

Program of Study: Graphic Design



This Program of Study may serve as a graduation guide for the next four plus years, along with other career planning and educational materials. Courses listed in this model may include recommended coursework and should be individualized to students' educational and career goals. Each graduation plan needs to meet minimum high school graduation requirements. Dual Enrollment courses can be high school academic and/or career technical education courses.

Secondary: Graphic Communications					Postsecondary			
Course/Grade	Ninth	Tenth	Eleventh	Twelfth	TCC	Diploma or AAS	Bachelor of Science	
English	9 th grade Lit/ Composition	10 th grade Lit/ Composition	American Lit/ Composition	World Lit/Composition / British Lit	Entrance or Exit Point	GD21 TCC Graphic Design & Prepress Technician - DMPT 1000 Introduction to Design - DMPT 1005 Vector Graphics - DMPT 1010 Raster Imaging - DMPT 1055 Introduction to Media Technology - DMPT 2105 Page Layout - DMPT 2120 Prepress & Output	Entrance or Exit Point	The University System of Georgia offers students' higher education options at 30 institutions throughout the state, providing a wide range of academic programming including certificates and associate, baccalaureate, masters, doctoral and professional degrees. https://apps.usg.edu/ords/f?p=118:1:0:::
Mathematics	Coordinate Algebra / Algebra I	Analytic Geometry / Geometry	Advanced Algebra / Algebra II	Pre-calculus				
Science	Physical Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics				
Social Studies	Psychology	World History	US History	Government (½ unit) Economics (½ unit)				
Pathway Completer	Introduction to Graphics and Design	Graphic Design and Production	Advanced Graphic Output Processes	Work-Based Learning, Youth Apprenticeship, or Capstone Project				
Industry Recognized Credential (Pathway Completer)		Visit the End of Pathway Assessment Page (see note below)						
Required/ Selective Electives	Health & Personal Fitness (can be taken in grades 9-12)	Fine Arts course	Digital Design	Introduction to Digital Technology				
	Modern Language/Latin 2 units required for admissions to Georgia University System Colleges/Universities For a listing of Modern Language/Latin courses offered at your high school, please contact your advisor, counselor, or curriculum handbook.		Other Electives For a listing of other elective courses offered at your high school, please check with your advisor, counselor, or curriculum handbook.					

NOTE: Students have many options to **ENTER** and **EXIT** from their academic studies into the workforce. When a student graduates from high school, they are eligible to choose one of many **ENTRANCE POINT** options: **1.** Enroll in either a 2- or 4-year post-secondary program; **2.** Enroll in an apprenticeship program or the military; or **3.** Enter the workforce using technical skills learned in high school. When a student finishes a 2- or 4-year degree program, they may choose to **EXIT** and **1.** Enroll in an apprenticeship program or the military; **2.** Enroll in a professional university degree program; or **3.** Enter the workforce using technical skills learned.

Graphic Communications Career Pathway Completers - Industry Credentialing for High School Students

Upon completion of sequenced courses in the Graphic Communications Career Pathway, students are eligible to complete the Industry-Recognized student credential for fulfillment of the End of Pathway Assessment. Secondary students completing the Graphic Communications pathway will be able to sit for the National Industry Credentialed assessment offered on-line from Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, NOCTI, PrintED, and SkillsUSA. Once mastery is reached, students will receive recognition for completion and use this credential in conjunction with their job or continuing training. For specific assessment information, refer to: <http://bit.ly/ArtsAVTechEOPA>

Sample High Demand Careers in Georgia

Occupation Specialties	Level of Education Needed	Georgia Average Salary	Annual Average Openings in Georgia	2014 – 2024 Employment Outlook
Graphic Designers	Bachelor's Degree	\$49,900	390	High Demand, High Skill
Desktop Publishers	Associate's Degree	\$37,500	30	High Demand, High Skill
Commercial & Industrial Designers	Bachelor's Degree	\$54,900	30	High Demand, High Skill

GDOL Labor Market Explorer

Go to GAfutures at www.gafutures.org for more information about your education and career planning, including valuable financial information (grants and scholarships including HOPE Program, grants and loans, FAFSA, and CSS forms).

