

MAJOR MAP FOR BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN GRAPHIC DESIGN (GDESBFA) 2022-23 THROUGH 2023-24 CATALOG YEARS

Last Updated: January 19, 2024

GDESBFA Degree Snapshot

University Perspectives (0-1 hr)

_____ **UNIV 1001**, University Perspectives (waived for transfer students with 24 or more transferred hours)

State Core English Composition (0-6 hrs)

_____ **ENGL 1013**, Composition 1 or exemption
_____ **ENGL 1023**, Composition 2 or exemption (see [catalog](#) for ACT/SAT test score exemption)

State Core US History or Government (3 hrs)

_____ **US HIST/PLSC** _____

State Core Mathematics (3 hrs)

_____ **MATH** _____

State Core Natural Sciences w/ labs (8 hrs)

_____ **Science w/ lab** _____
_____ **Science w/ lab** _____

State Core Social Sciences (9 hrs)

_____ **Social Science** _____
_____ **Social Science** _____
_____ **Social Science** _____

State Core Fine Arts (0 hrs)

Met with ARHS courses in major

State Core Humanities & and required PHIL for Major (3 hrs)

_____ **PHIL 2003**, Introduction to Philosophy

Studio Foundations (18 hrs)

_____ **ARTS 1919c**, Studio Foundations I
_____ **ARTS 1929c**, Studio Foundations II

Art History (15 hrs)

_____ **ARHS 2913**, Art History Survey I
_____ **ARHS 2923**, Art History Survey II
_____ **ARHS 4823**, History of Graphic Design
_____ **ARHS 3000+** _____
_____ **ARHS 3000+** _____

ARTS Electives (12 hrs)

_____ **ARTS** _____
_____ **ARTS** _____
_____ **ARTS** _____
_____ **ARTS, ARHS, ARED, or GDES** _____

Interdisciplinary Elective (3 hrs, Requires faculty approval)

_____ **Elective** _____

Graphic Design Electives (39 hrs, Grouped by semester taken)

_____ **GDES 2313**, Design Tools and Concepts
_____ **GDES 3313**, Typographic Systems I

_____ **GDES 3323**, Typographic Systems II
_____ **GDES 3383**, User Experience
(Students also take ARHS 4823 this semester)

_____ **GDES 3393**, Identity Systems I
_____ **GDES 4313**, Interactive Language

_____ **GDES 4303**, Professional Development and Seminar
_____ **GDES 4343**, Identity Systems II

_____ **GDES 4323**, Technology in Context
_____ **GDES 4353**, Human Centered Design
_____ **GDES 4373**, Typography Systems III

_____ **GDES 4363**, Design for Complexity
_____ **GDES 4383**, Degree Project

General Electives (0-6 hrs)

How you use these hours will depend on your educational and career goals. Early in your degree you might use this section to jot down ideas for how to plan. As you get closer to graduation, you might use this section to track which classes you've taken outside the above requirements.

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Graduation Plan

Use the following additional resources, in addition to this major map, to complete your graduation plan ([Catalog](#), and your [Degree Audit](#) in UAconnect). Many students have more than one major, minor, or pre-professional goal that has additional required classes. This tool allows you to combine all your educational goals in to one plan.

High School credit	List all Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Dual or Concurrent credit			
Year	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total
Year 1				Total 1 st year credit hours (aim for 30):
Year 2				Total 2 nd year credit hours (aim for 60):
Year 3				Total 3 rd year credit hours (aim for 90):
Year 4				Total 4 th year credit hours (Must be at least 120):

Graduation Checklist (does your plan include the following):

- Do you have at least a 2.0 GPA (this will be something you track each semester)
- All state minimum core requirements
- All Major(s)/Minor(s) requirements
- [Writing requirement](#) complete
- Have At least 50% of each major/minor taken from UofA
- 24 hours of 3000+ classes exclusively from Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences classes
- 30 hours of 3000+ classes exclusively from the University of Arkansas. This can include courses taken for the 24-hour rule.
- 40 hours of upper-level classes. (3000+ or 2000+ with a pre-requisite. Can include transfer credit.) This can include courses taken for the 24-hour and 30-hour rules.
- 120 total eligible credit hours (see below for a list of ineligible classes)

COURSES THAT DO NOT COUNT TOWARDS THE 120 HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION

- ENGL 0002
- MATH 0001L, MATH 0002L, MATH 0003, and MATH 0131L
- Duplicated/Repeated courses (i.e.: if the same course is taken more than once, the hours will only count once for graduation)

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Department Information:

Faculty who have exception/substitution authority: Donna Jones, Jessica Park, Christopher Schulte, Tom Hapgood, and Ali Place [And Linda Jones for Studio Foundations only]

Transfer Coursework Restriction: At least 50% of a student's Arts and Sciences (ARSC) major or minor must be taken at the University of Arkansas.

GPA (Grade Point Average): Every student must have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average to be eligible to graduate from the University of Arkansas.

BFA Application Process: Students must apply to and be accepted to a BFA in graphic design through the school of art. (Prior to acceptance, they will be declared PGDES, Pre-Graphic Design BFA.) Students must be enrolled in or done with ARTS 1929 to apply. Applications to the program occur once a year in the spring. More information about the application process can be found at the school of art [website](#).

