



The Chronicle

October 2024

**Inside the
Design, Media
& the Arts
Pathway**

Culinary Arts
Page 3

Photography
Page 6 & 7

Chronicle Staff



Lara Jones
Multimedia Editor



Taysia Bettis
Graphic Designer



Bella Perez
Staff Writer



Joyanna Huang
Staff Writer



Kasey Andrews
Staff Writer



Emily Riley
Contributing Writer



Samantha Russell
Staff Writer



Corey Suckow
Staff Writer



Visit our website:
campuschroniclenews.com



Want to join the Chronicle?
We meet M/W/F at 11:15 a.m. in Building 5, Room 1136

Cover photo by: Taysia Bettis
Back cover photos by: Taysia Bettis and Samantha Russell

The Campus Chronicle is the student newspaper for the Ankeny DMACC campus and is funded by Student Activities.
If you would like to send feedback or a letter to the editor, please email adviser Andy Langager at ajlangager@dmacc.edu

Find us on X and Instagram: [@dmacchronicle](https://www.instagram.com/dmacchronicle)
Visit us online: www.campuschroniclenews.com
Spotify and Apple Podcasts: Campus Chronicle Podcast
We are located in Building 5, Room 1136

Let's dish about the Iowa Culinary Institute

Lara Jones

Writer

lsjones4@dmacc.edu

The DMACC Culinary Program is a prominent facet of DMACC. Building 7 is dedicated to the program and state-of-the-art kitchens designed to help teach and prepare students from any walk of life what it means to be a chef.

The program itself spans five semesters with the first two being interchangeable. During these first semesters, a student might take classes focused on food sanitation and hospitality. During the last three semesters, they will learn fine dining, restaurant management and advanced cooking skills.

A student must complete 69 credits to earn their degree from DMACC and the cost for the entire program is around \$15,000.

If a five-semester program isn't what you're looking for, the DMACC Culinary Institute also offers a diploma instead. With three semesters instead of five, the 69 credits are reduced to 40. It's a quicker and more cost-effective route with a diploma costing around \$10,000. Choosing the diploma, however, could result in less pay once you enter the working field, with those in the program earning around \$30,000, and those who earn a diploma making slightly less.

If neither option seems like the best choice, a student can work to achieve a diploma in primarily baking. Thirty-five credits are needed to achieve the diploma and the overall cost is \$8,000. The student taking the course will get a chance to experience baking-oriented classes such as cake decorating, artisanal bread, chocolate and sugar.

Students also get a chance to work in the Bistro, a DMACC student-led restaurant that serves gourmet food. While first-year students get to serve and learn proper customer service, second-year students work the kitchen, creating menus and dishing out meals of their own.

Chef John Andres has been the director of the Iowa Culinary Institute since 2018. Andres said, "People are always pleasantly surprised by what they find. Students who start here just for a one-year diploma always end up doing the two-year associate degree. They get in, they get a taste



Chef John Andres, chair of the Culinary Program. Chronicle archive photo.

for it, they see how much fun it is, and they always want to earn a full degree."

Andres also spoke about life for students after the pathway and where he has seen people go. "A lot of our students will venture out and go to other places, and some will stay here which is always great for our local businesses. Some will leave and come back," said Andres.

Andres added, "As President Denson always says, go to any restaurant in Iowa and ask if there's a DMACC chef in the kitchen, and if there isn't you should probably leave. I always love it when he says that. It shows that DMACC graduates are working everywhere."

Laurie Balen, 53, is a culinary student. This will be her second year in the program. Her passion for both food and the pathway was evident.

As a veteran, she found her love of food while working overseas and it followed her back to the States. "I came home and I wasn't finding what my taste buds were missing," said Balen.

Her work in the culinary pathway has given her both a new career path and an appreciation for the art of cooking. "There needs to be love there. That's what we do here. We take science we take passion we take creativity and we put love to it," Balen said.

She also expressed gratitude for the DMACC culinary professors who have helped her along the way. Balen said, "It's so much fun to be trusted by an instructor and a professional. It's things like that that push a student internally. That trust is huge."

Balen is only one of the many DMACC culinary students who have made their way through the culinary pathway. After she finishes out her year, she hopes to own a food truck that goes across central Iowa.



Top: Building 7. Photo courtesy of Taysia Bettis
Middle: Korean fried chicken with spicy slaw. Chronicle archive photos.
Bottom: Apple fritter with whipped cream and raspberries. Chronicle archive photos.

