



McHenry County College Transfer Guide Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design

Available at:
NEIU Main Campus (Chicago, IL)

Why Choose Northeastern?

Northeastern Illinois University is committed to providing an affordable education. That's why our tuition and fees are among the most affordable of the Illinois public universities. We offer a **tuition guarantee program** that guarantees incoming students the same tuition rate for four years.

Northeastern offers more than 40 undergraduate degree and certificate programs, with classes on weekdays, evenings, weekends, and online. Small class sizes allow for students to pursue a more personal academic experience in one of the most ethnically diverse universities in the nation.

Graphic Design Program Description

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design is an applied arts program with a focus on the development of visual solutions to communication problems, and offers students guided hands-on experience in the creation of visual messages in print and electronic media. Degree candidates in the program are prepared for professional careers in the field and are challenged to research and evaluate the role contemporary design practices hold in our society.

The B.F.A. in Graphic Design begins with a strong foundation in design principles, introduces students to digital technologies and progresses into more specialized courses. Particular emphasis is placed on the development of typographic skills, and students are familiarized with a range of topics including branding/identity design, packaging design, systems design and environmental design through studio and special topics courses. Interaction design, mobile apps, and web design are taught alongside publication design, as well as historic print processes that inform contemporary design practice. The program is enriched through mentorship by professionals in the related fields of photography, digital arts, and printmaking. Courses in these areas help our students develop image-making and print production skills, expose them to base level coding and web development skills, and introduce them to experimental areas of design, which merge elements of branding, web design and development.

The B.F.A. in Graphic Design is a professional degree and students must fulfill required coursework to be admitted to the program.

Contact Information

Northeastern Illinois University Transfer Center: Students who have questions about the program prior to admission may contact the Northeastern Transfer Center at (773) 442-4076 or email TransferSteps@neiu.edu.

Admission Requirements

- Students must have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher for all college or university course work attempted. Students must be in good academic standing at the last college or university attended.
- Required documents are: application for admission, \$30 nonrefundable application fee, and official transcripts from all colleges and universities.
- Additional Admission and application materials, including the option to apply online can be found at www.neiu.edu/Transfer.
- Application deadlines are as follows:

Semester Applying	Deadline to Apply	International Student Deadline to Apply
Fall	July 15	June 15
Spring	November 1	October 1
Summer I	April 1	March 1
Summer II	May 1	April 1

General Education Requirements

Three options are available to students who plan to complete their General Education requirements at McHenry County College.

- **Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree:** Students who transfer with an approved Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) Model Associate of Arts degree will have met Northeastern Illinois University's General Education requirements. Students who transfer with an Associate of Science degree granted December 2016 or later may need to take one additional Humanities course and one additional Social and Behavioral Sciences course to meet Northeastern's General Education requirements.
- **Completion of the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI):** Students who transfer after completing the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) will have met their General Education requirements.
- **Transfer Course Lists for McHenry County College:** Students may choose to meet their General Education requirements by selecting courses from Northeastern's Transfer Course Equivalency Guides, available at: www.neiu.edu/Transfer. *When choosing this option, please use the following Northeastern Illinois University General Education guide:*

Northeastern Illinois University General Education Program		
The General Education Program requires a minimum of 39 credit hours of courses distributed among 6 areas.		
Northeastern Illinois University Requirement	Credits	McHenry County College Equivalent (if any)
Math / Quantitative Reasoning – one course (3 hours)	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This requirement can be met by completing MAT 120 or higher at McHenry County College with a grade of "C" or better.
Social / Behavioral Sciences 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than two courses from the same department may be used.
Natural Sciences 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than two courses from the same department may be used. ● One course must have a lab component.
Fine Arts 2 courses (6 hours)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ART 171 Art History I ● ART 172 Art History II
Humanities 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than two courses from the same department may be used. ● No more than two foreign language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement.
Non-General Education University Requirements (3-6 hours)	3-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ENG 151 Composition I at McHenry County College with a grade of "C" or better. ● Improving Human Relations - requirement can be met through one of many general education courses. Please see the McHenry County College Transfer Course Equivalency Guide to find courses meeting the Human Relations requirement.

Degree Plan*

D: Degree GECC: General Education Core Curriculum						Semester-by-Semester Program Plan for Full-Time Students		
						<i>*All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i>		
D	GECC	Semester 1	McHenry Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions			
•	•	ENG 151 Composition I (3)	Communication	Writing Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with advisor to discuss academic goals and plan coursework			
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education				
•	•	SPE 151 Intro to Speech (3)	Communication	General Education				
•	•	Humanities Course (3)	Humanities	General Education				
•		ART 156 Drawing I* (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 120				
15 Credit Hours						DO THIS – Visit your campus Advising Center		
D	GECC	Semester 2	McHenry Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions			
•	•	ENG 152 Composition II (3)	Communication	Elective	DO THIS – Mid-term check-in with advisor			
•	•	Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4)	Life/Physical Science	General Education				
•	•	MAT 120 or higher (3)	Mathematics	Math/Quantitative Reasoning				
•	•	ART 171 Art History I (3)	Fine Arts	General Education Major Requirement – ARTH 106				
•		ART 159 Intro to Printmaking (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 250				
15-16 Credit Hours						DO THIS – Apply to NEIU's Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP)		
D	GECC	Semester 3	McHenry Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions			
•	•	Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4)	Life/Physical Science	General Education	DO THIS – Mid-term check-in with advisor			
•	•	ART 172 Art History II (3)	Fine Arts	General Education Major Requirement – ARTH 107				
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education				
•		ART 153 2-Dimensional Design* (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 130				
•		GRA 167 Graphic Design I* (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 281				
15-16 Credit Hours						DO THIS – Apply for admission to NEIU		
D	GECC	Semester 4	McHenry Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions			
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education	DO THIS – Petition to graduate			
•		ART 253 3-Dimensional Design (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 140				
•		ART 157 Drawing II (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 220				
•		ART 250 Digital Photography (3)	Elective	Major Requirement – ART 261				
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective				
15 Credit Hours						COMPLETION of Associate of Arts Degree		
MINIMUM TOTAL AA CREDIT HOURS: 60						DO THIS – Register for NEIU orientation (once admitted)		
WRITTEN DEGREE PLAN CREDIT RANGE: 60-62								

