

FIRST SEMESTER SCHEDULE GUIDE for FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

Components of a First Semester Schedule:

All CCAD majors are required to complete a set of first year CORE classes to build a strong foundation for their major. In addition to studio courses, students must take a variety of academic requirements (liberal arts and art history). Schedule balance is critical to academic success; therefore, we generally recommend ~3 studio courses and ~2 academic courses each semester, averaging ~15 credits each semester. This will assist students in maintaining steady degree progress in a traditional four year timeframe. New, first-year students can expect the following required courses on their first schedule:

A CORE Introduction to the Major Course

• Required of all majors, this 6 credit integrated course is designed to introduce students to both the program major they have chosen and to the history of that content area. It combines studio and academic work. This differs slightly for Fashion Design and Film & Video majors, who will take a separate Introduction to Major course in their first semester, and a history for their major in a future semester. They will take a different liberal arts course their first semester. Advertising & Graphic Design, Interior & Architecture Design, Industrial Design, and Photography majors will complete their Intro course in the spring semester and will complete a major related CORE class in the fall. Students with an Undecided major will have a Studio Art and Entrepreneurship course along with a liberal arts course, instead of Intro, their first semester.

CORE1110: Drawing Methods

• Required of all majors. Introduces foundation drawing concepts and is required to advance to future drawing and/or sophomore classes.

CORE1120: Visual Literacy I

• Required of all majors. Introduces different foundation elements of design, including 2D, 3D, and 4D concepts. Color theory is also introduced.

Writing Course or Other Academic Course

• New students will be placed in an appropriate level writing course based on either ACT/SAT scores or a writing sample collected prior to New Student Orientation. If you are required to complete a writing sample, you will find it on your to-do list in the New Student Gateway. If students are receiving credit for writing with incoming credit, the Advising Office will schedule students for a different academic requirement, such as Introduction to Philosophy or Business Math.

Most students will have 4-5 classes listed on their schedule and will be registered for a total of 15 credit hours. Students will have the opportunity to change their major throughout the first year with little to no impact on their graduation time frame.

First-year students will receive their schedule at New Student Orientation and will have the opportunity to speak with an advisor at that time. Incoming credit, such as Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) credits, do not get processed until July. If students receive credit that impacts their schedule, the Advising Office will update the schedule and notify the student.



This serves as a general guide and should not be used in place of guidance from an Academic Advisor. Situations vary and may alter the outlined schedule in this guide. Students starting CCAD in a spring semester will have a slightly different schedule.

SAMPLE FIRST SEMESTER SCHEDULE for FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

This is a visual sample of a first semester schedule. It outlines the time blocks in which CCAD courses are offered and how a first semester schedule might be structured in a week. Schedules will vary and not all students will have the same times or classes.

