

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY, B.DES.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Design degree in Professional Photography a minimum of 120 credits are required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	15-21
Requirements for the Major	60

Requirements for the Major

0-6 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 0-6 credits of GA courses.

0-6 credits of history of the arts coursework are included in the major requirements, which may be counted toward the General Education requirements.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PHOTO 201/ ARTH 250	A Chronological Survey of Photography	3
PHOTO 202	Fundamentals of Professional Photography	3
PHOTO 301	Beyond Photoshop: Techniques in Digital Photographic Imaging	3
PHOTO 303	Professional Photography: Studio Technique and Photocomposition	3
PHOTO 401	Fashion Photography	3
PHOTO 404	Professional Photography Capstone Seminar: Self-Marketing and Professional Presence	4
PHOTO 406	Product Photography	2
PHOTO 407	Portrait Photography	2
PHOTO 495	Internship	1
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 18 credits from the following:		18
AA 121	Design Thinking and Creativity	
AA 322	Arts Marketing	
AA 323	Arts Enterprise Development	
AA 324	Arts Entrepreneurship and the Law	

AA 424	Arts Entrepreneurship Capstone Research Project
ART 110	Ideas as Visual Images
ART 111	Ideas as Objects
ART 122Y	Commentary on Art
ART 211Y	Introduction to Digital Art and Design Criticism
ART 411	Seminar in Contemporary Art
ARTH 260	Museum Marketing & Communications
ARTSA 301	Introduction to Arts Administration
ARTSA 401	Arts Event Planning and Project Management
ARTSA 403	Fundraising and Grant Writing
ARTSA 404	Event Planning Practicum
COMM 269	Photojournalism
COMM 469	Photography for the Mass Media
DART 100	Introduction to Digital Art & Media Design
FRNAR 100	Introduction to Forensic Photography
GD 100	Introduction to Graphic Design
GD 110	User Experience Design: Concepts and Principles
GD 115N	Visualizing Information
GD 200	Graphic Design Studio I
GD 201	Typography
GD 300	Design Photography
IST 250	Introduction to Web Design and Development
PHOTO 99	Foreign Studies--Photo
PHOTO 100	Introduction to Photography
PHOTO 101	Culture of Photography
PHOTO 199	Foreign Studies--Photo
PHOTO 200	Photo Studio I
PHOTO 210	Introduction to Architectural Photography
PHOTO 295	Internship
PHOTO 296	Independent Studies
PHOTO 297	Special Topics
PHOTO 299	Foreign Studies--Photo
PHOTO 300	Photo Studio II
PHOTO 303	Professional Photography: Studio Technique and Photocomposition
PHOTO 321N	Flow Visualization: The Art and Physics of Fluid Motion
PHOTO 397	Special Topics
PHOTO 399	Foreign Studies--Photo
PHOTO 400	Digital Photography in the Studio
PHOTO 402	Photographic Narratives
PHOTO 404	Professional Photography Capstone Seminar: Self-Marketing and Professional Presence
PHOTO 405	Creative Projects in Photography
PHOTO 410	Photographing Motion and Athletic Events
PHOTO 495	Internship
PHOTO 496	Independent Studies
PHOTO 497	Special Topics
PHOTO 499	Foreign Studies--Photo

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better

Select 18 credits from any of the following areas in consultation with an adviser. 18

Architecture (ARCH)
 Art (ART)
 Art Education (AED)
 Art History (ARTH)
 Arts and Architecture (A&A)
 Communications (COMM)
 Communications Arts and Sciences (CAS)
 Digital Arts and Media Design (DART)
 Graphic Design (GD)
 Integrative Arts (INART)
 Landscape Architecture (LARCH)
 Music (MUSIC)

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.