Graduation Timeline: The graphic design is a highly sequenced and cohort driven program that has 8 semesters of required classes. This major cannot be completed in fewer than 8 semesters.

Students Transferring from NWACC with an Associate of Applied Science in Graphic Design: Students from NWACC with a completed AAS in Graphic Design may apply directly to the BFA in Graphic Design. If accepted, students will enter the program in year three. Students will apply directly through the [school of art](#) (in addition to their university application) and are responsible for letting their academic advisor know if they are applying through this program. Prospective applicants who have questions about the program should reach out to Donna Smith Jones, the Director of Recruitment and Outreach for the School of Art. Transfer students who do not have a completed AAS in Graphic Design from NWACC may still apply for the Graphic Design BFA, but if accepted will begin the program in year two.

Please visit <https://catalog.uark.edu/undergraduatecatalog> for an extensive list of core, major, graduation, and pre-requisite requirements. To read more about individual classes, visit the [courses of instruction](#) page for course descriptions.

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Degree Requirement Breakdown by Category

The following information is designed to help you navigate your experience in your degree and answer common questions that may come up for each requirement.

Category	Degree Requirements	Curriculum Notes
UNIVERSITY PERSPECTIVES 0-1 hr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNIV 1001, University Perspectives 	Or equivalent from another University of Arkansas college. (AFLS 1023H, ARSC 1201, GNEG 1111, HIST 1003(H), HIST 1003(H), PLSC 1003, BUSI/WCOB 1111) Note: students who transfer to the University of Arkansas with at least 24 credit hours will have this requirement waived.
STATE CORE COMPOSITION 0-6 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENGL 1013, Composition 1 or SAT/ACT exemption ENGL 1023, Composition 2 or SAT/ACT exemption 	See Catalog for information about placement and/or exemption.
STATE CORE US HISTORY or GOVERNMENT 3 hrs	Choose 1: * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIST 2003, History of the American People to 1877 HIST 2013, History of the American People 1877 to Present PLSC 2003, American National Government 	*Some courses may appear as options in multiple areas of the State Core. You can only count each course 1 time in the State Core and will need unique courses in each of the content areas below.
STATE CORE MATHEMATICS 3 hrs	Choose 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MATH 1203, College Algebra MATH 1313, Quantitative Reasoning MATH 1514, Calculus with Algebra and Trigonometry STAT 2303, Principles of Statistics Any higher-level mathematics course with MATH 1203 as a pre-requisite 	Based on ACT/SAT or other math placement scores, students may need to enroll in additional remediation related courses. See catalog or math placement website for additional information.
STATE CORE NATURAL SCIENCES CORE 8 hrs	Choose 2: (each class will have a required lecture and lab component): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANTH 1013 and ANTH 1011L, Intro to Biological Anthropology ASTR 2003/2001L, Survey of the Universe BIOL 1524, Biological Principles BIOL 1543/1541L, Principles of Biology BIOL 1584, Biology for Majors BIOL 1603/1601L, Principles of Zoology BIOL 1613/1611L, Plant Biology BIOL 2213/2211L, Human Physiology BIOL 2443/2441L, Human Anatomy CHEM 1053/1051L, Chemistry in the Modern World CHEM 1073/1071L, Fundamentals of Chemistry CHEM 1103/1101L; University Chemistry I CHEM 1123/1121L, University Chemistry II CHEM 1203/1201L, Chemistry for Majors I CHEM 1223/1221L, Chemistry for Majors II ENSC 1003/1001L, Environmental Science ENTO 1023/1021L, Insects, Science, and Society GEOS 1113/1111L, Physical Geology GEOS 1133/1131L, Earth Science GEOS 1145, Introduction to Geology for Science Majors PHYS 1023/1021L, Physics and Human Affairs PHYS 1034, Physics for Elementary Education Majors PHYS 1044, Physics for Architects I PHYS 1054, Physics for Architects II PHYS 2013/2011L, College Physics I 	Some classes will have pre-requisites