Career Enhancement Opportunities	<p>Career-Related Education Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Career Awareness <input type="checkbox"/> Career Exploration <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional Related <input type="checkbox"/> Connecting <input type="checkbox"/> Work-Based Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employability Skill Dev. • Cooperative Education • Internship • Youth Apprenticeship • Clinicals 	<p>Postsecondary Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-Year Universities/Colleges • 2-Year Colleges • Technical Colleges • State Registered Apprenticeships • Special Purpose Schools • On-the-Job Training • Military 	<p>Earning Postsecondary Credits While in High School</p> <p>A vital way to get ahead and realize you can pass college courses is by earning postsecondary credits as a high school student. Georgia offers a dual credit program titled Dual Enrollment. You need to talk with your parents, school counselor, or advisor about the proper courses to take each year in high school and dual credit.</p> <p>Students completing the course work in this Plan, will have earned/completed an Industry Credential, Technical Certificate of Credit (TCC), Associates of Applied Science Degree, and/or Bachelor's Degree.</p>
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Postsecondary Transition

- Students who will continue their education in a Program of Study at one of the University System of Georgia institutions should prepare to take the ACT or SAT for admissions. Tests for admissions may vary from institution to institution. Contact the selected institution for specific testing information. Additional admissions information can be found at Staying On Course. (https://www.usg.edu/assets/student_affairs/documents/Staying_on_Course.pdf)
- Students who will continue their education in a Program of Study at one of the Technical College System of Georgia institutions should prepare to complete a placement exam.
- Students who will continue their education and training in the US Military should take the ASVAB assessment.
- Students should utilize electronic college and career databases to select the most appropriate postsecondary opportunities to match their selected career field, including registered apprenticeships.
- Georgia's dual-credit programs have been combined into one program entitled Dual Enrollment, in which high school students may earn their high school course credits while taking college courses.

Related Pathway Occupations	Other Related Occupations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Graphic Designers <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Desktop Publishers <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Commercial & Industrial Designers <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Multimedia Artist & Animators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Equipment Repairers <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Computer Programmers <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Print Binding & Finishing Workers <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Printing Press Operators <li style="margin-right: 10px;">• Proofreaders & Copy Markers <p style="text-align: right;">*ONET Online</p>

Graphic Design Pathway Description

Graphic designers—or graphic artists—plan, analyze, and create visual solutions to communications problems. They find the most effective way to get messages across in print, electronic, and film media using a variety of methods such as color, type, illustration, photography, animation, and various print and layout techniques. Graphic designers develop the overall layout and production design of magazines, newspapers, journals, corporate reports, and other publications. They also produce promotional displays, packaging, and marketing brochures for products and services. An increasing number of graphic designers also develop material for Internet Web pages, interactive media, and multimedia projects. Graphic designers also may produce the credits that appear before and after television programs and movies.

Many will sometimes supervise assistants who follow instructions to complete parts of the design process. Designers who run their own businesses also may devote time to developing new business contacts, choosing equipment, and performing administrative tasks, such as reviewing catalogues and ordering samples. A bachelor's degree is required for most entry-level and advanced graphic design positions; although some entry-level technical positions may only require an associate degree. Associate degrees and certificates in graphic design also are available from 2-year and 3-year professional schools. These programs usually focus on the technical aspects of graphic design and include few liberal arts courses.

Workers in the industry will need to continually upgrade their skills because of rapidly changing technology. Due to an increase in digital technology, skill in computer networks and software is especially important for potential employees. Employment as a graphic designer will provide potential high-wages, high-demand and high-skilled opportunities throughout the industry. Graphic Designer has been designated as one of Georgia's "HOT" jobs through 2020.