MORAINE PARK
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

1-800-472-4554 | TTY/VP. Use Relay/VRS

VISUAL DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Program Number: 30-201-2
Technical Diploma
Campus: Fond du Lac, West Bend
This program is **not** eligible for financial aid

About the Program

This program provides students with the essential skills and knowledge to create compelling visual content using industry-standard software. Students will learn the fundamentals of digital image manipulation, graphic design principles, and vector-based illustration, enabling them to develop a versatile skill set applicable to a wide range of creative fields.

What You'll Learn

Students in this program gain hands-on experience in editing digital images, grasping key visual design principles, and cultivating creative thinking through hands-on projects. Graduates are equipped to produce versatile graphics suitable for a range of media platforms, from print to web and animation. Courses transfer directly into the Graphic Design (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/graphic-design/) and Video, Animation, and Motion Graphic Design (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/video-animation-motion-graphic/) associate degrees.

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.

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
103-159	Computer Literacy - Microsoft Office	1
201-102	Vector Illustration 1	2
201-104	Beginning Photoshop	2
201-112	Design Fundamentals	3
Total Credits		**8**

Program Outcomes

- Use industry software to create and edit visual content.
- Apply the principles of effective visual communication.
- Design graphics and illustrations for a variety of applications.
- Develop a foundational skillset in graphic design, illustration, or animation.

Pathways

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

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

- Graphic Designer
- Photo Editor
- Illustrator
- Brand Identity Designer
- Digital Content Creator