Program of Study
The Western Illinois University Department of Art offers two undergraduate degrees in graphic design: a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree and a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree.

- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art - Graphic Design Option is the degree for the design professional and provides an in-depth, comprehensive, and structured background in graphic design. This degree focuses on creative graphic form and communication, design processes, cultural factors, and offers the most thorough experience of artistic graphic design at the undergraduate level. Students from this program are required to complete a senior portfolio and will graduate with a well-defined professional portfolio website.

- Bachelor of Arts in Art - Graphic Design Option is a broad, well-rounded liberal arts degree intended for students who desire an in-depth graphic design specialization with a more open degree program. The flexibility of this degree allows students to pursue graphic design alongside another field(s) of academic study if they choose to do so. Students have the option to select a minor or a group of related courses with the assistance of their faculty advisor.

The department also offers minors in art history, art studio, and graphic design.

The WIU Department of Art is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Faculty
WIU Department of Art faculty are a talented group of professional artists and scholars passionate about art, art history, and education. All art faculty hold advanced degrees and are active in their areas of specialization. The diverse expertise of the faculty provides students the opportunity to experience a broad range of visual media, styles, and processes. All art classes are taught by Department of Art faculty.

Scholarships and Financial Assistance
There are a variety of departmental scholarships and employment opportunities available for art majors and all students are encouraged to apply. Art students can also participate in a juried competition for talent grants and partial tuition waiver awards by submitting a collection of artwork each semester. For more information about available scholarships, visit wiu.edu/cofac/art/scholarships.php.

Student Organizations
Art majors and minors who qualify may apply for membership in Kappa Pi, an International Art Honor Society for artistically and academically gifted art students. Kappa Pi is a University-recognized organization whose objective is to bond and unite conscientious artists to form a unit which is influential in the WIU Department of Art and the City of Macomb by reaching out to art programs and artists throughout the community.

The department also offers students the opportunity to become involved in a variety of groups, such as the Clay Club, the Metals Club, and the Print Club. These organizations bring in visiting artists, attend special workshops and conferences, sponsor field trips, community events, and fundraisers, and strive to promote an active art community.
Design Experience
Graphic design students have many opportunities to gain design experience in addition to assigned projects. Graphic design students can work with offices, student groups, and individuals throughout the University, as well as local businesses and organizations to design posters, webpages, signage, book covers, advertisements, and illustrations.

Exhibition Opportunities
Experiencing and exhibiting art is also a very important part of a complete education in the visual arts. The WIU Department of Art has three main gallery spaces dedicated to the exhibition of artworks.

- **The University Art Gallery** exhibits a wide variety of artwork hosting solo, group, juried, and invitational exhibitions, as well as faculty exhibitions, the annual juried student exhibition, and BFA student exhibitions.
- **The Annex Gallery** is a more intimate presentation space and is often used to exhibit artwork in conjunction with visiting artist events, but it is also available for exhibition proposals from artists, faculty, and students.
- **The Student Art Gallery** is a student-run exhibition space. Art students are responsible for soliciting proposals, event selection, scheduling, installation, and promotion. Any interested artist/student may submit a proposal.

Other exhibition opportunities are available both on and off campus including the West Central Illinois Arts Center (WCIAC), a regional arts organization located in downtown Macomb.

After College
Graphic design graduates seek careers in many areas. Students from this program often find employment in the graphic design field as professional creative designers (graphic, package, publication, information, and identity design), multimedia designers (motion graphics, animation, exhibition design, digital photography, illustration, web design, and art direction). Graduates also go on to graduate school and earn advanced to prepare them to be university faculty, private-sector teachers, art therapists, gallery directors, museum curators, or art critics.

Special Opportunities
**Art in New York City** is an intensive 10 day, 3 session Study Abroad course in which students experience the art and culture of New York City firsthand with a native New Yorker and WIU professor. Students tour major museums (Museum of Modern Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Guggenheim, New Museum, Studio Museum Harlem, Brooklyn Museum, Dia Beacon, Whitney, Cloisters, International Center of Photography, Asia Society, and more), galleries (SoHo, Chelsea, Midtown, Uptown, and Brooklyn), artist studios, and an auction house. This course also includes visits to Grand Central Station, Ground Zero, Central Park, the Brooklyn Bridge, and many other New York City landmarks.

The department also offers other unique Study Abroad courses, including opportunities to travel to Berlin, Germany to study contemporary art or to tour parts of Europe and experience several major European art projects and exhibitions.

Come Visit Us
The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available on Mondays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., and individual appointments can be made on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Campus tours are conducted at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday-Friday. Appointments with advisors, faculty or a financial aid advisor may be arranged separately during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. most Saturdays when the University is in session. A group information session is available at 10 a.m., and a campus tour is conducted at 11 a.m. Schedule a visit or tour online at wiu.edu/admissions by selecting “Visit Campus.” You may also schedule a visit, tour or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU (742-5948) or (309) 298-3157, or by emailing admissions@wiu.edu.

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