Is coding your thing? Try web development

Joyanna Huang

Staff Writer

jluang@dmacc.edu

Do you have an interest in technology, programming, computers and design? If your answer is “yes” to one or any of these, the Web Development program at DMACC might be up your alley.

DMACC’s website states that the program is geared toward students who are “interested in designing and building commercial website applications.” The program encourages incoming students to have an interest in new and developing technologies related to the internet, self-motivation, excellent time management skills and good communication skills.

Web Development Professor Kieran Cutsforth from DMACC spoke about why students should pursue a degree in web development. “Web development is an ideal field for those who are skilled with and enjoy working with technology. It allows for creativity in both design and programming. It is great for those who love learning new things regularly as new technologies are constantly being developed,” said Cutsforth.

“Web Development can provide



a good living and skills that can be transferable to other types of programming or other tech-related fields,” said Cutsforth.

The Web Development program at DMACC offers a Web Developer Associate’s Degree, a Web Developer Diploma, a Web Developer Advanced Certificate, and a Web Developer Certificate. To earn the Web Developer A.A.S. Degree, students are required to take classes such as Intro to HTML & CSS, Advanced CSS, Intro to JavaScript, Advanced JavaScript, PHP, Advanced PHP, Intro to WordPress and Intro to Web Design. The Web Development Diploma and Certificate require some of these classes as well, but the program for them requires fewer courses than the degree.

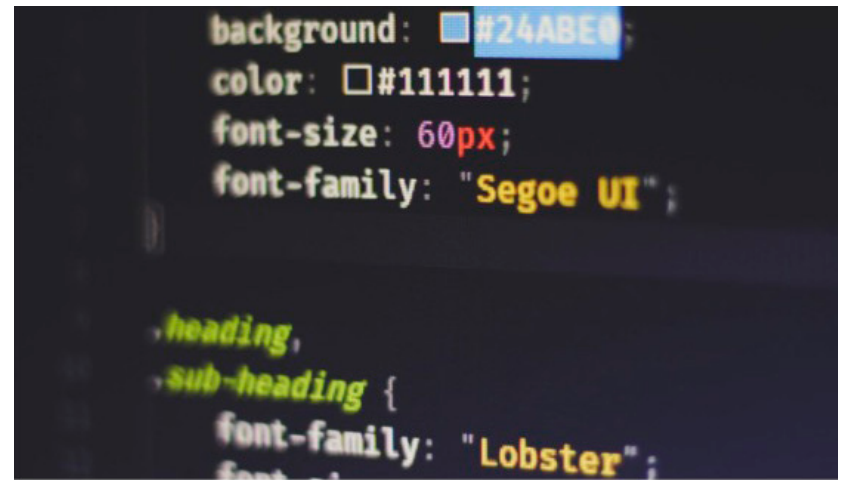


Image courtesy Design, Media, and Arts Pathway

In each of the web development classes, students develop a variety of skills. According to Professor Cutsforth, students are taught skills in HTML & CSS, Sass, JavaScript, React, Vue, Python, PHP, WordPress development, Drupal management and Web Design.

The skills developed from this program are important not only for the degree, but also for the work that they are used in after graduation. There are many careers that can be pursued with a Web Development Degree from

DMACC. The most common jobs for someone with an A.A.S. Degree include web developers, software developers, front end web developers, back end web developers, front end engineers, back end engineers and UI/UX developer/designers. The average salary for a web developer is \$57,000 and the projected growth rate for employment in web development is 2.7%.

Q&A with Animation Professor Christopher Sinclair

Jace Porter

Contributing Writer

jcporter5@dmacc.edu

Q: Does the animation club have any notable alumni?

A: “I’m unsure if DMACC’s Animation Club has any well-known alumni. However, our Animation Program has graduates who are working in the local region at production studios, advertising firms and as freelancers. We also have graduates that have worked at Warner Brothers, Xbox Studios, and the stop motion film studio, Laika. Our animation students have accomplished remarkable things, and we’re excited at the possibility of graduates (or club members) gaining notability or fame.”

Q: Does the animation club currently plan on creating any short films or some media of that nature?

A: The club focuses primarily on bite-size experiences that are achievable during our meetings. If there is a future interest in collaborating on a larger, more time-consuming project, we’d

welcome and support it,” said Sinclair.

