



Johnson County Community College  
Transfer Program to the University of Kansas  
**School of Architecture & Design**  
**Department of Design**  
**B.F.A. in Design - Visual Communication Design**  
2024-2025 Catalog

Contact: Anna Abernathy, Director of  
Recruitment and Enrollment  
Phone: 785-864-5974  
Email: [agabernathy@ku.edu](mailto:agabernathy@ku.edu)  
Home Page:  
[https://arcd.ku.edu/department-  
design](https://arcd.ku.edu/department-design)

**\*\*To transfer to KU as a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student, students must complete 24 credits at JCCC including the courses listed on page 2, as well as two art electives from JCCC to cover the remaining studio credits from the 1<sup>st</sup> year.\*\***

The Associate of Arts degree (A.A.) at JCCC is a general transfer degree and partners well with the first two years of most bachelor degree programs. Students pursuing the A.A. may select courses that satisfy both the A.A. degree requirements and lower division requirements for a bachelor's degree at four-year institutions. The elective hours within the A.A. allow students to complete additional general education and lower division courses required for specific majors. The A.A. degree requires completion of 60 credit hours; please see [JCCC A.A. degree requirements](#). The maximum number of hours from a community college that will be applied toward a bachelor's degree at most four-year schools is between 60 and 64 credit hours or 50% of the degree. Meeting with a JCCC counselor is strongly recommended for selection of appropriate courses.

- Visual Communication Designers shape the information that everybody sees, uses and experiences. The Visual Communication Design program at KU prepares students for current professional demands and provides students with the fundamental design thinking, making and process skills required to build a rewarding career and facilitate life-long learning. Career options for visual communication designers include a wide range of areas such as traditional print media, magazine and book design, corporate marketing communications, branding, packaging design, exhibition and environmental design, motion graphic design, website design, interface design and more.
- Admission for Transfer Students - Admission to the Department of Design is selective and competitive. Complete the online application by going to <https://admissions.ku.edu/apply> and selecting the School of Architecture and Design, then select your major. This application will serve as your application to KU, the Department of Design and [University scholarships](#). In addition, students must have a 3.0+ cumulative GPA from previous institutions, submit official transcripts to the KU Office of Admissions, and submit a [portfolio](#).
- Student should familiarize themselves with policies and resources outlined here: <https://arcd.ku.edu/policies-and-resources> prior to transferring to the Department of Design.
- Application Deadlines - Spring: **Oct. 1** and Fall: **Feb. 1**
- Transferring credits to KU - Utilize KU's [credit transfer tool](#) to learn more about how your courses may transfer to KU. Please note transfer studio courses with a grade of "C+" or lower will not be accepted by the Department of Design for credit. Transfer general education courses with a grade of "D+" or lower will not be accepted by the Department of Design for credit.
- Admission for International Students - International students should apply through the Office of International Recruitment and Undergraduate Admissions.
- Requirements - English proficiency requirements for KU can be found at [world.ku.edu/english-proficiency](http://world.ku.edu/english-proficiency)  
Portfolio Requirement - All applicants must submit a portfolio to be considered for admission to the Department of Design. Portfolios are submitted online through SlideRoom. Please select "Undergraduate Student - Portfolio Submission" from the directory. For technical support questions while submitting your online application, please contact [support@slideroom.com](mailto:support@slideroom.com). For more information about the portfolio requirement, please visit [https://arcd.ku.edu/architecture-department-portfolio-and-studio-  
documentation-requirements](https://arcd.ku.edu/architecture-department-portfolio-and-studio-documentation-requirements).

