

ILLUSTRATION AREA OF CONCENTRATION, GRAPHIC DESIGN AAS

Total Credits: 60

Catalog Edition: 2025-2026

Program Description

(R): 305

The illustration area of concentration prepares the student for work in a variety of illustration markets including narrative, animation, gaming, sequential, editorial, advertising, and concept art. Some students choose to continue their studies and have been successful transferring to four-year institutions with resulting portfolio. Emphasis is placed on creating visual interpretations of subjects, conceptualizing, communicating, and refining technical skills using both traditional and digital media while preparing a portfolio. Montgomery College is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, a student will be able to:

- Demonstrate solid foundation skills and competency in a range of media, techniques, and knowledge of associated processes to create products for a specified purpose or audience.
- Apply visual problem solving that employs appropriate technical skills and techniques.
- Evaluate the creativity of ideas and use of concepts for visual communication.

Program Advisors

Rockville

- Prof. Bryan Tillman, 240.567.7521,
Bryan.Tillman@montgomerycollege.edu

For more information, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/programs/graphic-design/illustration-graphic-design-aas-degree.html>

2025-2026

Program Advising Guide

An Academic Reference Tool for Students

ILLUSTRATION AREA OF CONCENTRATION, GRAPHIC DESIGN AAS

Suggested Course Sequence

A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows. All students should review this advising guide and consult an advisor.

First Semester

ENGL 101 - Introduction to College Writing *3 semester hours* *(ENGF)

ARTT 100 - Introduction to Drawing *3 semester hours* (**ARTD** or HUMD) **

GDES 116 - Digital Tools for the Visual Arts *4 semester hours*

GDES 121 - Fundamentals of Graphic Design I *3 semester hours*

GDES 134 - Illustration I *3 semester hours*

Third Semester

ARTT 201 - Art History: 1400 to Present *3 semester hours* (GEEL)

ARTT 205 - Figure Drawing I *3 semester hours*

GDES 140 - Introduction to Animation *4 semester hours*

GDES 216 - Illustrator for Vector Graphics *4 semester hours*

Second Semester

English Foundation *3 semester hours* (ENGF)

Mathematics Foundation *3 semester hours* (MATF)

ARTT 102 - Introduction to 2D Design *3 semester hours* (GEEL)

GDES 135 - Illustration II *3 semester hours*

GDES 214 - Photoshop for Graphics and Photography *4 semester hours*

Fourth Semester

GDES 218 - Graphic Design for the Web *4 semester hours*

GDES 234 - Illustration III *3 semester hours*

Behavioral and Social Sciences Distribution *3 semester hours* (BSSD)

Natural Science Distribution with Lab *4 semester hours* (NSLD)

Total Credit Hours: 60

* ENGL 101/ENGL 101A, if needed for ENGL 102/ENGL 103, or any GDES elective.

** AAS programs require one 3-credit Arts or Humanities General Education course.

Transfer Opportunities

Montgomery College has partnerships with multiple four-year institutions and the tools to help you transfer. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/transfer> or <http://artsys.usmd.edu>.

Get Involved at MC!

Employers and Transfer Institutions are looking for experience outside the classroom.

MC Student Clubs and Organizations: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-life/>

Related Careers

Some require a Bachelor's degree.

Graphic Designer, Technical Illustrator, Natural Science Illustrator, Comic Book Artist, Animation, Childrens Book Illustration, Concept Art, Matte Painter.

Career Services

Montgomery College offers a range of services to students and alumni to support the career planning process. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/career>

Career Coach

A valuable online search tool that will give you the opportunity to explore hundreds of potential careers or job possibilities in Maryland and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Get started today on your road to a new future and give it a try. For more information, please visit <https://montgomerycollege.emsicc.com>

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