



“To say I enjoyed my time as an art and design student at Springfield College would be an understatement. I continually felt supported by my professors and peers in my choice to pursue a career in the arts. The professors are not only excellent instructors, but also working artists that offer professional expertise, artistic knowledge, and consistent encouragement. My time in this major was very impactful on my growth as an artist, student, and person.”

- Heidi Schuman '22

## What Will You Learn?

### Visual, practical, and technical skills in a variety of media

- Explore themes of aesthetic, technical, and conceptual complexity while developing a visual language for creative expression.
- Exercise the expressive qualities of each medium, making thoughtful connections between medium and content.

### Critical, creative, and innovative thinking

- Cultivate the ability for divergent and flexible thinking and cultivate intellectual and creative curiosity in your work.
- Employ experimentation and risk-taking with medium, technique, and content.

### Traditional and current practice in visual art, design, and culture

- Develop an awareness of the diversity of expression in art and design and the importance of this diversity in local and global cultures.
- Examine the roles that art and design play in culture, history, and society.

## Where Can You Go?

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Graphic Designer               | Environmental Designer        |
| Art Director                   | Web Designer                  |
| Creative Director              | Arts Administrator            |
| Multimedia Designer            | Art Director                  |
| Editorial/Publication Designer | Fine Artist                   |
| Motion Graphics Designer       | Teacher                       |
| Package Designer               | Illustrator                   |
| User Experience Designer       | Gallery and Museum Technician |
| User Interface Designer        | Curator                       |
|                                | Studio Assistant              |
|                                | Community Artist              |

## 1st YEAR

## 2nd YEAR

## 3rd YEAR

## 4th YEAR

	1st YEAR	2nd YEAR	3rd YEAR	4th YEAR
Pursue Knowledge	<p>Take your foundational studio courses: ARTS 103, 108, and 111.</p> <p>Plan for your first Writing Across the Curriculum course.</p>	<p>Explore different media by taking specialized studio art and design courses at the 200-level.</p>	<p>Declare a minor to compliment your creative or academic goals.</p> <p>Take 300-level courses to develop depth in your area of focus.</p>	<p>Take ARTS 470: Advanced Art and Design Studio.</p> <p>Prepare work for your senior exhibition in the William Blizzard Gallery.</p>
Gain Experience	<p>Join the Art Club in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts.</p> <p>Get involved in our American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) student group.</p> <p>Knowing another language is a valued asset in nearly all careers. Build language study into your academic and professional plan.</p>	<p>Submit work to our student exhibitions in the William Blizzard Gallery.</p> <p>Design a personal visual identity system for use on a website, resume, and cover letter.</p> <p>If you're interested in a semester abroad your junior year, start planning now with your advisor and International Center staff.</p> <p>An internship is one of the most important pre-professional experiences employers look for so start planning now with your advisor and Career Center staff.</p>	<p>Start developing your portfolio website and/or digital and print portfolio.</p> <p>Explore internship opportunities for your senior year field experience course.</p> <p>Continue to develop leadership skills through attending a regional or national conference or becoming an executive board member of your club/organization.</p>	<p>Develop self-directed work to make your portfolio even more robust.</p> <p>Apply to art exhibition opportunities outside of the College.</p> <p>Present a paper at Scholars in Action Day, and/or at a regional or national conference in your area of study or activity.</p>
Build Your Communities	<p>Explore design opportunities for student media outlets and literary publications.</p> <p>Take care of your spiritual, mental, and physical health.</p> <p>Get involved with a club, service activity, intramural sports, New Student Orientation (NSO), Residential Life, or Pre-Camp.</p> <p>Consider a campus job, if you are eligible for work-study, or community-engaged employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Participate in a community art project.</p> <p>Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the International Center.</p> <p>Get to know the larger Springfield community through service projects with the Center for Service and Leadership.</p>	<p>Volunteer your time at a local art center.</p> <p>Explore short-term abroad opportunities with the International Center, as well as service-oriented spring break experiences in the U.S., like Alternative Spring Break.</p>	<p>Mentor the next generation of leaders in your club or organization.</p> <p>Explore new activities you haven't tried before.</p>
Prepare for Life After College	<p><b>Get involved to develop transferable skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend departmental and campus events to network and meet faculty, staff, and students.</li> <li>• Meet with a Career Counselor to explore careers and/or majors.</li> <li>• Utilize Career Center resources, including Handshake.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Develop academic and career-related goals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit the Career Center to research fields of interest.</li> <li>• Have resumes and cover letters reviewed by the Career Center.</li> <li>• Now is the time to develop your academic and career goals with your advisor and a career counselor.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Gain experiential education in your field</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend networking events and job fairs to learn about employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Plan an internship experience with your faculty internship coordinator and the Career Center.</li> <li>• Look at graduate school requirements to ensure you are on track.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Apply for jobs or graduate school</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare your applications for jobs and graduate school.</li> <li>• Ask professionals to serve as references.</li> <li>• Participate in mock interviews to strengthen skills and build confidence.</li> <li>• Speak with the International Center about opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.</li> </ul>

The map offers suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. **You don't have to do it all.**