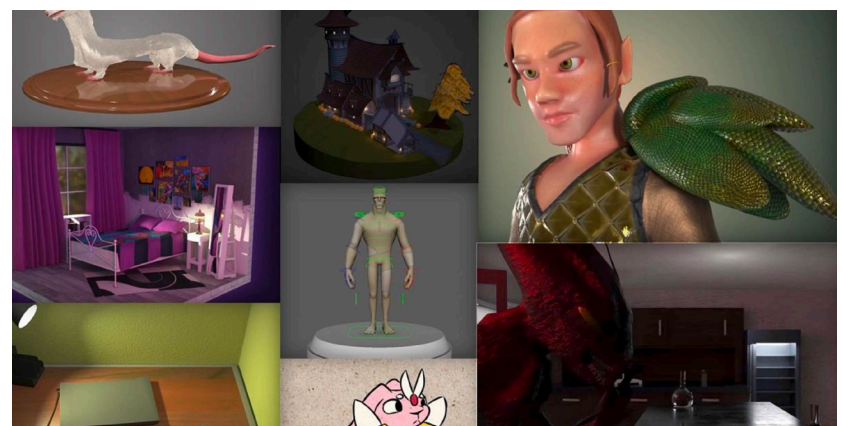
Q: What would you like people to know about animation club?

A: “The Animation Club is for any DMACC student interested and excited about animation, drawing or visual storytelling. It’s more laid-back than a class and structured to include learning, creativity and socialization,” said Sinclair.

Q: What are the goals of the club?

A: “As a group, we explore a variety of animation styles, hold drawing activities, animation exercises, discussions and focus on the principles of animation.”

We meet on DMACC’s West campus, and often utilize the animation equipment. The purpose of our club is to socialize, explore, have fun and grow passion for the medium. Some of our meetings have included creating stop motion animation, playing Gartic Phone, holding animation trivia contests, exploring photogrammetry, costumed gesture drawing and listening to industry speakers,” said Sinclair.



Behind the scenes of the Video Program

Taysia Bettis

Contributor
tbettis@dmacc.edu

Emily Riley

Contributor
emriley1@dmacc.edu

The Video Production Program is an increasingly popular program with state-of-the-art equipment, experienced professors, and a hands-on learning environment.

The program offers either an A.A.S. in Video Production, or a certificate for a more basic understanding of the field. The A.A.S. degree involves five semesters of coursework (a total of 64 credits) and costs approximately \$16,000. For the certificate, 25 credits are required across three semesters, with an approximate cost of \$7,000 with software purchases, and \$5,000 without. Located in Building 19, the program is led by Video Professor Miguel Tarango, who was recently promoted to program chair.

Tarango said the coursework incorporates many different types of media. "This is the ultimate creative art form, we incorporate photography, theatre, writing, music, fashion, makeup, all of it," Tarango said.

The coursework supports this, with students taking courses ranging from digital photography, video editing, to direction techniques. Tarango said it's clear to see that these classes are, "where the magic happens."

For graduates of the program, there is a large variety of places a student can work. The most common jobs in Iowa include postsecondary teachers, video editors, and camera operators. "Good technique and good habits are



Miguel Tarango, chair of the Video Production Program. Chronicle archive photo.

universal," said Tarango.

While some students may venture to larger cities for work like Los Angeles or New York City, there is a wide variety of local opportunities for students as well. Tarango mentioned PBS, Principal, and the Iowa Events Center as common employers for students, as well as freelance work such as wedding videography.

"If you have a spirit of adventure and want to be creative, or if you want to find solutions to problems," Tarango suggested, those students would be a good fit. "We encompass every part of every artistic endeavor . . . If you want to be in a collaborative environment, we're all about that," Tarango said. There are many ways for students to show off their hard work, such as local film festivals and exhibits. He also encourages students to not be afraid of failure in the classroom and the workforce, since it is part of the learning process.

Even if you aren't a video production major, Tarango encourages anyone passionate about film to join the film club. The club meets in Building 19 in room 5 on Fridays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.



Above: Video production students at Fleur Cinema in Des Moines for a student film exhibition. Photos courtesy of Miguel Tarango.



A video student celebrates finishing principal photography on a short film.



Behind the scenes of a video production project.

Shining a light on the

Kasey Andrews

Staff Writer

kjandrews3@dmacc.edu

The Photography Program at DMACC touches on different types of photography, such as portrait, landscape, food, sports, wedding, architecture and commercial. Photographers may go on to work in industries such as landscaping, merchandise, fashion and portrait or commercial photography.

