



Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Major
4 year plan - 132 units required

UNOFFICIAL: Refer to University Catalog for current regulations and policies
Courses in bold must be completed with a C or higher to meet major specific admission criteria

www.csulb.edu/catalog
2.5 overall GPA; 2.5 in bold art/art history courses required for admission to major.

4 Year Plan
Recommended sequence of Major requirements only ***Does not include General Education or Elective units*
Bold courses MUST be completed by end of 3rd semester
15-16 units recommended per semester (include GE requirements each semester in order to reach the desired amount of units per term)

Semester 1	Units	Semester 2	Units
Art 130 Foundation Two Dimensional	3	Art 184 Foundation Life Drawing	3
Art 131 Foundation Three Dimensional	3	Art 223 Intro Studio: Graphic Design - Typography	3
Art 181 Foundation Drawing	3	Art 132, 241, 270, OR 287	3
Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History	3	Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History	3
Semester 3		Semester 4	
Art 318 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Type II: Intern. Typography	3	Art 327 Graphic Design II: Intermediate Graphic Design	3
Art 321 Graphic Design I: Introduction to Graphic Design	3	Art 365 Media Design: Motion Graphics	3
Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G	3	Art 121 Safety & Sustainability for Studio Artists	1
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words	1		

**** Take GVAR Exam ****

BFA Program

Junior 1		Junior 2	
Art 334 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Exploration & Experimentation	3	Art 337 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Packaging	3
Art 336 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Development & Analysis	3	Art 421 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Typography	3
Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization	3	Art 311 Writing about Visual Art or Art 333 Global Art Scenes	3
Art History 444 History of Graphic Design	3	Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words (GE/E)	1
Senior 1		Senior 2	
Art 419 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - 5D	3	Art 424 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics II	3
Art 423 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics I	3	Art 425 Media Design - Advanced Narrative	3
Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization	3	Upper Division Art History (AH) (300-499 Level)	3

If interested in applying to BFA in Graphic Design *See attachment for all eligibility requirements**

Required to have Art318 and Art 321 completed.

Required to have Art 327 and Art 365 in progress or have completed at time of application to the BFA.

BFA Graphic Design is a Cohort Program. BFA Graphic Design courses will be assigned to you each semester. It will take approximately 4 semesters to complete the Graphic Design program. Completing sooner is not an option unless given permission by the Department Chair.

GVAR Exam should be taken once a student achieves a minimum of 30 cumulative units



Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Major

4.5 year plan - 132 units required

UNOFFICIAL: Refer to University Catalog for current regulations and policies

www.csub.edu/catalog

Courses in bold must be completed with a C or higher to meet major specific admission criteria

2.5 overall GPA; 2.5 in bold art/art history courses required for admission to major.

Recommended sequence of Major requirements only *Does not include General Education or Elective units***

132 Unit Degree (Includes GE, Major, and Elective units) ***Elective units can be up to 14 units depending on what is transferred in (AP, IB, Military, College credit)*

Bold courses MUST be completed by end of 3rd semester

15-16 units recommended per semester (include GE requirements each semester in order to reach the desired amount of units per term)

Semester 1	Units	Semester 2	Units
Art 130 Found. Two Dimensional or Art 131 Found. Three Dimensional	3	Art 130 Found. Two Dimensional or Art 131 Found. Three Dimensional	3
Art 181 Foundation Drawing	3	Art 132, 241, 270, OR 287	3
Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History	3	Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History	3
Semester 3		Semester 4	
Art 184 Foundation Life Drawing	3	Art 318 Adv. Studio: Graphic Design - Type II: Intermediate Typography	3
Art 223 Intro Studio: Graphic Design - Typography	3	Art 321 Graphic Design I: Introduction to Graphic Design	3
Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G	3	Art 121 Safety & Sustainability for Studio Artists	1
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words	1		
** Take GVAR Exam **			
Semester 5			
Art 327 Graphic Design II: Intermediate Graphic Design	3		
Art 365 Media Design: Motion Graphics	3		
Upper Division Art History (AH) (300-499 Level)	3		

