

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Program Number: 10-201-1

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Campus: Fond du Lac

This program is eligible for financial aid (<http://www.morainepark.edu/financial-aid/>)

Combine your passion for art and technology and turn it into a career with an associate degree in Graphic Design at Moraine Park Technical College.

About the Program

Graphic design is art with a purpose. Students in the Graphic Design program combine art and creativity with computer skills to convey information in print, online or digital environments. Students learn to combine modern technologies with traditional design concepts, theories and techniques in a wide variety of design projects.

What You'll Learn

Students in the Graphic Design associate degree program explore illustration, typography, electronic publication, social media video, digital photography and advertising. Students learn how to work with a client and experience the production process hands-on, from concept through completion.

Graduates of the program are proficient in design software, tools and technology.

In their final semester, graphic design students show off their favorite work to friends, family and prospective employers during the "Portfolio Showcase" event.

Transfer Opportunities

Your academic journey can continue at a four-year college or university. Earn your associate degree at Moraine Park and then apply those credits toward a bachelor's degree. Starting at MPTC makes completing a bachelor's degree **affordable**, **accessible** and **convenient**. You can go anywhere as MPTC has transfer agreements with colleges and universities both in Wisconsin and throughout the country.

Visit the Transfer to a Four-Year College (<https://www.morainepark.edu/transfer-to-a-four-year-college/>) page for more information on credit transfer agreements between Moraine Park and four-year colleges, both public and private.

Admission Process

Standard Admissions (<http://www.morainepark.edu/admissions/new-student/how-to-apply-for-admissions/>) steps details

Credit for Prior Learning

Transform the skills and abilities developed through previous experience into college credit through MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning process.

- Transfer credit from other colleges/universities
- Earn college credit for your military training and experience
- Earn college credit via Advance Placement, CLEP, DANTES/DSST or MPTC Challenge Exams
- Earn college credit from previous/current work and life experiences

Visit MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning (<https://www.morainepark.edu/academics/credit-for-prior-learning/>) page for more information.

Approximate Costs

NOTE: The fees below are 2025-2026 fees. They will be updated when 2026-2027 fees are approved.

Tuition

Occupational

- \$152.85 per credit (resident)
- \$229.28 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Associate of Arts/Associate of Science

- \$192.20 per credit (resident)
- \$288.30 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Online students are not charged out-of-state fees.

Student Fees

- \$5.00 minimum per course Material Fee
- \$13.76 per-credit Supplemental Fee for Undergraduate courses
- \$4.50 per term mandatory Student Accident Insurance Fee

Please refer to Tuition & Fee Information (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/admissions-registration/tuition-fee-information/>) for additional enrollment fee information.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available for associate degree and technical diploma programs (those that are 2 semesters in length and typically with 28 credits or more). Processing can take 4-5 weeks after a student's completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>)) is received.

Several factors influence the total cost of your degree, including enrollment fees, the number of credits required, textbooks and equipment. [Financial aid](https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/) (<https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/>) can assist with those costs.

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Semester 1		
103-159	Computer Literacy - Microsoft Office	1
201-101	Introduction to Graphic Design	3
201-102	Vector Illustration 1	2
201-104	Beginning Photoshop	2
201-112	Design Fundamentals	3
801-136	English Composition 1	3
890-101	College 101	2
Credits		16
Semester 2		
104-133	Social Video Creation	3
201-100	Image Editing	2
201-103	InDesign	2
201-105	Designing for Mobile Platforms	3
201-111	Typography	3

801-196 or 801-198	Oral and Interpersonal Communication or Speech	3
Credits		16
Semester 3		
152-107	Graphics for the Web	2
116-189	Team Building and Problem Solving	3
201-134	Design Production and Planning 1	3
201-144	Vector Illustration 2	3
Mathematics Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/mathematics/)		3
Behavioral Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)		3
Credits		17
Semester 4		
201-116	Identity Design and Branding	3
201-168	Design, Production and Planning 2: Digital Output	3
201-181	Prepress Process Color	3
Social Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)		3
Social Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		64

Statewide Median Salary for Recent Graduates

\$44,338

Program Outcomes

- Apply the principles of design to develop strategic marketing and communication products and services.
- Demonstrate proficiency in the use of design software, tools and technology.
- Implement creative solutions from concept through completion using a formal process.
- Apply effective legal and ethical business practices and project management skills.
- Communicate artwork rationale in formal and informal settings.

Pathways

- Graphic Design Associate Degree (p. 1)
 - Visual Design Fundamentals Technical Diploma (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/visual-design-fundamentals/>)

Earn a technical diploma and an associate degree along this pathway. Start with some courses for entry-level employment, and continue with additional courses for higher wages and job advancement. The courses in the Visual Design Fundamentals technical diploma also transfer into the V (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/programs/interactive-media-design/>)ideo, Animation, and Motion Graphic Design (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/interactive-media-design/>) associate degree.

Career Opportunities

- Sales Representative
- Customer Service Representative
- Digital Prepress Technician
- Graphic Artist
- Graphic Designer
- Digital Photo Technician