

Art BA with Graphic Design Concentration (TUJ)

Overview

The **Bachelor of Arts in Art** is awarded by the Tyler School of Art and Architecture and is available only at Temple University, Japan Campus. The BA in Art is the only degree-conferring U.S.-style art program in Tokyo, offering a curriculum that situates visual practice in a liberal arts context with art historical reference, critical perspectives and theoretical insight. With an emphasis on traditional fine art media, photography and digital technology, the coursework prepares students for a variety of practices in visual art. Tokyo's unique urban environment and its numerous art galleries and museums offer context, inspiration and stimuli for student learning.

The Art major focuses on visual art practice within a liberal arts context. Courses include design, drawing, painting, three-dimensional design, printmaking, digital photography, digital imaging, Internet imaging, moving images, motion graphics, media arts and art history. The faculty teaches studio art from the viewpoint of its connection to such disciplines as psychology, literature, philosophy, mathematics, biology and physics.

Graphic Design Concentration

The optional **Concentration in Graphic Design** enables students to study the discipline in a location rich in history and culture. Tokyo, being a center of tradition and innovation in design, is a distinctive setting to study graphic design's dynamic history, culture, and evolution. Japanese design has historically shaped global visual communication from Japanese Modernism's geometric abstraction, photomontage, to contemporary designers who are pushing the boundaries of visual communication. This concentration gives students the opportunity to connect with Japan's vibrant design community by collaborating with local artists and designers.

Students in the concentration will gain technical competence and critical thinking skills. In addition to studying typography, layout, branding, and UX design, students will also gain an historical and theoretical background that will enable them to situate their work within the broader cultural and professional context.

For Philadelphia students who may be inclined to study in Tokyo, the concentration will be most beneficial in this industrious setting. While in Tokyo they will experience a design environment unlike anywhere in the world that is a combination of tradition, design innovation, and progressive technological development. Main Campus students can expect to visit museums, design studios, and galleries. Students can expect to expand their professional networks, be better informed of the traditions of design that differ from Western models, in addition to enriching their cultural experience.

Campus Location: Japan

Program Code: TA-ART-BA

An Art minor and an Art History minor are also offered at both Main Campus and Japan Campus.

Contact Information

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These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2026-2027. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2026 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.

Summary of Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts degree may be conferred upon a student by recommendation of the faculty and upon the satisfactory completion of a minimum of 123 semester hours of credit with a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA.

There may be minimum grade requirements of C- or better in required courses - students should refer to the DARS and their advisor.

Students who are seeking admission into the BA in Art degree program must review the requirements and procedures outlined on the TUJ web site: www.tuj.ac.jp/admissions/index.html.

University Requirements

All Temple students are required to complete the General Education (GenEd) curriculum.

- Study abroad for a summer or semester will satisfy the Global/World Society (GG) requirement.

Major Requirements for BA in Art with Graphic Design Concentration

- Students must complete successfully the second semester of a foreign language.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Foundation Requirements		
ARTU 1401	Drawing I	3
ARTU 1501	2D Design	3
ARTU 2811	Art Photography: Digital	3
ARTH 2009	Northern Graphic Design History	3
Sophomore Studio Requirements		
ARTU 2601	Graphic Design	3
ARTU 2606		3
Junior Studio Requirements		
ARTU 2602	Intermediate Graphic Design	3
ARTU 2835	Motion Graphics	3
ARTU 3606		3
ARTU 3603	Advanced Graphic Design	3
Senior Studio Requirements		
ARTU 4648	Graphic Design Workshop	3
ARTU 4649	Graphic Design Portfolio and Practice	3
Capstone		
ARTU 4796	Art Seminar	3
Studio Electives		
Select two of the following:		6
ARTU 2301	Relief Printmaking	
ARTU 2341	Screenprinting	
ARTU 2351	Artist Books	
ARTU 2400	Special Topics (Topic: Image Sequencing Manga)	
ARTU 2605	Internet Imaging	
ARTU 3601	Multimedia Studio	
Art History Requirements		
ARTH 1103	Introduction to Methods and Theories	3
ARTH 2696	Graphic Design Theory	4
Two ARTH 2000+ electives		8
Academic Requirements		
Five upper-level non-studio courses ¹		15
Total Credit Hours		75

¹ Non-Studio Electives may not be fulfilled with studio courses with the subject code of ARTU, ART, DES, or GAD.

Suggested Academic Plan

Please note that this is a **suggested** academic plan. Depending on your situation, your academic plan may look different.

Bachelor of Art in Art with Concentration in Graphic Design

Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2026-2027 Academic Year

Year 1		
Fall		Credit Hours
ENG 0802	Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
or ENG 0812	or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL [GW]	
or ENG 0902	or Honors Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	

GenEd Breadth Course		3
ARTU 1401	Drawing I	3
ARTU 1501	2D Design	3
ARTH 1103	Introduction to Methods and Theories	3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
IH 0851 or IH 0951	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY] or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	3
GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course [GQ]		4
ARTU 2811	Art Photography: Digital	3
ARTH 2009	Northern Graphic Design History	3
ARTH 2000+ elective		4
Credit Hours		17
Year 2		
Fall		
IH 0852 or IH 0952	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ] or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Foreign Language 1001 - first level		4
ARTU 2601	Graphic Design	3
ARTU 2000+ Studio Elective ¹		3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
ARTU 2606		3
ARTU 2000+ Studio Elective ¹		3
Foreign Language 1002 - second level		4
Credit Hours		16
Year 3		
Fall		
GenEd Breadth Course		3
ARTU 2602	Intermediate Graphic Design	3
ARTU 3606		3
ARTH 2000+ elective		4
Upper-Level non-studio course ²		3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
ARTU 2835	Motion Graphics	3
ARTU 3603	Advanced Graphic Design	3
ARTH 2696	Graphic Design Theory [WI]	4
Credit Hours		16
Year 4		
Fall		
ARTU 4648	Graphic Design Workshop	3
ARTU 4796	Art Seminar [WI]	3
Upper-Level non-studio course ²		3
Upper-Level non-studio course ²		3
Free Elective		2
Credit Hours		14

Spring		
ARTU 4649	Graphic Design Portfolio and Practice	3
Upper-Level non-studio course ²		3
Upper-Level non-studio course ²		3
Free Elective		3
Credit Hours		12
Total Credit Hours		123

¹ Select from: ARTU 2301, ARTU 2341, ARTU 2351, ARTU 2400 (Image Sequencing Manga), ARTU 2605, ARTU 3601.

² Non-Studio Electives may not be fulfilled with studio courses with the subject code of ARTU, ART, DES, or GAD.