



*Four-Year Degree Plan: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communication Design*

Catalog Year: 2023-2024

**COLLEGE OF  
LETTERS,  
ARTS AND  
SCIENCES**

This is a degree plan for completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communication Design in eight semesters. This document is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes only and is intended for use in consultation with a Professional Academic or Faculty advisor. **Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the [MSU Denver catalog](#) for degree requirements.**

Year One					
Semester 1			Semester 2		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
ART 1XXX	Studio Foundation Course	3	ART 1XXX	Studio Foundation Course	3
ART 1XXX	Studio Foundation Course	3	ART 1XXX	Studio Foundation Course	3
--	General Studies Courses	3	ARTH 1600	World Art I: Art Prior to 1400	3
--	Oral Comms Requirement	3	MTH 1XXX	Quantitative Literacy	3
ENG 1010	Composing Arguments	3	ENG 1020	Freshman Composition	3
<b>Semester 1 Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Semester 2 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

Year Two					
Semester 3			Semester 4		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
ARTH 1700	World Art II: 1400-1900	3	CDES 2225	Typographic Syntax	3
CDES 2222	Fund. Of Communication Design	3	CDES 2226	Design Inquiry	3
--	General Studies or Elective	9	CDES 2302	Interactive Systems	3
			--	General Studies Course	3
			ARTH 2080	Art of the 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> Centuries	3
<b>Semester 3 Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Semester 4 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

Year Three					
Semester 5			Semester 6		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
ARTH 3690	History of Communication Design	3	CDES 3225	Integrated Production Techniques	3
CDES 2602	Interface Design & Development	3	CDES 3623	Identity and Systems Design	3
CDES 3222	Design Research Methods	3	CDES 3625	Narrative Design	3
CDES 3215	Typographic Aesthetics	3	--	General Studies or Elective Course	6
--	General Studies or Electives	3			
<b>Semester 5 Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Semester 6 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

Year Four					
Semester 7			Semester 8		
Fall		Credits	Spring		Credits
CDES 4600	Portfolio Development	3	CDES 3XXX	Upper Division CDES Elective	3
CDES 3XXX	Upper Division CDES Elective	3	CDES 3XXX	Upper Division CDES Elective	3
ARTH 4480	Art Theory and Criticism	3	CDES 4625	Internship or CDES 4650 Studio M	3
CDES 4400	Thesis Prep	1	--	General Elective course	3
CDES 4700	Professional Practices in CDES	3	CDES 4721	CDES Exhibition and Thesis	3
--	General Elective Course	2			
<b>Semester 7 Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>Semester 8 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

**Program Total: 120**

The BFA in Communication Design degree is an extended major; no minor is required. A grade of C- or better is required in each required course before progressing to subsequent courses. All students entering the department wishing to pursue the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Communication Design will be admitted under the BA in Art. Entrance into the BFA program is contingent on passing a formal portfolio review upon completing 21 credits in ART, CDES, or ARTH, inclusive of the 18 hours of foundations courses required for all students in the department. Students must earn a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in this coursework in the major at the time of portfolio review and have completed the Written Communication, Oral Communication, and Quantitative Literacy General Studies

requirements. Communication Design majors who choose to do so may minor in Art History, Theory and Criticism, a distinct discipline from Art or Communication Design, although all reside within the Department of Art and share common foundational requirements

Advisor Contact Information: Visit [Department of Art Advising](#) or [CLAS Academic Advising](#)

### Detailed Course Listing

Foundations Requirements		
ART 1101	Studio Foundations: 2D	3
ART 1141	Studio Foundations: Drawing	3
ART 1501	Studio Foundations: 3D	3
ART 1531	Studio Foundations: 4D	3
ARTH 1600	World Art I: Art Prior 1400	3
ARTH 1700	World Art II: Art 1400-1900	3
<b>Foundations Requirements Total</b>		<b>18</b>

Specific Degree Requirements		
ARTH 2080	Art of the 20th and 21st Centuries	3
ARTH 3690	History of Communication Design	3
CDES 2222	Fund. Of Communication Design	3
CDES 2225	Typography Syntax	3
CDES 2226	Design Inquiry	3
CDES 2302	Interactive Systems	3
CDES 2602	Interface Design & Development	3
CDES 3215	Typographic Aesthetics	3
CDES 3222	Design Research Methods	3
CDES 3225	Integrated Production Techniques	3
CDES 3623	Identity and Systems Techniques	3
CDES 3625	Narrative Design	3
CDES 4400	Thesis Prep	1
CDES 4450	Professional Practices in CDES	3
CDES 4600	CDES Portfolio Development	3
CDES 4625	Internship or CDES 4650 Studio M	3
CDES 4721	CDES Senior EXP: Exh and Thesis	3
--	Additional UD CDES Electives	9
ARTH 4480	Art Theory and Criticism	3
<b>Specific Degree Requirements Total</b>		<b>61</b>

### Program Totals

General Studies Requirements	33
Foundations Requirements	18
Specific Degree Requirements	61
Electives	8
<b>Total to Graduate</b>	<b>120</b>



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