Program Description
The Graphic Design Associate of Fine Arts degree (AFA) is a studio intensive program that prepares students for transfer to a four-year BFA program. Two-thirds of the total credit hours are in studio art and graphic design courses, and one-third are in general education courses. The curriculum includes studio art foundations courses as well as specialized study in graphic design and typography. Courses focus on the fundamentals of visual arts and design, and parallel the course work in the first two-years of a BFA degree at a four-year institution.

The Graphic Design AFA is a part of the School of Art + Design program and enrollment requires department permission. For more information on the School of Art + Design see Special Programs. All students should meet with a discipline adviser in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts to gain acceptance into the program and to plan their program of study, as well as their transfer and career goals.

Students who plan to major in graphic design in the School of Art + Design will be assigned the temporary major code of 902A until they are officially admitted to the program. Students may take preparatory courses and courses that fulfill General Education requirements during the application period.

The Graphic Design AFA is a designated statewide program. The Maryland Higher Education Commission designates some community college programs as statewide programs. A student may enroll in any of these programs at the same rates as in-county residents if the program is not offered by their local community college or if the student cannot enroll due to an enrollment limit. For more information on statewide programs, please see Curricula Information.

Program Outcomes
Upon completion of this program a student will be able to:

• Demonstrate visual problem solving capability.

• Utilize foundational skills and demonstrate competency in a range of art media and techniques.

• Demonstrate comprehension of art and graphic design within an historical and contemporary context.

Program Advisors
Takoma Park/Silver Spring

• Dr. Norberto Gomez, 240-567-5502, Norberto.Gomez@montgomerycollege.edu

For more information, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/programs/graphic-design/graphic-design-afa-degree.html

To view the Advising Worksheet, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/_documents/counseling-and-advising/advising-worksheets/current-catalog/902a.pdf
Suggested Course Sequence
A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows. All students should review this advising guide and consult an advisor.

First Semester
• ARTT 100 - Introduction to Drawing 3 semester hours (ARTD)
• ARTT 102 - Introduction to 2D Design 3 semester hours (GEEL)
• ARTT 116 - Digital Tools for the Visual Arts 4 semester hours
• ARTT 200 - Art History: Ancient to 1400 3 semester hours
• ENGL 101 - Introduction to College Writing 3 semester hours

Second Semester
• ARTT 103 - Introduction to 3D Design 3 semester hours
• ARTT 201 - Art History: 1400 to Present 3 semester hours
• ARTT 204 - Intermediate Drawing 3 semester hours

Third Semester
• ARTT 152 - Photographic Expression I 3 semester hours
  • OR
  • Printmaking elective 3 semester hours ‡‡‡
  • ARTT 263 - Professional Practice for the Visual Artist 1 semester hour
  • GDES 210 - Graphic Design I 3 semester hours
  • GDES 220 - Typography I 3 semester hours
• Humanities distribution 3 semester hours (HUMD)
• Craft elective 3 semester hours ‡

Fourth Semester
• GDES 211 - Graphic Design II 3 semester hours
• GDES 221 - Typography II 3 semester hours
• Behavioral and social sciences distribution 3 semester hours (BSSD)
• Natural sciences distribution with lab 4 semester hours (NSLD)

Total Credit Hours: 60
* ENGL 101/ENGL 101A, if needed, for ENGL 102/ENGL 103 or elective.
‡ Select ARTT 120, ARTT 123, ARTT 245, or ARTT 247.
‡‡ Select ARTT 152, ARTT 225, ARTT 227, ARTT 228, ARTT 230, ARTT 233, or ARTT 226.
Transfer Opportunities
Montgomery College has partnerships with multiple four-year institutions and the tools to help you transfer. To learn more, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/transfer or http://artsys.usmd.edu.

Get Involved at MC!
Employers and Transfer Institutions are looking for experience outside the classroom.

MC Student Clubs and Organizations: https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-life/

Related Careers
Some require a Bachelor’s degree.

Graphic Designer, Web Designer, Art Director, Multimedia Artist and Animator, Commercial and Industrial Designer.

Career Services
Montgomery College offers a range of services to students and alumni to support the career planning process. To learn more, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/career

Career Coach
A valuable online search tool that will give you the opportunity to explore hundreds of potential careers or job possibilities in Maryland and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Get started today on your road to a new future and give it a try. For more information, please visit https://montgomerycollege.emsicareercoach.com

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