The Photography Program, located in Building 18, has 20 iMac computers, as well as cameras, lenses and lights for students to check out and use on assignments.

The program offers a basic certificate, an advanced certificate, and an A.A.S. degree. Here is the breakdown:

A.A.S. - Gaining and preparing for basic and advanced information in digital photography and all the different sublevels of photography. Being able to broaden our understanding of techniques and create our style.

Advanced certificate - includes courses Commercial Photography I & II, Portrait Photography I & II, and Portfolio Photography. They are providing depth in skills and techniques for overcoming the challenges of commercials and portraits as a whole.

Basic Certificate - Preparing students to engage and work with photographers, art directors, and design areas of the digital lab and working in a studio going through processes to organize and form.

Q&A with Photography Program Chair David Purdy:

Q: What are 2-3 of the more interesting classes in this pathway and what are they about?

A: "I think the commercial photo classes, portrait photo classes, and photo for social media classes are all very relevant in this day and age and are all important. The Social media photography class makes students go beyond taking successful pictures. It helps with being able to market in business through social media," said Purdy.

Q: What would be your favorite class to teach in this program and why?

A: "I like a bunch of them, we have a new class this fall called Storytelling



Professor David Purdy, and Photography Program Chair

through Photography, and I like that one because it gets students out there and being able to connect to people and being able to tell a story through a picture," said Purdy.

Q: What are some of the most difficult challenges you have seen through the photography pathway?

A: "I think that continuing to get the right photography gear to keep up with industry standards can be difficult because there are always changes and advances with technology and I feel like DMACC has done a great job of that, and supporting classrooms and updating with new computers," said Purdy.

Q: Is there any advice you would give to students considering majoring in photography?

A: "If you are going to be in marketing/sales you should know photography, and it is relevant to everything promoting business, marketing and housing. We serve seven different programs of the arts and they all go together in some shape or form, kind of like a web, using each skill to go into your path," said Purdy.

For more information about the photography program or any of the programs in this issue, contact the Design, Media and Arts Pathway: dmapathway@dmacc.edu



Photography Program



Photo credits (up to down, left to right): Cassandra Monroe, Taysia Bettis, Wynter Tauber, Jerrad Downer, DJ Christensen, Katherine Taylor

Examples of Photography classes:

ART 186 - *Principals of Digital Photography* - Teaches the basic principles including basic camera operation, composition, metering, computer tips and tricks, and shooting tips and tricks.

ART 225 - *Photoshop for Photography* - Teaches students how to work with Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom. This class is an in-depth look at the technical aspects of color management, image light, dark adjustments and other techniques for preparing the image for output to print or to be used on the internet by using the digital darkroom.

ART 190 - *History of Photography* - Students will study the history, language and meaning of photography, including its evolving technology, notable contributors and reflection of our changing culture. Students will also learn about the social impact of photography as a news medium, the principles of photographic aesthetics, and contemporary issues.

ART 192 - *Portrait Photography I* - This course is an in-depth look at portrait photography, with strong emphasis on developing and refining your techniques in a variety of settings and lighting conditions. Projects will examine critical and aesthetic issues in portrait photography from singles to large groups, under studio and location settings. Both traditional and digital photography will be covered.

Top Jobs for Photography Majors:

- Portraiture
- Wedding
- Professor
- Photojournalist
- Photo Assistant
- Merchandise
- Fashion
- Freelance

Common Subtypes of Photography:

- Portraiture
- Landscape
- Food photography
- Nature and wildlife
- Architecture
- Travel
- Sports
- Wedding
- Commercial

DMACC's Theatre program brings the drama

Lara Jones

Writer

lsjones4@dmacc.edu

Any student looking to explore a career in the art of theatre may find themselves looking into the DMACC Theatre Pathway. According to the DMACC website, the program will “provide students of all backgrounds and experience an opportunity to train in a focused and objective acting training environment.”

A student may choose to pursue a two-year degree or a diploma. The two-year DMACC theatre degree requires 64 credits over four semesters. The diploma is mainly for transfer students who plan to pursue higher education after their time at DMACC. The diploma is for students looking to jump into the field of acting directly after earning their diploma. According to the DMACC website, some of the top careers are secondary teachers, directors and actors.

