



Visual Communication Design Program Information

Fall 2022 New Student Orientation

Welcome! We're excited to have you join us this Fall. Below you'll find an overview of a few program specific on technology and resources. Should you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to reach out, we've included the faculty contact information at the end of the document.

TECHNOLOGY

Computer (required):

In line with industry practice, the program recommends the Apple, MacBook Pro laptop. Base model recommendation for 2022:

13-inch: Apple M2 chip; Memory: 16GB; Storage: 512GB;

14-inch: standard base model

16-inch: standard base model

Monitor (recommended): 24-inch monitor for home use

Printer (recommended sophomore year): 13-inch wide-format inkjet printer (Epson Expression Photo HD XP-15000 Wide-format Printer or comparable).

Software/Labs:

All students enrolled at Thomas Jefferson University receive access through their personal computers to the entire Adobe Creative Cloud collection, using your university login credentials. The program has computer labs available for students, however seats are limited, and courses are routinely taught in these spaces.

Programs used consistently in VCD design studios that can be downloaded or accessed for free:

SLACK: virtual workspace for classroom collaboration

MIRO: virtual whiteboard & critique software

FIGMA: web & mobile prototyping software

GOOGLE DRIVE:

Digital/Cloud Storage:

A critical part of being a designer is proper file management and regular file backup. We highly recommend using a cloud based storage system in case something should happen to your

hardware/computer. Popular storage platforms include Google Drive, iCloud, Adobe Cloud, Dropbox, Box, and Microsoft One Drive.

Ipad:

While an ipad is a great tool for design students (image making, digital product development, animations, etc), it is not required. The program also has a few that can be checked out.

Digital Camera:

This is not required, but many students prefer to have their own camera.

MAKER RESOURCES

Print Center: The VCD Print Center, located in Hayward 100A, offers high-quality ink jet prints. Only students enrolled in Visual Communication Design courses may submit PDF files to be printed by our work study students during the posted hours.

Studio Photography: Students have access to our studio photo equipment located in Hayward Hall 106. This includes photo lights, backdrops, lightbox, and a Nikon Digital SLR camera.

Laser Cutter: This is a new resource for all VCD students upon appointment in VCD Office HH106. Students will need to purchase their own materials.

3D printer: This is a new resource available upon appointment.

Ipads: Available to checkout in VCD Office HH106.

Cintiq Tablets: Available to checkout in VCD Office HH106.

Paper Cutter, Scoring Machine, & Perfect Book Binding Machine: Located in Hayward 100.

GENERAL SUPPLIES

You will be responsible for all materials needed to complete your projects. While there is not a need to rush out and buy the following list, in general, it is strongly suggested that you possess and own:

- 24inch metal ruler
- t-square
- x-acto knife and blades
- utility knife and blades
- 24inch cutting mat
- rubber cement eraser
- double-sided adhesive (*3M Permanent Mounting Adhesive (PMA), StudioTac, double-sided tape, or something like these*)
- bone folder
- blank sketchbook/s
- tracing paper
- black mounting or mat board

STUDENT DESIGN GROUP

The VCD program has a student group called AIGA Jefferson. All students are invited to join. They host biweekly meetups and are a lot of fun! Follow them on Instagram for more information: @aigajefferson or reach out to the president, Sam Bley, Samuel.Bley@students.jefferson.edu

FACULTY

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