Graphic Design Certificate FAQ’s

Is the Certificate program right for me?
The Graphic Design Certificate Program is designed for those who do not wish to have the extensive training of either the BFA or the MA programs in Graphic Design, but require a more focused software training to complement existing educational or work credentials. Within the framework of a 12-course sequence, the program provides “real world” preparation built on a foundation of basic design and typography, coupled with intensive exploration of the computer as a design tool.

How long is the program?
The Graphic Design Certificate Program is designed as a part-time program. Courses may be taken day or evenings, and may be completed in as few as eight continuous terms, taking two classes per term. Schedule for completion may be affected by the semester during which you enter the program and course cancellations. The program cannot be accelerated or altered to accommodate students requiring visas.

What does the certificate qualify me to do?
The goal of the program is to provide the practical design skills necessary to secure employment in the graphic design field. Employment opportunities vary widely depending on the individual’s skill level and interests. Graduates may work for advertising agencies, design studios, publishing companies, among other fields, or may choose to do freelance work.

Can I take courses before I am accepted into the Certificate Program?
You may take classes as a Continuing Education student provided you have met the prerequisites for a course. You must earn 27 credits while officially enrolled as a certificate candidate, you may transfer up to 9 credits into the Certificate Program. Courses taken as a Continuing Education student will count as transfer credit.

How much does the Program cost?
For tuition information please refer to the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Am I eligible for Financial Aid as a Certificate candidate?
Certificate students may be eligible for financial aid, depending upon individual need. Students should contact the Financial Aid Office for more information at (617) 573-8470.