289. Survey of World Art I	3
Madison Foundations	3
General Education: The Human Community	3

First Year (second semester)

FDS 106. Form and Space	3
ARTH 206. Survey of World Art II	3
GRPH 101. Digital Media Design I	3
2 General Education: The Human Community	6

2

Second Year (first semester)

FDS 108. Expressive and Expanded Drawing	3
GRPH 200. Image Making	3
GRPH 206. Typography I	3
2 General Education: The Human Community	6

Second Year (second semester)

GRPH 201. Digital Media Design II	3
GRPH 208. Portfolio Review	0
2, 2D or 3D Studio Art Courses	6
2 General Education: The Human Community	6

3

Third Year (first semester)

	Credit Hours
ARTH 303. History of Design	3
GRPH 306. Typography II	3
GRPH 312. Web Design	3
2 General Education: The Human Community	6

Third Year (second semester)

GRPH 313. Interactive Media	3
Graphic Design Electives	3
Art History Elective (300-400 level)	3
General Education: The Human Community	6

4

Fourth Year (first semester)

2D or 3D Studio Art Courses	3
Art and Design Electives	3
GRPH 408. Brand Identity	3
Graphic Design Electives	3
GRPH 497. Graphic Design Capstone	1
General Education: The Human Community	3

Fourth Year (second semester)

2, Art and Design Electives	6
GRPH 497. Graphic Design Capstone	5
General Education: The Human Community	2
University Elective Credit	1

Total credits are a minimum of 120