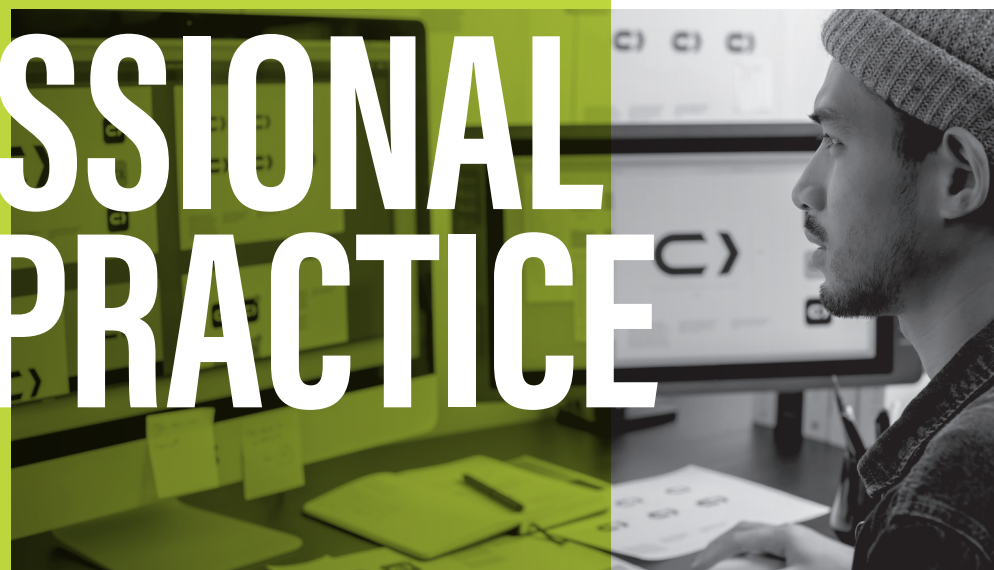# COMMUNICATION DESIGN

THE PATH TO
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

The BFA in Communication Design (formerly Graphic Design) is a four-year sequenced program that prepares students for professional practice across traditional and digital media. Graduates build career-focused portfolios in areas such as branding, packaging, interactive media, advertising, motion graphics, and more. Alumni go on to work in design studios, advertising agencies, in-house teams, or pursue MFA degrees.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CORPUS CHRISTI | ART+ DESIGN

DESIGN.TAMUCC.EDU

BFA DEGREE IN COMMUNICATION DESIGN

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS	CREDIT HOURS
University Seminar	2
University Core	36
Foreign Language	6
ARTS Core	6
Lower Level – ARTS	9
Lower Level – CDES	18
Upper Level – CDES	36
Upper Level University Electives	9
TOTAL DEGREE HOURS	120-122

Communication Design students are required to complete two portfolio reviews.

• Lower-Level Review (LL Review)

• Upper-Level Review (UL Review)

These reviews assess each student's creativity, design skills, academic progress, communication abilities, and readiness.

Due to limited resources and single sections of second-year CDES courses, up to 18 students will be admitted through the LL Review.

Continuance in the program requires a grade of C or higher in all CDES courses.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CDES PROGRAM?
Nancy Miller, Program Coordinator
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ADVISING QUESTIONS?
Kristina Messoline, Undergraduate Advisor
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CDES MATRICULATION GUIDE

FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
COURSE TITLE	CREDIT HOURS	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
FIRST YEAR			
ARTS 1303: Art History Survey I	3	ARTS 1304: Art History Survey II	3
ARTS 1311: Design I	3	ARTS 1316: Drawing I	3
CDES 1300: Design Technology	3	CDES 1301: Comm Design Fundamentals	3
University Core	6	University Core	6
University Seminar	2		
SECOND YEAR			
CDES 1302: Typography I	3	ARTS 2356: Photo I or ARTS 2333: Print I	3
CDES 2301: Design History to Practice	3	CDES 2303: Design Concepts	3
Foreign Language	3	CDES 2304: Typography II	3
University Core	6	Foreign Language	3
		University Core	6
THIRD YEAR			
CDES 3302: Design Systems	3	CDES 3309: Interactive Design II	3
CDES 3306: Interactive Design I	3	CDES 3310: Design Campaigns	3
CDES Elective 1 • CDES 3316: Poster Design • CDES 3311: Digital Illustration	3	CDES Elective 2 • CDES 3312: Book Design • CDES 3313: Publication Design	3
University Core	6	University Core	6
Upper Elective (OPTION: CDES 4399: Internship)		Upper Elective (OPTION: CDES 4399: Internship)	3
FOURTH YEAR			
CDES 4301: Professional Practice	3	CDES 4310: Design Portfolio	3
CDES Elective 3 • CDES 4318: Advanced Typography • CDES 4311: Art Direction	3	CDES Elective 5 • CDES 4314: Motion Design • CDES 4315: Emerging Technology	3
CDES Elective 4 • CDES 4316: Package Design • CDES 4317: Brand Identity	3	CDES Elective 6 • CDES 4312: Experiential Design • CDES 4313: Design for Good	3
Upper Elective (OPTION: CDES 4399: Internship)	3	Upper Elective (OPTION: CDES 4399: Internship)	3

Side labels: Lower Level Review · Upper Level Review · Summer Option: CDES 4399: Internship

Elective courses rotate on a two-year cycle (e.g., Poster Design offered in Fall 2026 will return in Fall 2028). Each semester, third- and fourth-year students may choose from three available electives, pending prerequisites. Students will be notified of the elective schedule before registration, though offerings may change based on faculty availability and program needs.