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYS 2033/2031L, College Physics II • PHYS 2054, University Physics I • PHYS 2074, University Physics II 	
<p><u>STATE CORE SOCIAL SCIENCES</u></p> <p>9 hrs</p>	<p>Choose 3: *</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGEC 1103, Principles of Agriculture Microeconomics • AGEC 2103, Principles of Agriculture Macroeconomics • ANTH 1023, Intro to Cultural Anthropology • COMM 1023, Communication in a Diverse World • ECON 2013, Principles of Macroeconomics • ECON 2023, Principles of Microeconomics • ECON 2143, Basic Economics: Theory and Practice • EDST 2003, Introduction to Educational Studies • GEOS 1123, Human Geography • GEOS 2003, World Regional Geography • HDFS 1403, Life Span Development • HDFS 2413, Family Relations • HDFS 2603, Rural Families & Communities • HIST 1113, Institutions and Ideas of World Civilizations I • HIST 1123, Institutions and Ideas of World Civilizations II • HIST 2003, History of the American People to 1877 • HIST 2013, History of the American People 1877 to Present • HIST 2093, Animals in World History • HUMN 1114H, Honors Roots of Culture to 500 C.E. (Honors only) • HUMN 2114H, Honors Birth of Modern Culture, 1600-1900 (honors only) • INST/PLSC 2813, Intro to International Relations & Global Studies • PLSC 2003, American National Government • PLSC 2013, Intro to Comparative Politics • PLSC 2203, State and Local Government • PSYC 2003, General Psychology • RESM 2853, Leisure and Society • SOCI 2013, General Sociology • SOCI 2033, Social Problems • STEM 2003, The Art of STEM Communication 	<p>*Some courses may appear as options in multiple areas of the State Core. You can only count each course 1 time in the State Core and will need unique courses in each of the content areas below.</p>
<p><u>STATE CORE FINE ARTS</u></p> <p>0 hrs</p>	<p>Met by taking ARHS 2913 and 2923 in the major.</p>	
<p><u>STATE CORE HUMANITIES & REQUIRED PHIL FOR MAJOR</u></p> <p>3 hrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHIL 2003, Introduction to Philosophy 	
<p><u>STUDIO FOUNDATIONS</u></p> <p>18 hrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARTS 1919c, Studio Foundations I (should be taken first semester in the program) • ARTS 1929c, Studio Foundations II (Pre-req: ARTS 1919) 	<p>Students transferring 9-18 hours of ARTS classes should consult with their advisor about possible substitutions.</p>
<p><u>ART HISTORY</u></p> <p>15 hrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARHS 2913, Art History Survey I • ARHS 2923, Art History Survey II • ARHS 4823, History of Graphic Design (taken in a specific semester.* • Take 6 hrs additional ARHS 3000+ courses 	<p>Students in this major meet the state minimum core fine arts requirement with ARHS 2913 and 2923. Many upper level ARHS classes require ARHS 2913 or 2923 first.</p>

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		<p>* While ARHS 2923 is listed as a pre-req, students will be pre-enrolled even if they haven't taken ARHS 2923 yet.</p> <p>ARHS 399T and 499T classes transferred from other schools can automatically count in "ARHS 3000+" category.</p>
<p>ARTS ELECTIVES</p> <p>12 hrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take 9 hrs ARTS electives. Take an additional 3 hrs of any ARTS, ARED, ARHS, or GDES electives (with the exception of ARHS 1003, which may not count here). 	<p>ARTS, ARED, ARHS, or GDES 99T transfer classes at any level may count in this category if not being used for ARTS 1919 or 1929 substitutions.</p>
<p>INTERDISCIPLINARY ELECTIVE</p> <p>3 hrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take a 3 hr 3000+ elective outside the school of art based on Faculty approval. 	<p>Students are required to take one interdisciplinary elective for three credit hours numbered at the 3000-level or higher in a program outside the School of Art. It must have a clear connection to design and/or to the student's chosen topic for their Degree Project. The course can be taken at any time, but it is recommended during the final year. Interdisciplinary electives require approval by the program director using an internal department form. See program director for the form.</p>
<p>GRAPHIC DESIGN CLASSES</p> <p>39 hrs</p>	<p>Broken down by Semester:</p> <p>Fall (pre-req for this semester, ARTS 1919 & 1929 and acceptance into the program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GDES 2313 Design Tools and Concepts GDES 3313 Typographic Systems I <p>Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GDES 3323 Typographic Systems 2 GDES 3383 User Experience (ARHS 4823 also pre-enrolled in this semester) <p>Fall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GDES 3393 Identity Systems I GDES 4313 Interactive Language <p>Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GDES 4303 Professional Development and Seminar GDES 4343 Identity Systems II <p>Fall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GDES 4323 Technology in Context GDES 4353 Human Centered Design GDES 4373 Typography Systems III <p>Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GDES 4363 Design for Complexity GDES 4383 Degree Project 	<p>Each semester of GDES classes serve as the pre-requisite to the next semester. Classes in this section are instructor consent and pre-enrolled for students by the graphic design faculty and cannot be taken in alternate semesters.</p>
<p>GENERAL ELECTIVES</p> <p>0-6 hrs</p>	<p>Hours will vary depending on whether a student is exempt from ENGL 1013 and 1023.</p>	
<p>WRITING REQUIREMENT</p>	<p>Students majoring in the school of art will automatically satisfy the Fulbright College writing requirement in one of two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of any ARHS 3000+ level class with a final grade of at least a 'C'. Successful Honors Thesis Defense 	

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<p><u>HONORS</u></p>	<p>Minimum Requirements for Honors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain cumulative grade point average of 3.5 in all coursework. • Complete a minimum of 12 hours of honors courses from the UofA. • Complete and defend Honors Thesis <p>See <u>Catalog</u> for full description of requirements.</p>	<p>Honors Thesis Timeline: Honors students should consistently check the <u>honors thesis timeline</u> to stay on track to complete your honors thesis.</p> <p>College Honors: Students who also are following the College Honors Core for Bachelor of Fine Arts programs need to also complete those additional requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>2023-24 catalog requirements</u> • <u>2022-23 and older catalog requirements</u>
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