- The online portfolio submission includes the following requirements:
  - Media: Please upload 10-15 images of your strongest creative works. Please title each piece. In the description, include the medium or software used, the size, date of completion, and a brief one to two sentence description. In the case of documented professional or group projects, applicants should indicate personal responsibilities. Your portfolio must include at least two mediums. Examples: sketches, drawings, paintings, ceramics, jewelry, 3-D pieces, logos, branding, publications/yearbook, posters or any art or design-related works. Displaying a variety of work is essential; use your strongest pieces and good judgment.
  - Essay: Why are you interested in studying design, what have you done to prepare, and how do you hope to use your degree? To complete your application, you must provide a response to the prompt. Please limit your response to 200-250 words.
- Students must complete a total of at least 120 credit hours. At least 45 of those credit hours must be in "junior/senior-level courses," which are numbered 300 and above. Credit for classes taken at JCCC cannot count toward Jr/Sr hours. At least 30 credit hours must be in residence to receive a degree from the department and KU.
- Effective Fall 2024: Students transferring to KU, with an AA, AFA or AS degree from JCCC will be considered to have satisfied KU's Core 34 general education curriculum.
- Effective Fall 2024: Students who transfer to KU, without completing AA, AFA or AS degree will have courses evaluated on a course-by-course basis toward meeting KU requirements. To learn more about courses that satisfy KU Core 34 requirements visit: <https://catalog.ku.edu/core34/> and <https://credittransfer.ku.edu/>
- KU's Core 34 General Education guide can be found here: <https://www.jccc.edu/student-resources/transfer/files/transfer-guides/ku-core-requirements.pdf>

**It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to check for updates to all transfer information. This transfer guide is provided as a service and is updated as needed. Degree requirements at the four-year colleges are subject to change by those institutions. To ensure you have the most accurate up to date information about the program, it is imperative you meet with an advisor at the transfer institution.**

## Visual Communication Design Requirements

KU Course	Hrs.	JCCC Course	Hrs.	KU Core 34
<b>KU Core 34</b> – Department of Design recommends students complete 5 of the required core classes before transferring to KU to remain on track to graduate.				
Core 34: English (two courses)	6	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	6	ENG
Core 34: Communications	3	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	3	CMS
Core 34: Math and Statistics	3	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	3	MTS
Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences	4	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	4	NPS/NLEC/ NLAB
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (Select two courses in two different disciplines)	6	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	6	SBS
Core 34: Arts and Humanities (Select two courses in two different disciplines)	3	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	3	AH
HA 100 Introduction to Western Art History+ <b>OR</b>	3	No equivalent	--	
HA 151 History of Western Art: Renaissance to Contemporary+	3	ARTH 182 Art History: Renaissance to Modern	3	
Core 34: US Culture – Institutionally Designated	3	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	3	USC
Core 34: Global Culture - Institutionally Designated	3	<a href="#">See KU Core 34 General Education guide</a>	3	GLBC
<b>Program Requirements</b> - In order to transfer to KU as a 2 <sup>nd</sup> year student, students must complete 24 credits at JCCC including the following courses as well as two (2) art electives from JCCC to cover the remaining studio credits from the 1 <sup>st</sup> year.				
BDS 101 Design Thinking and Making	4	ART 124 Design 2D	3	Prog. Req
BDS 103 Drawing for Design	4	ART 130 Drawing I	3	Prog. Req
ADS 320 KU Design Symposium (Must be successfully taken 7 times.)	1	ART 199 Fine Arts Symposium (Must be successfully taken 7 times.)	1	Prog. Req
Two (2) Electives – see <a href="#">KU CredTran</a> for equivalent.	6	Any two (2) elective courses from <a href="#">ART</a> , <a href="#">ANI</a> , or <a href="#">GDES</a>	6	Prog. Req
IXD 101 Introduction to Digital Design	4	GDES 131 Drawing and Media Methods II*	3	Prog. Req
VISC 101 Introduction to Visual Communication Design	4	GDES 134 Layout Design*	3	Prog. Req

\* JCCC course has a prerequisite or corequisite.

^^This course is a Required major course and is also part of Core 34: Systemwide General Education. If this course is not taken to fulfill the Core 34:SGE requirement, it must be taken in place of elective hours.

+This course is a Recommended Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This specific course is not required but is recommended by the program's faculty.

#This course is a Required Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This program is approved by the Kansas Board of Regents to require this specific Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. If a student did not take this course, it must be taken in addition to other degree requirements.