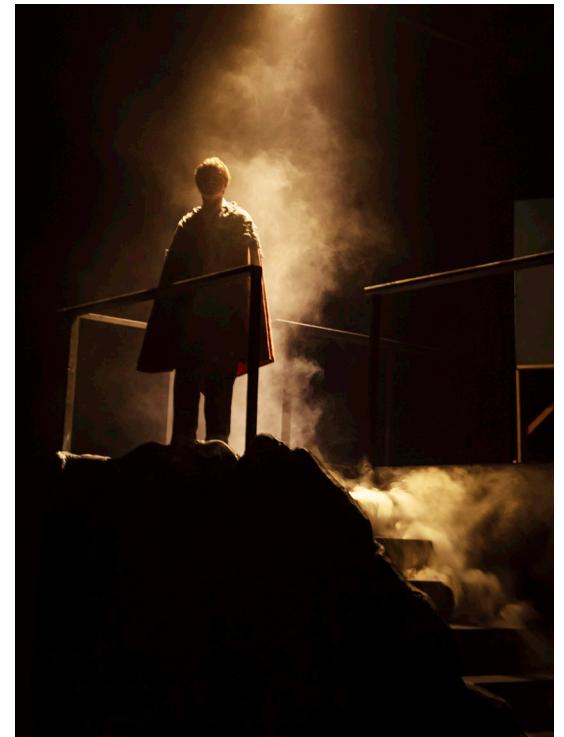
A student will take classes such as Intro to Theatre which dives into the elements, techniques and foundations of theatre as a live performance and a cultural event. Play Analysis is a course where a student will focus on reading, analyzing, discussing and interpreting plays as written, with the intent on how analysis practically affects the production of a play. Students also have the opportunity to work and act in DMACC performances for credit or for their own personal enjoyment.

Carl Lindberg is the professor and program chair of theatre and acting and has been at DMACC for eight years. “Students can receive credit for working on productions if they want. But whether college credit is attached or not, working on a production is a truly experiential learning opportunity that supports growth in collaboration, responsibility and time management, communication, empathy, creativity and social skills, things that are valuable for any industry and profession,” said Lindberg.

There are two DMACC theatre productions each year, with a play in the fall semester and a musical in the spring. All students are invited to participate, even those not in the theatre program. A person can audition for a role or interview for a chance to participate backstage.

“Theatre is special in that it’s happening in real-time in a communal space and will never be experienced in the same way again. Every performance has its own unique moments with a unique group, and it can’t be recreated. Audiences and theatre-makers are all collaborating to engage in imaginary circumstances and willingly suspend their disbelief. When it’s done well, theatre can be magical,” said Lindberg.

“All of our training is built to prepare learners for the actual industry and it’s taught by faculty with professional experience. Tuition at community colleges is best for students who want to enter the arts as a profession because, by keeping your student loan debt low, you will have more flexibility to have time to go to all of the auditions and interviews you need to be at early in your career,” said Lindberg.



Scenes from DMACC Theatre: “Merge,” “Head Over Heels,” and “Playing with Fire.” Photos courtesy of DMACC Theatre/Krister Strandskov

Express yourself with fashion and interior design

Bella Perez

Contributing Writer
bfperez@dmacc.edu

Corey Suckow

Staff Writer
csuckow@dmacc.edu

One of the majors in the Design, Media and the Arts pathway is fashion.

Fashion as a career has seen some growth over the past few years with an 8.5% employment increase from between 2021 and 2024 with an expected growth of 3.3% between 2024 and 2028.

Top occupations by income include sales representatives, wholesale and retail buyers, market research analysts and marketing specialists.

The DMACC Fashion Institute, or DFI, is a program designed to challenge and grow student's abilities to handle the fast-paced and competitive nature of the fashion industry.

The curriculum is based on a mixture of lectures, labs, internships, speakers and a variety of conferences and field studies in fashion centers like New York City.

Classes taken by students in the fashion program include textile science, fashion design, principles of retailing and many other classes relating to the world of fashion.

Skills that can be developed are planning, promoting and executing events, evaluating textiles in a variety of situations and effectively selling merchandise in wholesale and retail settings to just name a few.

The DMACC Fashion program is a good fit for students who want to learn more about the fashion industry as a whole, but also for those who want to challenge themselves in a fast-paced environment.

DMACC's Interior Design program is located on the Urban Campus. There are two options for completion, an A.A.S. Degree and an Interior Design Consultant Certificate. Both options include business-related courses and interior design-specific classes. Besides interior designers, top-paying jobs for interior design majors include post-secondary teachers and interior decorators.

