

CIS DIGITAL DESIGN, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) CIS Digital Design degree is designed to successfully prepare students for careers in the expanding fields of digital design and media productions through an integrated curriculum exposing students to design principles and technical strategies. Upon successful completion of the AAS CIS Digital Design degree, students are prepared for a variety of entry-level positions in numerous digital design fields. Students attain knowledge and learn skills to seek careers in creative and support professions within such media industries as film and video, graphic design, production, game development, animation, and web design. Some of the careers available in digital design include: digital experience designer, UI/UX designer, motion graphics artist, 3D motion designer, virtual production technician, multimedia producer, digital asset manager, extended reality (XR) production assistant, web & interactive designer, AR/VR content creator, and emerging opportunities in interactive media and immersive technology.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a minimum of 90 credit hours with a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or better. All courses must be completed with a grade of 'C' or better. Twenty-four (24) credits must be completed at Southwestern before the degree is awarded.

Complete the graduation application process one term prior to the term of completion (e.g., spring term graduates must apply during winter term).

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this program, the student will be able to:

1. Apply industry-standard design principles, including composition, UX/UI methodologies, and branding strategies.
2. Plan, design, develop, and edit digital images, graphics, and visual assets for 2D and 3D media.
3. Plan, design, develop, and edit digital time-based media, including animation, motion graphics, and virtual production.
4. Plan, design, develop, and edit interactive experiences for web, mobile, gaming, and XR platforms.
5. Work effectively as part of a creative technology team using industry collaboration tools and workflows.

Math and writing placement are unique to each student and are determined during the admissions and intake advising process. Additional math or writing courses may be required prior to taking the math or writing program requirements in this degree.

PROGRAM GUIDE

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
ART131	Introduction to Drawing I	3
DD110	Game Design & Interactive Media	4
DD125	Digital Imaging & Graphic Design	3
DD160	Digital Design Orientation	3
DD170	Programming For Digital Media	4
Credits		17
Winter		
ART115	Basic Design I Intro to Elements of Art and Principles of Design	4
DD130	3d Modeling & Environment Design	3
DD225	Motion Graphics & Visual Effects	3
DD171	Coding For Games & Interactive Medi	3
WR115	Fundamentals of Report Writing	4
Credits		17
Spring		
ART116	Basic Design II, Color Theory	4
BA285	Human Relations in Organizations ²	3
DD165	Web & Interactive Media Design	3
DD230	3d Animation & Motion	3
DD172	Coding 3d Motion & Automation	4
Credits		17
Second Year		
Fall		
BA150	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	3
DD210	X R Design & Development	3
DD215	Real-Time Motion & Interactivity	3
MTH65	Algebra II ⁵	4
Credits		13
Winter		
BA223	Principles of Marketing	4
COMM100Z	Introduction to Communication ⁶	4
DD250	Projects in Digital Media	3
DD280	CWE: Digital Design ⁴	4
Credits		15
Spring		
DD297	Digital Design Capstone	3
PE231	Wellness for Life ³	3
Specific Elective ⁴		6
Credits		12
Total Credits		91

¹ A higher writing may be substituted excluding WR241, WR242, WR243, and WR250.

² BA120, BA285, PSY100, PSY201Z, PSY202Z will satisfy this requirement.

³ PE231, HE250 or three (3) credits of PE185 sport/activity courses will satisfy this requirement.

⁴ Specific Electives may be substituted: Any ART, BA,CS/CIS, or DD course not otherwise required within the degree; MTH course higher than MTH65.

⁵ MTH95, MTH98, or higher, excluding MTH211, may be substituted for MTH65.

⁶ COMM100Z, COMM111Z, COMM218Z, COMM219 will satisfy this requirement.