

AS: Graphic Design

2021-2022

NHCC's Graphic Design program starts with a fine arts foundation that gives students hands-on experience with design concepts. Drawing, painting, color theory, photography, dimensional design (2D, 3D) and art history classes help students to begin thinking like designers, with or without a computer. Of course, as foundation skills are gained, graphic design courses then emphasize industry- standard digital tools and software (Apple computers, Adobe Creative Suite) to harness design thinking and developing technical skills for more advanced concepts and projects.

NHCC graphic design majors work across different media: print, packaging, and book publication; web design and web animation; video and social media; sometimes street art and temporary installations. We learn digital and technical tools, but also how the design industry operates. We learn the actual language of design, we learn about audiences and work cultures, we learn strategies for developing a professional network of contacts, we learn about accepting constructive criticism and acknowledging the importance of other opinions, we learn interpersonal communication strategies to prepare for real professional situations. We work with real clients in advanced classes on projects that have an impact in the "real world." Small class sizes and one-on-one time with accomplished faculty artists and designers allow students to form the skills and opportunities needed to pursue, and get, jobs with graphic design industry employers. In fact, starting in the spring of 2015 NHCC's Graphic Design Program began working with metro area employers for paid graphic design internships. Students with consistently strong performance in their degree coursework are able to compete for these opportunities.

NHCC alumni have gone on to own their own graphic design studios and have worked for a long list of employers such as The Minnesota Twins, Nickelodeon, 3M, the Smithsonian Institution, Target, Best Buy, Colle+McVoy, and Minnesota Public Radio, to name just a few. NHCC's annual collection of student art and writing, Under Construction, is designed by students and has earned 30 national awards for content and design since 1968. It offers a rare chance to be a published writer and/or artist as part of a community college experience. See Under Construction as an e-publication at <http://nhcc.edu/publications>.

The NHCC Associate of Science in Graphic Design degree is for students who are interested in: Working as graphic designers, web/interactive designers, art directors, production artists, illustrators or in related jobs at design studios, advertising agencies, marketing and public relations companies, corporate art departments, magazines, websites and newspapers

- Working as self-employed (freelance) graphic designers, web/interactive designers, or illustrators
- Continuing study in a baccalaureate or professional degree program for graphic design, web/interactive design, or illustration.
- The degree is friendly towards continuing studies in graphic design at a 4-year college/university.
- NHCC has a graphic design articulation agreement with Concordia University in downtown St. Paul, also with Minnesota State University, Moorhead, Minnesota. Articulation agreements allow all credits from a two year degree to count as progress towards the 4-year degree with the partnering College or University.
- Talk with an academic advisor (<http://nhcc.edu/student-resources/academic-advising>) about

Program Courses: Fine Arts

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
ART1040	Introduction to Art	3
ART1301	Two Dimensional Design I	3
ART1310	Three Dimensional Design	3
ART1340	Fundamentals of Color	3
ART1401	Drawing I	3
ART2611	Painting I	3
ART1101 or ART1160 - 1 course:		
ART1101	Photography I <i>or</i>	3
ART1160	Digital Photography	3

Program Courses: Graphic Design

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
ART2540	Illustration	3
ART2550	Typography	3

ART2561	Web Design I	3
ART2562	Web Design II	3
ART2601	Advanced Graphic Design I	3
ART2602	Advanced Graphic Design II	3
ART2810	Publication Design	2
ART2901	Graphic Design Tools I	3
ART2902	Graphic Design Tools II	3

General Education Course

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
College Writing I:		
ENGL1200	Gateway College Writing <i>or</i>	4
ENGL1201	College Writing I	4

MnTC Electives

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences (Goal Area 5) - 3 credits		
Natural Sciences or Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (Goal Area 3 or 4) - 3 credits		
MnTC Goal Areas 7, 9 or 10 - 3 credits		

NHCC Residency and GPA

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
15 Credits must be earned at NHCC:		
2.00 overall GPA for NHCC courses		

Total Credit Required 60

Degree Requirements

2.00 overall GPA for NHCC courses

Program Outcomes

Develop a foundation of essential knowledge about the cultural, social, and natural worlds, and individual well-being by:

- Demonstrating skill in the foundation studio arts courses
- Develop intellectual and practical skills, including:
 - Verbally and visually communicating their knowledge of design
 - Competently critiquing design
 - Designing effectively with type and images
 - Communicating traditional design concepts with the latest technology so as to be effective graphic designers in today's environment
- Demonstrate personal and social responsibility, including:
 - Developing constructive, organized work habits and professional presentation skills
 - Developing an understanding of the creative accomplishments of other people and cultures, past and present, in the development of the field of graphic design
 - Studying the ethics in the use of ideas and technical information as a foundation for respect of intellectual ownership
- Integrative Learning, including:
 - Managing a design problem from conceptualization to a finished layout
 - Writing and designing a professional portfolio
 - Demonstrating visual problem solving that employs technical skills and comprehension of the historical context of graphic design with application for contemporary design

Be prepared to transfer to and succeed at an upper-level academic institution.

Notes

To complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, in addition to the courses listed above the student will need to take these additional goal area credits:

Goal Area 1: ENGL 1202 College Writing II - 2 credits Goal Area 1: Speech course - 3 credits

Goal Area 3: 4 credits or 7 credits (if Goal Area 4 Math course was taken to fulfill the option for this degree) with lab component on one of the course choices in this goal area

Goal Area 4: 3 credits, if student has no Goal Area 4 classes

Goal Area 5: 6 credits

Goal Areas 7, 9, and 10: 6 additional credits (beyond the 3 credits selected in the program) with 3 credits in each of the areas

Degree Information

The Associate of Science (A.S.) degree is intended for students whose primary goal is to complete the credentials for a specific career and/or prepare for transfer to complete a bachelor's degree at a college or university with whom North Hennepin Community College has an articulation agreement. The A.S. degree provides a balance of general education courses and the required scientific, professional or technical courses in the degree program.

A student shall:

Earn a minimum of 60 semester credits as required in the program, with a grade point average of 2.00 (C) or above in courses taken at North Hennepin Community College. Specific programs may have additional requirements or a higher minimum grade point average.

Earn a minimum of 15 semester credits at North Hennepin Community College. A student must complete at least 50% of career specific courses at North Hennepin Community College.

Earn 30 credits in at least 6 Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal areas. Earn 30 professional/technical credits.

Have four years to complete the graduation requirements as published in the catalog in effect at the time of their initial enrollment. Students taking more than four years to complete their graduation requirements may follow any catalog published during the four-year period preceding their graduation.

Completion of an A.S. degree fulfills the Goal Area 2 requirement of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC).

Developmental Courses

Some students may need preparatory course(s) in Math and/or English. Courses numbered below 1000 will not apply toward a degree.

Equal Opportunity Employer and Disability Access Information

North Hennepin Community College is a member of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and an equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 763-493-0555 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529.

Transfer Information

If you are planning on transferring to another institution, follow the guidelines available on our transfer resources web page to help you plan the process: [Transfer Information](#)

Career Opportunities

Information on careers, including salary and employment outlook data, is available on the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) website: <https://careerwise.minnstate.edu/careers/> and www.bls.gov.

Accreditation

North Hennepin Community College is accredited by the: Higher Learning Commission 30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2400 Chicago, IL 60602-2504 1-800-621-7440