COURSE SYLLABUS

Graphic Design Certificate (Self-Paced)

Start your journey toward becoming a professional graphic designer by learning the essential skills and tools used by industry professionals. Gain hands-on experience with Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator, and build a strong portfolio to showcase your work to potential employers or clients.

> Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://www.graduateschool.edu/certificates/graphic-design-self-paced



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Course Outline

This package includes these courses

- Adobe InDesign Bootcamp (Self-Paced) (30 Hours)
- Adobe Photoshop Bootcamp (Self-Paced) (30 Hours)
- Adobe Illustrator Bootcamp (Self-Paced) (30 Hours)
- Graphic Design Portfolio Bootcamp (Self-Paced) (30 Hours)
- Graphic Design Capstone Project (Guided Self-Paced) (18 Hours)

Attend the AI for Graphic Design class for free as part of this certificate. Choose your date after you register for the program.

AI for Graphic Design Course (Self-Paced)

Adobe InDesign Bootcamp (Self-Paced)

- Design layouts combining text, color, and graphics
- Import and style text and images
- Apply and manage color in your designs
- Create short and long documents, including brochures, advertisements, magazines, and books
- Prepare files for final output, whether for print or PDF
- Create and edit paragraph and character styles for consistent text formatting
- Use parent pages to control layouts in multi-page documents
- Work with anchored objects, tables, libraries, find/change tools, and more

Adobe Photoshop Bootcamp (Self-Paced)

- Retouch photos and design custom graphics
- Enhance images by adjusting color, brightness, and contrast
- Use selections to edit specific areas of an image

- Prepare images for digital, web, video, or print
- Simplify edits with adjustment layers
- Remove backgrounds using layer masks
- Sharpen photos for clarity and impact
- Apply visual effects with filters, shadows, blend modes, and more

Adobe Illustrator Bootcamp (Self-Paced)

Learn how to create and edit vector graphics using Adobe Illustrator, from basic shapes to advanced design techniques.

- Design a range of graphics, including logos, icons, patterns, packaging, and typography
- Master the Pen tool for vector drawings using tracing templates
- Work with shapes, brushes, and painting tools
- Apply gradients and blends to create colorful vector graphics
- Develop patterns for graphic and fashion design
- Create graphics specifically for packaging
- Prepare and save files for web or print

Graphic Design Portfolio Bootcamp (Self-Paced)

Build a strong foundation in graphic design while working on real-world projects to expand your portfolio.

- Explore the fundamental elements of design
- Build and expand your graphic design portfolio
- Learn to present your work and incorporate constructive feedback
- Deepen your understanding of both formal and conceptual design processes
- Showcase your projects by uploading them to Adobe Portfolio to create a professional portfolio website

Graphic Design Capstone Project (Guided Self-Paced)

Throughout this program, you will complete a capstone project to showcase in your portfolio:

- Create a complete brand identity by researching, conceptualizing, and designing visual assets—including a logo, moodboard, and supporting materials—that reflect a clear brand strategy and aesthetic.
- Apply the visual identity across various contexts such as packaging, signage, and digital platforms, while producing polished graphic design pieces that show consistency and creativity.
- Document and present your work in a professional portfolio and final presentation, showcasing your creative process, technical skills, and the tools used to bring your branding concept to life.
- Work on your capstone project both in and outside of class, using scheduled mentoring sessions to review your progress, ask questions, and get personalized feedback from your instructor.