Pam Davidson is the program chair for the interior design program. Davidson has been teaching the two-year degree program since it was created two years ago. "We've had our first run of students that have graduated from the program," said Davidson. There are almost 50 students in the program. "We had to add two sections to the first two interior design courses because they're almost both full," said Davidson.



Left and top right: Scenes from past DMACC Fashion galas, which take place every spring. Chronicle Archive photos.

Above: Student presentations in the Interior Design Program. Photos courtesy of Pam Davidson.



Above: A previous year's Campus Chronicle staff. Below: Bella, Lara, and Corey record a podcast and an example of using InDesign to create the newspaper. Photos courtesy of the Chronicle archives.

Spread the news with the Journalism Program

Bella Perez

Contributing Writer

bfperez@dmacc.edu

Journalism at DMACC is another program in the Design, Media and the Arts pathway.

This associate of arts transfer degree is designed for, but not limited to, students transferring to the University of Northern Iowa to study journalism.

The journalism program has classes such as Intro to News Production, Intro to Journalism, Newswriting and Reporting, and Diversity and the Media.

Ankeny Journalism Professor Andy Langager teaches many of the classes and advises The Campus Chronicle. He said journalism is a flexible major that will give students experience in a variety of media.

"If you're not quite sure what you do, but you think you want to get into content creation, public relations, advertising, or, of course, journalism, this is the place to be," Langager said.

The Campus Chronicle is based in Building 5. The newspaper meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:15 a.m. in room 1136, and anyone can join.

Langager said, "Students write, take photos, record podcasts, interview interesting people and get to have their work seen by readers across Iowa."

There are over 23,000 journalism professionals currently employed in Iowa, their median salary being around \$48,000, according to DMACC.

Some of the top occupations with a journalism degree are communications teacher, editor, writer

and reporter.

"Working on the Chronicle is not only a great way to meet people, but students can build a portfolio of work and résumé material," Langager said.

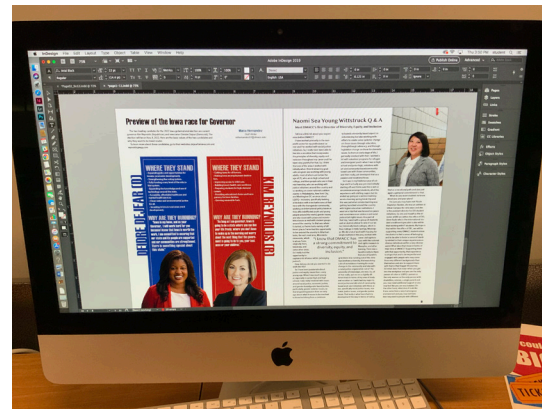
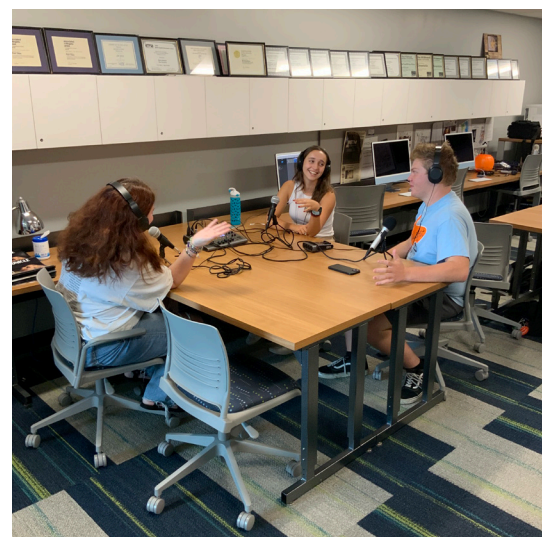
Examples of Journalism classes:

JOU 110 - Intro to Mass Media: An introduction to the history, evolution, and effects of mass media. Emphasizes print and electronic media, journalism, advertising, public relations, ethics, and technology.

JOU 115 - Intro to Journalism: This class is an overview of the journalism profession. Emphasis focuses on the fundamental principles of news gathering, writing, editing, and the qualities of news.

JOU 121 - Newswriting and Reporting: Designed to provide students with experiences in gathering, organizing and writing news stories.

JOU 124 - Digital Media Production: An introduction to publishing online using digital equipment and software. An emphasis will be placed on journalistic style using writing, photography, video, and audio.



