

Graphic Design BFA

First Year Advancement

Policy & Schedule 2025

To advance to the second-year level of the program in Fall 2025, first-year Graphic Design majors must apply by portfolio.

Application Schedule: Spring 2025

MON MAR 24	Application period begins
FRI MAR 28	Portfolio applications due by midnight
MON APR 7	Applicants notified

Eligibility

Applicants for First Year Advancement must meet the following prerequisites at the culmination of the Spring 2025 semester.

Earn a minimum B- in all of these courses:

- DESGR 1100 Communication Design 1
- DESGR 1600 Typography 1
- ART 2205 Mapping
- ART 2206 Matrix
- ART 2207 Seeing

Earn a minimum C+ in any three of these courses:

- ART 2201 Action
- ART 2202 Construct
- ART 2203 Evidence
- ART 2204 Illusion
- ART 2208 Touch

Students who are in the process of fulfilling one or two of these required courses at the time of application may apply. There is no disadvantage in this situation.

Transfer students who have been accepted into the University of Utah may apply, but equivalent first-year courses must already be completed, and transcripts must be submitted with the portfolio. Please see the Department of Art & Art History [website](#) for more information about transfer credit.

Acceptance and Advancement

Advancement into the second-year level of the Graphic Design BFA program is a competitive process, and meeting prerequisites is not a guarantee of acceptance. A student's grades, classroom performance, portfolio quality, and adherence to portfolio guidelines and instructions are also taken into account.

Each applicant is reviewed holistically by a committee of full-time Graphic Design professors. Every effort is made to accept students who not only meet the pre-requisites, but also who demonstrate the aptitude, technical skills, creativity, critical thinking skills, rigor, and professionalism to be successful in the Graphic Design BFA program.

Although each applicant is reviewed individually, they are also evaluated in relation to the overall applicant pool, which varies from year to year.

Applicants will be notified via Umail confirming whether or not they have been accepted.

Unaccepted students may apply again one more time the following year or later. They are also encouraged to consider continuing their studies in one of the various emphases of the Art BFA major.

Conditions

Acceptance into the second year of the Graphic Design BFA program is contingent upon a student's final course grades for any required courses being completed at the time of application. If minimum grades are not met, acceptance will be withdrawn, and the student must re-apply the following year or later.

All students should meet regularly with [Academic Advising](#) to make sure they are on track to meet degree requirements.

For questions about the First Year Advancement Policy and timeline, please contact:

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