

BA in Design Studies

Program Codes:

20FR5744BA

Degree Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts in Design Studies degree from UIC, students need to complete university, college, and school degree requirements. The degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Design Studies are outlined below. Students should consult [College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts](#) section for additional degree requirements and college academic policies.

Code	Title	Hours
Summary of Requirements		
General Education and Core Requirements		30-32
Foundation Course Requirements		17
Design Studies Major Requirements		51
Electives		22
Total Hours		120

General Education and Core Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
AH 110	World History of Art and the Built Environment I ^a	4
AH 111	World History of Art and the Built Environment II ^a	4
Analyzing the Natural World course		4-5
Exploring World Cultures course		3
Understanding the Individual and Society course		3
Understanding the Past course		3
Understanding U.S. Society course		3
One additional General Education course in any category		0-3
Total Hours		30-32

^a Course fulfills the general education requirement in *Understanding the Creative Arts*.

Foundation Course Requirements

Work completed during the Foundation Year will be reviewed in late April in consideration for full acceptance to the BA in Design Studies

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
DES 110	Design Colloquium	1
DES 140	Design Drawing	4
DES 150	Digital Media Design I	4
DES 160	Design Photography	4

DES 170	Color Theory	4
Total Hours		17

Design Studies Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
DES 208	Typography I: Form	4
DES 209	Typography II: Systems	4
DES 222	Human Experience in Design	4
DES 235	History of Design I: 1760-1925	3
DES 236	History of Design II: 1925 to the Present	3
DES 255	Integrative Design Studio I	4
DES 256	Integrative Design Studio II	4
DES 322	Design Research Methods	4
DES 355	Design Seminar	3
DES 357	Integrative Design Studio III	4
DES 458	Integrative Studio Project	4
DES 410	Senior Design Colloquium I	1
DES 411	Senior Design Colloquium II	1
Select one of the year-long professional practice track options:		8
DES 420 & DES 421	Professional Practice Project I and Professional Practice Project II	
DES 430 & DES 431	Interdisciplinary Product Development I and Interdisciplinary Product Development II	
DES 440 & DES 441	Design and Identity I and Design and Identity II	
DES 452 & DES 453	Information Aesthetics I and Information Aesthetics II	

Total Hours		51
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Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Electives		
Select a minimum of 22 hours to reach a total of 120 semester hours.		22
Total Hours		22

Sample Course Schedule—BA in Design Studies

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman Year		
Fall Semester		
DES 110	Design Colloquium	1
DES 140	Design Drawing (Spring or Fall)	4
DES 150	Digital Media Design I (Spring or Fall)	4
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
Understanding the Individual in Society General Education course		3
Hours		15
Spring Semester		
DES 160	Design Photography (Spring or Fall)	4
DES 170	Color Theory (Spring or Fall)	4

ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
Understanding the Past General Education course		3
Hours		14
Sophomore Year		
Fall Semester		
AH 110	World History of Art and the Built Environment I	4
DES 208	Typography I: Form	4
DES 222	Human Experience in Design	4
Analyzing the Natural World General Education course		4
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
AH 111	World History of Art and the Built Environment II	4
DES 209	Typography II: Systems	4
DES 322	Design Research Methods	4
Exploring World Cultures General Education requirement		3
Hours		15
Junior Year		
Fall Semester		
DES 235	History of Design I: 1760-1925	3
DES 255	Integrative Design Studio I	4
Understanding U.S. Society General Education course		3
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		3
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		3
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
DES 236	History of Design II: 1925 to the Present	3
DES 256	Integrative Design Studio II	4
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		3
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		3
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		3
Hours		16
Senior Year		
Fall Semester		
DES 355	Design Seminar	3
DES 357	Integrative Design Studio III	4
DES 410	Senior Design Colloquium I	1
DES 411	Senior Design Colloquium II	1
DES 420	Professional Practice Project I	4
or DES 430	or Interdisciplinary Product Development I	
or DES 440	or Design and Identity I	
or DES 452	or Information Aesthetics I	
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		3
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
DES 421	Professional Practice Project II	4
or DES 431	or Interdisciplinary Product Development II	
or DES 441	or Design and Identity II	
or DES 453	or Information Aesthetics II	
DES 458	Integrative Studio Project	4
Elective (chosen in consultation with advisor)		4
Hours		12
Total Hours		120