Note:

- ****In order to be admitted to the BFA Graphic Design, students must undergo a portfolio evaluation and complete the following courses with a 3.0 GPA or higher: ART 153, ART 156 and GRA 167 (taken at McHenry County College) and ART 314 and 381 (to be taken at Northeastern). Applicants to the program must also have a 2.5 or higher overall university grade point average.***
- All McHenry County College students must complete the Diversity & Multicultural Studies requirement as part of their associate's degree. See your McHenry County College advisor for course options.
- All students who earn an Associate of Arts Degree from McHenry County College enter Northeastern with 64 hours of transfer credit, even if they earned less than 64 credit hours. See the [NEIU Transfer Policy](#) for further information.

Northeastern Illinois University		
<i>All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i>		
Semester 5 – Fall	NEIU Category	Next Actions
ART 314 Typography (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with the Graphic Design advisor
ART 289 Graphic Design Survey (3)	Major Requirement	
ART 315 Letterpress (3)	Major Requirement	
ART 234 Digital Foundations (3)	Major Requirement ELE-X Requirement	
12 Credit Hours		
Semester 6 – Spring	NEIU Category	Next Actions
ART 285 Image (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with the Graphic Design advisor <i>at the start of the Spring Semester</i> to submit portfolio and apply for admission to the Graphic Design program
ART 387 Special Topics in Graphic Design (3)	Major Requirement ELE-DS Requirement	
ART 388 Typography (3)	Major Requirement	
ART 280 Art + Tech (3)	Major Requirement	
12 Credit Hours		
Semester 7 – Fall	NEIU Category	Next Actions
ART 381 Studio in Graphic Design (3)	Major Requirement ELE-DS Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your Graphic Design advisor
ART 344 WIP: Professional Practices in Graphic Design (3)	Major Requirement WIP Requirement	
ART 379 Interactive Arts: Web (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with Career Services for career counseling
ART 384 Internship in Graphic Design (1-3)*	Major Requirement ELE-DS Requirement	
Any Level Elective	Elective	
12-14 Credit Hours		
Semester 8 – Spring	NEIU Category	Next Actions
ART 386 Interactive Arts: Form and Motion (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your Graphic Design advisor
ART 387 Special Topics in Graphic Design (3)	Major Requirement ELE-DS Requirement	
ART 389 Print Production (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with Career Services
ART 394C Senior Exhibition in Graphic Design (2)	Major Requirement ELE-DS Requirement	DO THIS – Apply for graduation
11 Credit Hours		
Semester 9 – Fall	NEIU Category	Next Actions
ART 381 Studio in Graphic Design (3)	Major Requirement ELE-DS requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your Graphic Design advisor
ART 384 Internship in Graphic Design (1-3)*	Major Requirement ELE-DS Requirement	
ART 301 Contemporary Design (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with Career Services
7-9 Credit Hours		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE MINIMUM TOTAL: 120 CREDIT HOURS		

Note: * ART 384 Internship in Graphic Design can be taken more than once but must add up to 4 credit hours.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

For information about financing your education at Northeastern, including Financial Aid and Scholarship opportunities, please see our website: <http://www.neiu.edu/financial-aid/>. You may also contact our Financial Aid Office directly at (773) 442-5016 or email Financial-Aid@neiu.edu. If you are completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Northeastern's federal School code is **001693**.

Provost and Deans Merit Scholarships for TRANSFER students*:

Scholarship	Amount Awarded	Credit Hour Requirement	GPA Requirement	Residency Requirement	NEIU Enrollment Requirement
Provost Merit	\$2,000	60+ credit hours	3.50 GPA	Illinois Residency	Full-Time (12+ credit hours)
Deans Merit	\$1,000	60+ credit hours	3.0 GPA	Illinois Residency	Full-Time (12+ credit hours)

Until all of the scholarships are awarded, students who meet these qualifications will automatically be considered for the Provost and Deans Merit Scholarships at the time of applying for admission to Northeastern. Completing an additional application is not necessary. The Office of Scholarships may be reached at (773) 442-4606 or scholarships@neiu.edu.

Art + Design Department Merit Scholarship

Application Deadlines: April 1 for Fall semester and November 1 for Spring semester. The online application and guidelines can be found on the Art + Design Department website under [Art + Design Department Scholarships](#).