BFA Program

Junior 1		Junior 2	
Art 334 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Exploration & Experimentation	3	Art 335 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Concept Development	3
Art 336 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Development & Analysis	3	Art 421 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Typography	3
Art History 444 History of Graphic Design	3	Art 311 Writing about Visual Art or Art 333 Global Art Scenes	3
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words	1		
Senior 1		Senior 2	
Art 419 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - 5D	3	Art 424 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics II	3
Art 423 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics I	3	Art 425 Media Design - Advanced Narrative	3
Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization	3	Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization	3

If interested in applying to BFA in Graphic Design *See attachment for all eligibility requirements**

Required to have Art318 and Art 321 completed.

Required to have Art 327 and Art 365 in progress or have completed at time of application to the BFA.

BFA Graphic Design is a Cohort Program. BFA Graphic Design courses will be assigned to you each semester. It will take approximately 4 semesters to complete the Graphic Design program. Completing sooner is not an option unless given permission by the Department Chair.

GVAR Exam should be taken once a student achieves a minimum of 30 cumulative units



Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Major
5 year plan - 132 units required

UNOFFICIAL: Refer to University Catalog for current regulations and policies
Courses in bold must be completed with a C or higher to meet major specific admission criteria

www.csulb.edu/catalog
2.5 overall GPA; 2.5 in bold art/art history courses required for admission to major.

Recommended sequence of Major requirements only *Does not include General Education or Elective units***

132 Unit Degree (Includes GE, Major, and Elective units) ***Elective units can be up to 14 units depending on what is transferred in (AP, IB, Military, College credit)*

Bold courses MUST be completed by end of 3rd semester

15-16 units recommended per semester (include GE requirements each semester in order to reach the desired amount of units per term)

Semester 1		Units	Semester 2		Units
Art 130 Found. Two Dimensional or Art 131 Found. Three Dimensional		3	Art 130 Found. Two Dimensional or Art 131 Found. Three Dimensional		3
Art 181 Foundation Drawing		3	Art 132, 241, 270, OR 287		3
Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History		3	Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History		3
Semester 3			Semester 4		
Art 184 Foundation Life Drawing		3	Art 318 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Type II: Intermediate Typography		3
Art 223 Intro Studio: Graphic Design - Typography		3	Art 321 Graphic Design I: Introduction to Graphic Design		3
Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G		3	Art 121 Safety & Sustainability for Studio Artists		1
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words		1			
** Take GVAR Exam **					
Semester 5			Semester 6		
Art 327 Graphic Design II: Intermediate Graphic Design		3	Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization		3
Art 365 Media Design: Motion Graphics		3	Art 311 Writing about Visual Art or Art 333 Global Art Scenes		3
BFA Program					
Junior 1			Junior 2		
Art 334 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Exploration & Experimentation		3	Art 337 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Packaging		3
Art 336 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Development & Analysis		3	Art 421 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Typography		3
Art History 444 History of Graphic Design		3	Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization		3
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words		1	Upper Division Art History (AH) (300-499 Level)		3
Senior 1			Senior 2		
Art 419 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - 5D		3	Art 424 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics II		3
Art 423 Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics I		3	Art 425 Media Design - Advanced Narrative		3

If interested in applying to BFA in Graphic Design *See attachment for all eligibility requirements**
Required to have Art318 and Art 321 completed.
Required to have Art 327 and Art 365 in progress or have completed at time of application to the BFA.

BFA Graphic Design is a Cohort Program. BFA Graphic Design courses will be assigned to you each semester. It will take approximately 4 semesters to complete the Graphic Design program. Completing sooner is not an option unless given permission by the Department Chair.

