

Art & Design

Create your future. Design responsibly.
Think critically.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Department of Art and Design offers two distinct degree pathways within a supportive liberal arts environment. The intimate size of our programs allows for personalized faculty mentorship, hands-on learning, and flexible opportunities tailored to your goals.

From the classroom to internships, you'll explore how your passions intersect with your education—and gain the tools to shape your future with confidence.

Our curriculum challenges and inspires—emphasizing curiosity, experimentation, and responsible artistic practice through seminars, studio work, and collaborative projects. As you progress through the program, you'll build on a strong liberal arts foundation while developing your creative practice through critical thinking, visual literacy, and problem-solving.

You'll engage with peers, faculty, and professional partners—on campus, in the city, and through the department's Anderson Gallery. By graduation, you'll be a confident thinker and creative problem-solver, ready to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Degree Options

Bachelor of Fine Arts

- Graphic Design
- Studio Art

Bachelor of Arts

- Art History
- Graphic Design
- Studio Art

Minors

- Art History
- Graphic Design
- Studio Art

Curriculum Highlights

All Art & Design majors begin with a foundational first year that introduces key concepts in art history, design principles, and studio techniques.

Our BA degree pathways are ideal for students interested in double majors, allowing you to complement your creative practice with another area of study. Common pairings include Digital Media Production, Public Relations, Magazine and Brand Media, Business Studies, Data Analytics, Computer Science, and Biology. The BFA degrees in Graphic Design and Studio Art offer immersive, professionally focused pathways for students who want to deeply engage in creative practice and pursue careers in the visual arts and design industries.

You're also encouraged to explore study abroad opportunities to broaden your perspective and expand your creative outlook.



■ Art & Design

Professional Preparation

Students gain real-world experience through internships with leading organizations, including:

- Dotdash Meredith
- World Food Prize Foundation
- Des Moines Art Center
- John Deere
- Hy-Vee
- Shift Interactive
- WeWriteCode

Anderson Gallery

The Anderson Gallery is an extension of the Department and serves as an experiential learning space where you can:

- Collaborate directly with the gallery through the Art History capstone
- Attend exhibitions by faculty, students, and national artists and designers

Exhibition Opportunities

- Show work in the Weeks Gallery through VAAD (Visual Art Association of Drake)
- Enter the Annual Student Juried Exhibition (with cash prizes)
- Receive support to enter local and regional art and design competitions



“ I would say that this program has shifted my perception to notice how our environment is a direct product of other designers and artists. ”

NICK ELLIS
Class of 2021

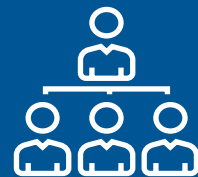


College of
Arts & Sciences

OUTCOMES

Our graduates pursue diverse opportunities and creative careers, including:

- Senior Designer at an Advertising Agency
- Product Designer for an International Entertainment Brand
- Freelance Muralist & Fine Art Entrepreneur
- Publication Designer for a National Magazine
- Costume Design and Fabricator for Film
- Content Creator for a Sports & Recreation Brand
- Independent Artist
- UI/UX Designer at a Marketing and Design Firm
- Art Director at a Creative Commerce Agency
- Web App Developer
- Designer for a National Non-Profit
- Museum Preparator
- MA /MFA Studio Art Candidate



10 : 1

Average Student to Faculty Ratio
in Art & Design classes

SCHOLARSHIPS

Fine Arts Honor Scholarships are available to first-year and transfer students. The awards are renewable for four years, provided you remain enrolled in a degree program within the Department of Art & Design. Students pursuing double majors that include Art & Design are encouraged to apply. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with consideration given to all who have submitted by the February priority deadline.



For more information visit
drake.edu/art-design

UPDATED 9/2024