

To succeed in the Graphic Design program, the following attributes will **help give you an insight** into the demands of the graphic design program and help prepare you for success.

This checklist is designed for self-reflection and career exploration. A "NO" response does not preclude you from success in the program. Many skills and competencies will be developed through coursework and practice.

**Directions:** Please conduct your own self-assessment by reading each of the attributes listed below to determine if a Graphic Design career is right for you.

Question	Yes	No
<b>Academic Readiness</b>		
Do you have a high school diploma or equivalent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a basic knowledge of design principles (balance, contrast, emphasis, unity)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to analyze visual information and design solutions effectively?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have foundational math skills?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you comfortable with technical reading and interpreting industry specifications and documentation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Visual &amp; Creative Thinking</b>		
Do you have an interest in visual communication?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to observe and articulate how colour, shape, & composition affect visual impact?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you enjoy exploring creative solutions to visual problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to think conceptually and translate abstract ideas into visual form?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you generate multiple design approaches and ideas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Technical Skills &amp; Technology</b>		
Do you have basic computer skills and comfort using software applications?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you comfortable learning new software and adapting to updated tools and technologies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to follow technical instructions and troubleshoot basic software issues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you willing to develop proficiency with software such as the Adobe Creative Suite?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Personal Characteristics</b>		
Are you detail-oriented and attentive to precision in visual work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have patience to refine and iterate on designs through feedback and revisions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are you organized and able to manage multiple files, projects, and deadlines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to work independently and take initiative in solving design problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you adaptable and open to learning new techniques and approaches?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you manage your time effectively and balance competing project demands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Communication and Presentation Skills</b>		
Are you comfortable presenting your work and design ideas to others?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you articulate your design decisions and defend your visual choices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to communicate clearly both verbally and in writing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you comfortable receiving design criticism and feedback?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you distinguish between subjective opinion and objective design critique?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Collaborative and Professional Skills</b>		
Are you able to work effectively as part of a design team or in collaborative projects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you contribute ideas while respecting the perspectives of others?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to incorporate feedback and work towards consensus on design solutions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have communication skills appropriate for workplace environments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you committed to maintaining professional standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Physical and Studio Requirements</b>		
Are you comfortable working in a studio environment with various equipment and materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you stand, sit, and work at a computer workstation for extended periods?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you physically able to handle design tools, cameras, and studio equipment safely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you willing to follow workplace safety protocols in studios and production facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have good hand-eye coordination for precision work with design tools and equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Industry Awareness and Professional Commitment</b>		
Are you interested in current design trends and developments in the graphic design industry?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you aware of the role of graphic design in business, marketing, and communication?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you interested in knowing design as both a creative and business practice?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you committed to developing a professional portfolio of your work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you willing to continuously learn about design practices and emerging technologies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Design Ethics and Cultural Awareness

Do you respect diverse perspectives and cultural backgrounds in visual communication?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you aware of how design choices can impact different audiences and communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you committed to creating inclusive and accessible designs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you know the importance of intellectual property and design ethics?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you interested in exploring Canadian and Indigenous design contributions and perspectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Self-Care and Stress Management

Are you able to manage the demands of creative problem-solving and project deadlines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have strategies for managing stress during intensive design projects and revisions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to maintain focus and motivation when projects require significant iteration and refinement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have access to a personal support network for academic and personal challenges?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>