MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

APPLICATION, CERTIFICATION, & ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS · Communication Design Certificate Program

CERTIFICATE LEVEL required courses and credits in each level	Required skills to START this Level	Application materials required for ACCEPTANCE* at this level	Requirements for Certification:	Required to Advance to next Level:	Required for failing to meet Certification/Advancement benchmarks:
LEVEL 1 • Foundations of GD / 3cr • Typography / 3cr • Graphic Design I / 2 cr • Intermediate Type / 3cr	• basic observational drawing skills • working knowledge of Adobe Photoshop; Illustrator; InDesign or Sketch	• application form • application fee • short statement of purpose	• completion of required courses and credits • Equivalent GPA minimum of 2.5[+] [+]*MassArt does not officially maintain student GPAs; this equivalent is calculated on a case-by-case basis*	• Final grades of B+ or higher in all Level 1 courses • 60 college credits (transcript) or 500-word essay describing professional/life experience that has prepared you for the higher levels in the program	**Certification:** remedial coursework as determined by Program Director **Advancement:** review of coursework / meeting with Program Director; remedial coursework may be required
LEVEL 2 • UX Design / 3cr • GD II / 3cr • Print Prod wkshp / NC • Intermediate Portfolio / 4 cr	• solid foundation in communication design fundamentals (2D design, typography, creative-concept-based design); either UX skills or skills in creating typographic hierarchy, typographic layouts, and expressive typography in design systems	• application form + fee • portfolio (15 images) showing required skills • 60 college credits (transcript) • résumé • statement of purpose	• completion of required courses and credits • Intermediate Portfolio review "Pass"	Intermediate Portfolio review "Pass"	**Certification and Advancement:** retake Intermediate Portfolio course; achieve Intermediate Portfolio review "Pass"
LEVEL 3 • Information Design / 2 cr • Graphic Design III / 3 cr • Advanced Interactive Projects / 3 cr • Web Tools wkshp / NC • Final Portfolio / 4 cr	• communication design skills—research, basic UX/UI, creative concept development, practical design problem-solving, visual design, typography—applied to design systems	• application form + fee • portfolio (15 images) showing required skills • 60 college credits (transcript) • résumé • statement of purpose	• completion of required courses and credits • Final Portfolio review "Pass"	N/A	**Certification:** retake Final Portfolio course; achieve Final Portfolio "Pass"

* if you are not APPLYING to this level, but looking to move up to this level after completing the previous level, go to GATEWAY column for requirements