Minor in Information Design

Recommended for Business & Science Majors

"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*

The Information Design Minor is recommended for science and business majors geared to create standards for the structuring, design and the use of task-related information. Standards for the structuring, design and use of information find their technical analogy in electronically supported information systems. Decisions concerning the necessary media mix for knowledge transfer in a given situation need to be based on task-specific user requirements. The capabilities of the media acting together in an information system depend on the depth, the breadth, the structure and the required interactivity of the information provided to support users in a task-specific way.

Students will be able to design quality information and information systems by creating relationships between people and information and by providing evidence that information is accessible and usable. The areas in which information designers become active may include education, health and financial services, transportoin and city planning, data visualization, and accessability to name a few. The minor will consist of theoretical foundations, key concerns and issues, core competencies and specializations, and the technologies and societal trends that will impact the work in information design in the future. Emphasis is placed on developing strong professional work and pathway exploration to graduate level inquiries.

Students must apply for a Minor in Information Design by providing eight samples of their art and/or design work and a one-page written rationale describing the student's interest in an Information Design Minor. The faculty will review the application for approval. The Information 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 Information Design.

Please feel free to contact:

Associate Professor Eric Chimenti
chimenti@chapman.edu

Professor Claudine Jaenichen
jaeniche@chapman.edu

Dr. Wendy Salmond, Chair
salmond@chapman.edu

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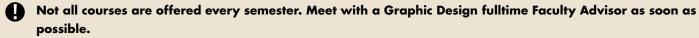
Bachelor of Fine Arts
GRAPHIC DESIGN

Minor in Information Design

2025–2026

Recommended for Business & Science Majors

FALL SEMESTER	INTERTERM	SPRING SEMESTER	SUMMER
100-LEVEL			
GD 102 Research Methods for Designers GD 103 Visualization - Perspective & Rendering			
200-LEVEL			
GD 200 Design II* GD 201 Typography*		GD 303 Information Design* GD 202 Interactive, UX and Web Design	
300-LEVEL			
		GD 311 Disability, Accessibility, and Design	

*Required for Information Design Minor

> ❗ **Not all courses are offered every semester. Meet with a Graphic Design fulltime Faculty Advisor as soon as possible.**
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> ❗ **Students interested in a full semester study abroad program, should meet with a Graphic Design fulltime Faculty Advisor at the start of their 1st year to plan out academic requirements.**

Minor in Information Design
2025–2026

Program Opportunities

Graphic Design Internship

OC Portfolio Review

Graphic Design Club

VTLS lecture series

Commpost newsletter

Student-organized department exhibitions

Required Courses *(18 credits)*

GD 102	Research Methods for Designers	
GD 103	Visualization - Perspective & Rendering	
GD 200	Design II*	
GD 201	Typography*	
GD 303	Information Design*	

Electives *(3 credits)*

GD 202	Interactive, UX and Web Design	
GD 311	Disability, Accessibility, and Design	

Total **(21 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

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ART

Student Name: _____   ID Number:_____

Chapman E-mail: _____

Graphic Design Faculty Advisor:_____

AGREED COURSE LIST

Requirements (18 credits)

GD 102	Research Methods for Designers	3
GD 103	Visualization, Perspective Rendering	3
GD 200	Design II	3
GD 201	Typography	3
GD 303	Information Design	3
ART 499	Information Design Capstone	3

Electives (3 credits)

GD 202	Interactive, UX and Web Design	3
GD 311	Disability, Accessibility, and Design	3

Selected Electives (3 credits)

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Student Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Signature _____ Date _____