

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Sophomore-Level Qualifying Portfolio Examination

Requirements and Procedure

- Program Goal** The Department of Graphic Design at TCU exists to prepare qualified individuals for a career in the professional field of applied graphic design.
- Toward achieving this end, a qualifying portfolio examination will be conducted for all students wishing to enroll in Intermediate Design Practices. The intent and process is similar to audition requirements in the Dance, Music and Theatre Departments of this College. Participation will also assist the student in discovering his or her level of aptitude for a highly-competitive profession, before having committed an extraordinary amount of time and credit hours to the major.
- This is an annual requirement for all students enrolled in the Graphic Design Program (including non majors—see “Department of Graphic Design”, in the university catalog).
- Purpose** To maintain a small, competitive, high-quality program of highly-motivated individuals.
- Procedure** A portfolio shall be submitted for review at the conclusion of ARGD 20323 Typography. Students are not present during the procedure. A panel will convene to examine the portfolios. This group shall include the graphic design faculty and sometimes one or two design professionals from the community. The panel is instructed in purpose and procedure, and reminded that the goal of the examination at this level is to identify the potential for success. This typically means more consideration of idea development and concept than of technical mastery or hand skills.
- Individual email messages will be sent to all participants, notifying them of the outcome, the day of the examination. The College of Fine Arts Art Office will also be immediately informed of results. Portfolios should be available for retrieval in the hallway outside room 212N, by 9:00 AM, the day following the examination.
- Students whose portfolios pass the examination will be offered the opportunity to pursue the BFA degree in Graphic Design or the BS in Design Studies, depending on ranking in the examination. All will be allowed to enroll in ARGD 20333, Intermediate Design Practices, for the following Semester.
- Portfolio Requirements** The portfolio shall include all projects completed in Typography, the sketchbook from the class, all of the Famous Designer papers and a one-page cover letter explaining the student’s feelings and expectations about graphic design as a career track.
- Questions?** Lewis Glaser; Professor; Chair, Department of Design
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