The curriculum in graphic design requires 122 credit hours and prepares the student for entrance into the professional practice of design visual communications. Studio work addresses graphic design fundamentals (typography and image making), design history and contemporary practices, research methods, user experience, and social responsibility. Students engage with complex problems and are asked to identify opportunities where design can intervene. In addition, students have the opportunity to develop their personal interests by taking advantage of a highly interdisciplinary selection of elective courses offered by the School of Art + Design, including photography, video, traditional printmaking, sustainability, advanced interaction design, and the design of Ninth Letter (http://www.ninthletter.com/), a nationally-distributed and award-winning literary arts journal.

Students in the School of Art and Design must complete the Campus General Education requirements (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/). Some Art and Design courses will also apply toward the General Education requirements (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/).

A portfolio review is required for admission to the School of Art and Design.