VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN SF SCHOLARS ROADMAP

The San Francisco State Scholars program provides undergraduate students with an accelerated pathway to a graduate degree. Students in this program pursue a bachelor's and master's degree simultaneously. This program allows students to earn graduate credit while in their junior and/or senior year, reducing the number of semesters required for completion of a master's degree.

This roadmap is a suggested plan of study and does not replace meeting with an advisor. Please note that students may need to adjust the actual sequence of courses based on course availability. Please consult an advisor in your major program for further guidance.

Course	Title	Units
First Year		
Fall Semester		
ENG 114	Writing the First Year: Finding Your Voice (A2) [1]	3
GE Area A [2]		3
GE Area B: Quantitative Reasoning (B4) [3]		3
GE Area C		3
SF State Studies or University Elective or 200-level DES Course [4]		3
	Units	**15**
Spring Semester		
GE Area A		3
GE Area B: Physical Science (B1) and Laboratory Science (B3) [5]		3-4
GE Area C		3
GE Area E		3
SF State Studies or University Elective or 200-level DES Course [4]		3
	Units	**15-16**
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
DES 200	Visual Design Literacy (Major Foundation)	3
GE Area C		3
GE Area D - Take Two		6
SF State Studies or University Elective or 200-level DES Course [4]		3
	Units	**15**
Spring Semester		
DES 222	Digital Design Foundations I (Major Foundation)	3
DES 228	Introduction to Web Design (Major Foundation)	3
DES 370	Introduction to The School of Design (Major Core)	1
GE Area B: Life Science (B2) and Laboratory Science (B3) [5]		3-4

Course	Title	Units
GE Area F [±]		3
U.S. and California Government (http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/undergraduate-education/american-institutions/#usg)		3
	Units	**16-17**
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
DES 322	Digital Design Foundations II (Major Core)	3
DES 356	A History of Design and Technology (Major Core) [6]	3
Major Electives (15 Units Total) - Take One [7]		3
GE Area UD-B: Upper-Division Physical and/or Life Sciences		3
SF State Studies or University Elective		3
	Units	**15**
Spring Semester		
DES 300	Design Process (Major Core)	3
DES 324GW	Research and Writing for Design - GWAR (Major Core)	3
DES 325	Graphic Design I (Major Requirement)	3
DES 327	Interactive Design I (Major Prerequisite)	3
Major Electives (15 units total) - Take One [7]		3
	Units	**15**
Fourth Year		
Summer Semester		
GE Area UD-D: Upper-Division Social Sciences		3
SF State Studies or University Elective		2
	Units	**5**
Fall Semester		
DES 425	Graphic Design II (Major Requirement)	3
DES 427	Interactive Design II (Major Requirement)	3
Major Electives (15 Units Total) - Take Three [7]		9
	Units	**15**
Spring Semester		
DES 505	Senior Design Project (Major Culminating Requirement)	3
DES 570	Professional Practices for Designers (Major Culminating Requirement)	3
Select One (Major Requirement):		3
DES 525	Graphic Design III: Advanced	
DES 527	Interactive Design III	

DES 700	Seminar in Design Research (Graduate Core)	3
Graduate Elective (9 Units Total) - Take One [8]		3
	Units	**15**
Fifth Year		
Fall Semester		
DES 724	Graduate Research and Writing Methods in Design (Graduate Core)	3
DES 800	Seminar in Design Topics (Graduate Core)	3
DES 852	Directed Experience in Design (Graduate Core)	3
Graduate Elective (9 Units Total) - Take One [8]		3
	Units	**12**
Spring Semester		
DES 755	Seminar in Design Management (Graduate Core)	3
DES 805	Seminar in Design Methodology (Graduate Core)	3
Select One (Culminating Experience):		3
DES 894	Creative Work Project	
DES 898	Master's Thesis	
Graduate Elective (9 Units Total) - Take One [8]		3
	Units	**12**
	Total Units	**150-152**

[1] ENG 114 can only be taken if you complete Directed Self-Placement (DSP) and select ENG 114; if you choose ENG 104/ENG 105 through DSP you will satisfy A2 upon successful completion of ENG 105 in the second semester; multilingual students may be advised into alternative English courses.

[2] To avoid taking additional units, it is recommended that you meet the **SF State Studies** (AERM, GP, ES, SJ) requirements within your GE or major.

[3] To determine the best B4 course option, students should complete the online advising activity at mathadvising.sfsu.edu (https://mathadvising.sfsu.edu/). Questions? Contact Gator Smart Start. (https://gatorsmartstart.sfsu.edu/)

[4] Students are encouraged, but not required, to take additional 200-level DES courses to gain more experience in the field of Design. These additional 200-level DES courses will not be applied towards the Major Electives.

[5] Consider taking a class combined with a laboratory or a separate lab to fulfill B3 if not already satisfied.

[6] Upper-Division General Education, Arts and/or Humanities (UD-C) is satisfied upon completion of DES 356.

[7] **Major Electives (15 units)**
The Major Electives are intended to build a professional design portfolio, and as such, upper-division courses are strongly encouraged. Select five classes from the list below. Take no more than two classes (6 units total) at the lower-divison.

CSC 101 Introduction to Computing (3 units)
DES 220 Introduction to Drawing for Designers (3 units)
DES 226 Modern Letterpress Printing: Traditional and Digital Techniques (3 units) (C1)
DES 252 Rethinking Digital Visual Media: History, Technology, and Content (3 units)
DES 256 Design and Society: Contemporary Design Issues and Applications (3 units) (C1)
DES 277 Exploration in Meaning and Discourse Through Design (3 units)
DES 305 Lab Safety Basics (1 units)
DES 310 Product Design I (3 units)
DES 311 Image Making for Designers (3 units)
DES 320 Drafting and Sketching for Design (3 units)
DES 321 Technical Drawing I: Introduction to CAD (3 units)
DES 367 Introduction to Game Design (3 units)
DES 377B Visual Storytelling (3 units)
DES 405 How to Develop, Patent, and Market an Idea (3 units)
DES 448 User Experience Design (3 units)
DES 456 Design Thinking Principles and Practices (3 units)
DES 475 Topics in Design (3 units)
DES 523 Information Design I: Data Visualization (3 units)
DES 525 Graphic Design III: Advanced (3 units)*
DES 527 Interactive Design III (3 units)*
DES 575 Contemporary Design Workshop (3 units)
DES 576 Practical Experience: Internship (3 units)
DES 625 Graphic Design Practicum: Design Working Group (3 units)
DES 627 Advanced Projects in Visual Communication Design (3 units)
DES 628 Design Gallery: Exhibitions and Communications (3 units)
DES 677 Exploration in Delightful Design (3 units)
DES 699 Independent Study in Design (3 units)
JOUR 235 Photojournalism I: Foundations of Photojournalism (3 units) (C1)
JOUR 450 Publication Design and Graphics (3 units)
Other electives as approved by an advisor

[8] **Graduate Electives (9 units)**
Select supporting upper-division/graduate courses as approved by Graduate Coordinator.

* DES 525 and/or DES 527 can be counted as elective credit if they were not used to satisfy the major requirement. If both courses are taken, students will get credit for both the Major Requirement and Major Electives, but if only one is taken, students will get credit for the Major Requirement only.

± Given catalog rights, fall 2023 transfer students do not need to complete an Area F course.