Minor in Graphic Design

"Graphic design is complex combinations of words and pictures, numbers and charts, photographs and illustrations that, in order to succeed, demands the clear thinking of a particularly thoughtful individual who can orchestrate these elements so they all add up to something distinctive, or useful, or playful, or surprising, or subversive or somehow memorable."

—Jessica Helfand

A Minor in Graphic Design will supplement majors from business, marketing, advertising and public relations and other fields of transactional practices. The minor in Graphic Design provides the necessary skill set needed in visual communication and the tools to contribute and work with information/marketing campaigns and creative professionals. A graphic design minor will have positional advantage and opportunities including strategic planning, involvement in the creative process and opportunities in interdisciplinary work courses in visual literacy will help the student develop exceptional skills and ability to verbalize creative ideas on a variety of platforms.

Students with a minor in Graphic Design will: Demonstrate ability to create and develop visual form in response to communication problems, have an understanding of tools and technology, understand the creative process, explore visual literacy, develop professional habits and skills that are essential in graphic design and related professions, and acquire the written, verbal and formal vocabulary to communicate effectively.

The graphic design program has two 24-station Macintosh computer labs equipped with scanners, color printers, and plotters. The lab software is updated quarterly and computers are replaced every three years. The graphic design faculty are working professionals as well as experienced design professors. Students meet one-on-one with their professors for advising and mentoring and for committee meetings.

Students must apply for the Minor in Graphic Design by providing eight samples of their art and/or design work and a one-page written rationale describing the student's interest in a graphic design minor. The Graphic Design faculty will review the application and notify the student of their decision. The Graphic Design Minor is only for students majoring in another discipline at Chapman University. Before enrolling in certain courses, students have to formally be accepted and declare the associated minor to complete required prerequisites and/or get faculty approval. A minimum of 24 credits, at least 9 of which must be upper-division, are required for a minor in graphic design.

Please feel free to contact:

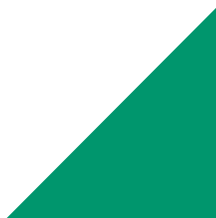Associate Professor Eric Chimenti
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Professor Claudine Jaenichen
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Assistant Professor Jillian Warren
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Dr. Wendy Salmond, Chair
salmond@chapman.edu

If you do not have a Graphic Design faculty advisor in your program, please contact the Department of Art office at javonillo@chapman.edu.

Bachelor of Fine Arts
GRAPHIC DESIGN

B.F.A. in Graphic Design
2025–2026

FALL SEMESTER	INTERTERM	SPRING SEMESTER	SUMMER
100 LEVEL			
GD 102 Research Methods for Designers* GD 103 Visualization, Perspective, & Rendering*		Graphic Design Elective	
200 LEVEL			
GD 200 Design II* GD 201 Typography*	GD 305 Portfolio Workshop	Graphic Design Elective GD 200 Design II* GD 201 Typography*	GD 308 Sustainable Design London Travel Course
300 LEVEL			
Graphic Design Elective	GD 305 or GD 405 Portfolio Workshop	Graphic Design Elective	GD 308 Sustainable Design London Travel Course
400 LEVEL			
Graphic Design Elective	GD 405 Portfolio Workshop	Graphic Design Elective	

Required courses for the GD minor

❗ **Not all courses are offered every semester. Meet with a Graphic Design full-time Faculty Advisor as soon as possible.**

❗ **Students interested in a full semester study abroad program, should meet with a Graphic Design full-time Faculty Advisor at the start of their 1st year to plan out academic requirements.**

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design
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Program Opportunities

OC Portfolio Review
VTLS (lectures & Symposia)

Commpost newsletter
Ideation Lab

Graphic Design Internship
Graphic Design Club

Required Courses   *(12 credits)*

GD	102	Research Methods for Designers
GD	103	Visualization, Perspective, & Rendering
GD	200*	Design II
GD	201*	Typography

Four Elective Courses   *(12 credits)*

At least 3 must be upper division, please consult with your advisor

GD 104	Design I
GD 105	Prototyping
GD 202	Interactive, UX and Web Design
GD 203	Color
GD 212	Research Methods for Designers 2
GD 229	Creative Intersections: Art + Design *(1 credit)*
GD 300**	Design III
GD 302	Branding & Ad Design
GD 303	Information Design
GD 304 ■■	History of Graphic Design
GD 305	Portfolio Workshop *(1 credit each and may be repeated for credit)*
GD 306**	4D Design
GD 307	Advanced Typography
GD 309	Illustration
GD 310	Sustainability and More Than Human Design Research

Electives Continued

GD 311	Disability, Accessibility, and Design
GD 312	Designing Tomorrow: Ethics, Technology, and Social Vision
GD 400	Design IV
GD 401	Business Practices/Pre-Internship
GD 402	Adv. Interaction, UX/UI and Web Design
GD 405	Portfolio Workshop *(1 credit each and may be repeated for credit)*
GD 406	Motion Design
GD 408	Graphic Design Portfolio
GD 410	AI Research Through Design
GD 490	Independent Internship

Total   **(24 CREDITS)**

ONLY 6 CREDITS
(TWO CLASSES)
MAY DOUBLE COUNT

■ double counts for AI credit
■ double counts for SI credit
■ double counts for VI credit
■ double counts for GC credit
■ double counts for CC credit

*Students must receive a grade of "B" or higher in GD 200 and 201 before they can enroll in subsequent graphic design courses.

**GD 300 and 306 are open only to Art majors; courses are taken in conjunction with required Portfolio Proficiency Assessment

Disclaimer: Exceptions to substitute required courses for the GD Major or Minor are only approved under exceptional circumstances, which does not include scheduling conflicts. A request to substitute any Graphic Design course must be submitted to the GD Advising Committee, compromised of full-time GD Faculty, prior to the semester the substitution is being requested. Please provide the request in writing to the full-time GD faculty for review.

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Minor in Graphic Design

Student Name: _____   ID Number:_____

Chapman E-mail: _____

Graphic Design Faculty Advisor:_____

AGREED COURSE LIST

Requirements (12 credits)

GD 102	Research Methods for Designers	3
GD 103	Visualization - Perspective & Rendering	3
GD 200	Design II	3
GD 201	Typography	3

Electives (12 credits–9 upper division)

GD 104	Design I	
GD 105	Prototyping	3
GD 202	Interactive, UX and Web Design	3
GD 203	Color	3
GD 212	Research Methods for Designers 2	3
GD 229	Creative Intersections: Art + Design	1
GD 300	Design III	3
GD 302	Branding & Ad Design	3
GD 303	Information Design	3
GD 304	History of Graphic Design	3
GD 305	Portfolio Workshop	1
GD 306	4D Design	3
GD 307	Advanced Typography	3
GD 310	Sustainability and More Than Human Design Research	3
GD 311	Disability, Accessibility, and Design	3
GD 312	Designing Tomorrow: Ethics, Technology, and Social Vision	3
GD 309	Illustration	3
GD 400	Design IV	3
GD 401	Business Practices/Pre-Internship	3
GD 402	Advanced Interaction and Web Design	3
GD 405	Portfolio Workshop	1
GD 406	Motion Design	3
GD 408	Graphic Design Portfolio	3
GD 410	AI Research Through Design	3
GD 490	Independent Internship	3

Selected Electives (12 credits)

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Student Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Signature _____ Date _____

Bachelor of Fine Arts
GRAPHIC DESIGN