Layout your future in the Design Program

Taysia Bettis

Writer

tbettis@dmacc.edu

Whether you want to get into designing websites, brand identities, or book covers, The DMACC Graphic Design Program has something to offer.

With dozens of iMac computers, long-standing design professors, and a 64-credit vocational program that focuses on all the necessary software for a career in design.

Heather Summers-Purdy, the head of the Graphic Design Program, said, "What is really special about DMACC is our focus on software as it relates to trends in the industry."

She said that the advisory committee for the program includes design professionals both local and nationwide to ensure that all course content is relevant in the ever-changing industry. In addition, students in the design program often have the option to branch into other areas of the design, media, and arts pathway.

"Students can also take [classes] in photography, video production, web development, animation . . . to further their skills and see what else they like," Purdy said.

The Graphic Design Program offers more options than the 64-credit associate's degree. There is also a visual communications certificate or diploma, digital illustration certificate, InDesign certificate, and interactive media for graphic design certificate. The estimated cost for the associate's program is between \$15,000 and \$16,000 and requires students to have a personal laptop.

After graduating, students have many different options for employment. Purdy said potential employers "can



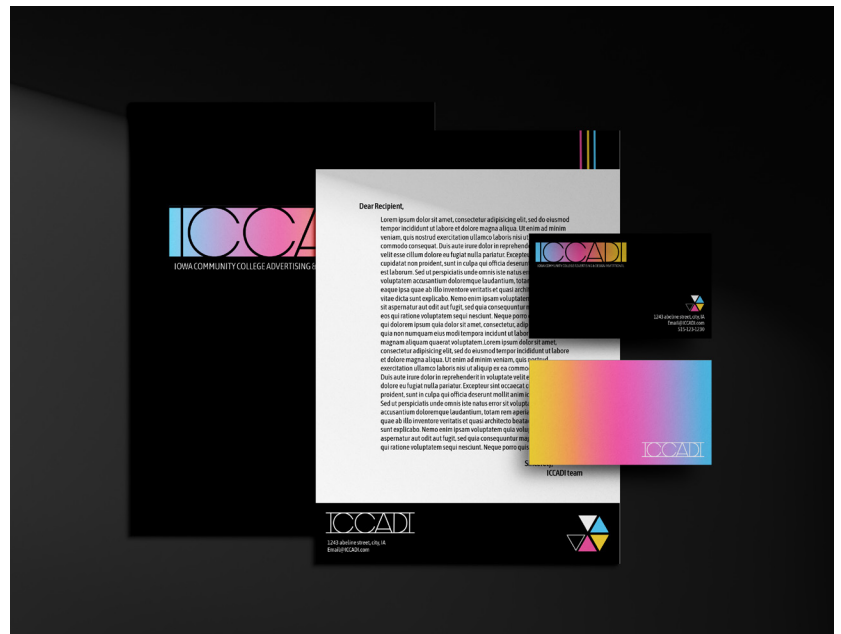
Graphic design students and professor Allison Vial (left) pose at Portfolio Day 2024.

range from production and sign shops, all the way to web design . . . and a lot of print companies." Some specific companies in the area include Dodash Meredith, Farmboy, Inc, P7 Design, and more.

When considering whether the graphic design program is a good fit for a student, Purdy said "someone who's curious about design, [someone] curious about and interested in proving their design skills" would enjoy the program.

She does warn against "someone who thinks they already know everything. That obviously doesn't do well when we're trying to be in creative endeavors and improve our design principle skills. . . If you like to draw and paint that's wonderful, but in this realm we need to make sure the solutions are client-focused, and not specifically your own design aesthetic."

This idea is a common point of contention in the industry since client needs often come before personal taste. Regardless, the program is a great option for students who want to come up with creative ideas and solutions to design problems. To learn more about the program, students should reach out to academic advisor Jeremy Austin at jcasutin@dmacc.edu.



Design credits (Top to Bottom): Callista Presnall, Taysia Bettis, Emily Malloy

Examples of Graphic Design classes:

GRD 403 - Communication Design I: An introduction to fundamental design principles, including color theory and design processes to communicate an idea or message to an intended audience.

GRD 470 - Interactive Media: A class focused on the professional workflow to design interactive media. Focused on developing, designing, and testing website and UX/UI design.

GRD 464 - Digital Artistry: This class focuses on illustration elements and software within design, such as Procreate and Adobe Fresco. Material concentrates on illustration styles, techniques, and trends.

