

East Central College

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Admissions Office

ECC Campus
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Division

Communications, Education, Fine
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East Central College is accredited by the Higher
Learning Commission and a participant in the
Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP)
30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2400
Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504
1 (800) 621-7440

THE CAREER

Graphic designers/graphic artists plan, analyze and create visual solutions to communications problems. They find the most effective way to get messages across in print and electronic media using a variety of methods such as color, type, illustration, photography and various print and layout techniques. Graphic designers develop the overall layout and production design of magazines, newspapers, journals, corporate reports and other publications.

PROFESSIONAL TRAITS

Those pursuing a career in this field should:

- Be creative
- Have solid problem-solving skills
- Effectively communicate ideas visually, verbally and in writing
- Have an eye for details
- Be open to new ideas and influences
- Have the ability to work independently and under pressure

EMPLOYMENT AND SALARY INFORMATION

The graphic design industry is experiencing about average growth, per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. By 2020, the number of positions is expected to increase by 13 percent.

In May 2012, median annual earnings for these professionals nationwide were \$44,150, or \$21.22 per hour. Their salaries ranged from less than \$26,250 (lowest 10 percent) to more than \$77,490 (highest 10 percent).

The average salary ranges* for graphic artists by specialty were:

Entry-level Designer	\$29,000 to \$36,000
Designer	\$32,000 to \$45,000
Art Director	\$47,500 to \$74,700
Web Production Artist	\$34,500 to \$48,250
Illustrator (entry-level)	\$32,750 to \$44,500

* As reported by The Graphic Artist Guild, Inc.

THE PROGRAM

East Central College offers two Associate of Applied Science degrees in design: graphic design and multimedia. The graphic design program combines traditional art fundamentals with cutting-edge technology.

ECC students study universal visual communications principles and apply them using a state-of-the-art, computer-based lab with Macintosh platforms. They learn on the same software they can expect to use on the job.

Upon completion, graduates will be qualified graphic design practitioners, with the ability to create professional communication and marketing materials through print and electronic mediums.

East Central College's related degree program in multimedia is ideal for students interested in video, animation, sound design, interactive media and Web design.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students must have completed:

- ✓ High school diploma or the equivalent (documentation must be sent to the registration office)
- ✓ Application for admission
- ✓ A placement test as specified by the college (some coursework requires minimum placement results)

TRANSFER OPTIONS

The AAS degree is designed for students seeking employment immediately upon graduation. However, many of the credits, particularly the general education electives received with this degree, may qualify as transfer credit at four-year schools.

These decisions are made solely by the bachelor degree-granting institution, not East Central. Students seeking to transfer are advised to contact the institution of their choice before beginning a program or reviewing other degrees and coursework offered through ECC.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

AAS Program: 63 credit hours

This program of study is for a full-time student; part-time study is also available. Please contact an academic advisor for full course options. All academic schedules are subject to change. For the most current schedule visit www.eastcentral.edu.

YEAR 1

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
FS 1000 Campus Orientation/ FS 1001 Foundation Seminar	1
EN 1223 English Comp I or EN 1233 Honors English Comp I	3
DES 1123 Digital Illustration I - Illustrator	3
DES 1143 Introduction to Media & Design	3
AR 1023 Design I: Two-Dimensional Design	3
AR 1303 Drawing I	3
Total Hours	16

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
DES 1900 First Year/Mid-Program Portfolio Review	0
DES 1023 Digital Imaging - Photoshop	3
GD 2323 Typography	3
AR 1133 Design II: Color Theory	3
MT 1343 Mathematics for Art and Design or MT 1303 Intermediate Algebra or MT 1023 Business Mathematics	3
AR 1703/ Art History I or AR 1713 Art History II	3
Total Hours	15

YEAR 2

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
DES 1133 Digital Illustration II-Advanced Illustration	3
DES 2253 Web Design I	3
GD 2233 Page Design & Layout	3
AR 2423 Design III: Three-Dimensional Design	3
BI 1203/ Introduction to Life Science or GL 1103 Introduction to Phys Geology Lecture	3
HI 1000 Constitutions Study Module PS 1000	0
History or Political Science Requirement	3
Total Hours	18

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
DES 2023 Multimedia Productions	3
GD 2173 Package Design	3
DES 2463 Web Design II	3
GD 2692 Program Capstone-Graphic Design	2
EN 1333 English Comp II, EN 1343 Honors English Comp II or EN 1403 Technical Writing	3
Total Hours	14