GVAR Exam should be taken once a student achieves a minimum of 30 cumulative units



Bachelor of Fine Arts: Graphic Design

Fall 2025/Spring 2026

Major Checklist

UNOFFICIAL: Refer to University Catalog for current regulations and policies

www.csulb.edu/catalog

Note: This checklist is not intended to replace advising from the major department. Students should consult with the major advisor to determine the appropriate sequence of courses. This checklist is to inform students of major requirements and course prerequisites only. CSULB Enrollment Services prepares the Academic Requirements Report, which is the official graduation verification.

✓	Course	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Notes
LOWER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (30 units)			
Complete the following courses (12 units total):			
	Art History 111A. Foundation Art History: Prehistory-c. 1500, Middle East, North Africa, Europe	Pre/Coreq: One GE Foundation course	MSR Course
	Art History 111B. Foundation Art History: c.1300-present, Europe and the US	Pre/Coreq: One GE Foundation course	MSR Course
	Art 130. Foundation Two-Dimensional		MSR Course
	Art 131. Foundation Three Dimensional		MSR Course
Complete the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art 101. Artists in Their Own Words		
	Art 101. Artists in Their Own Words		
	Art 121. Safety & Sustainable Practices for Studio Artists	One GE Foundation course	
Complete the following courses (9 units total):			
	Art 181. Foundation Drawing		Required to apply to BFA
	Art 184. Foundation Life Drawing	ART 181	Recommend to apply to BFA
	Art 223. Intro Studio: Graphic Design - Typography	ART 130, ART 181	Required to apply to BFA
Complete 1 of the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art 132, Art 241, Art 270, or Art 287 (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	
Complete 1 of the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G (Choose 1)	Pre/Coreq: One GE Foundation course	
UPPER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (51 units)			
Complete the following courses (21 units total):			
	Art 311. Writing About Visual Arts or Art 333. Global Art Scenes (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	
	Art 318. Type II: Intermediate Typography	Pre-Req: Art 130, 131, 181, & 223; AH 111A, AH 111B. Co-Req: 184 & Art 132, 241, 270, or 287	Required to apply to BFA
	Art 321. Graphic Design I: Introduction to Graphic Design	Pre-Req: Art 130, 131, 181, & 223; AH 111A, AH 111B. Co-Req: 184 & Art 132, 241, 270, or 287	Required to apply to BFA
	Art 327. Graphic Design II: Intermediate Graphic Design	Art 223, 318, 321	Required to apply to BFA
	Art 365. Media Design: Motion Graphics	Art 223, 318, 321	Required to apply to BFA
	AH 444. History of Graphic Design	AH 111A and AH 111B	
	Upper Division Art History (AH) (300-499 Level)	Refer to college catalog	
Complete 1 of the following courses (6 units total):			
	Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	
	Art 335, 366, 420, 442, 499S, or Art Outside of Specialization (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	
BFA Specific Cohort Courses (24 units)			
Complete the following courses (21 units total):			
	Art 334. Core Studio: Graphic Design - Exploration and Experimentation	Art 327 and Art 365, BFA Graphic Design Major	Junior 1
	Art 336. Core Studio: Graphic Design - Development and Analysis	Art 327 and Art 365, BFA Graphic Design Major	Junior 1
	Art 337. Core Studio: Graphic Design - Packaging	Art 334 and Art 336, BFA Graphic Design Major	Junior 2
	Art 421 Core Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Typography	Art 334 and Art 336, BFA Graphic Design Major	Junior 2
	Art 419. Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - 5D	Art 337 and Art 421, BFA Graphic Design Major	Senior 1
	Art 423. Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics I	Art 337 and Art 421, BFA Graphic Design Major	Senior 1
	Art 424. Advanced Studio: Graphic Design - Advanced Topics II	Art 419, Art 423, BFA Graphic Design Major	Senior 2 -Taken Last Semester
	Art 425 Media Design - Advanced Narrative	Art 419, Art 423, BFA Graphic Design Major	Senior 2 -Taken Last Semester