Program Overview for Employers

The Arts & Imaging Studies (AIS) program for deaf and hard-of-hearing students at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) prepares students for various careers, ranging from creative to highly technical. Students in the AIS program can choose a program concentration in one of these areas: graphic arts, photo imaging, print publishing or Web design. AIS graduates are well qualified and prepared for work in computer graphics firms, advertising agencies, art studios, printing plants, signage printing companies, prepress companies, in-house printing departments, book and magazine publishing houses, newspaper production facilities, government agencies, industrial training or media departments, photo studios, educational media centers and educational institutions.

Degrees Awarded
- Associate in Applied Science (AAS)
- Associate in Occupational Studies (AOS)

Potential Job Candidates
Approximately 120 students currently are enrolled.

Cooperative Education (Co-op)
Experience Required
Students are required to complete one 350-hour co-op experience usually in a 10-week block. This full-time co-op assignment allows them to gain real-world experience working in the arts and imaging field. Upon satisfactory completion of the co-op, students complete a required portfolio development course and a production workflow course in which they work as part of a team to complete work assignments for various clients on the RIT campus and within the Rochester community.

Equipment and Facilities
Students in the Arts & Imaging Studies program develop and refine their skills and knowledge in a variety of department facilities, depending on the specific concentration and electives they choose.

- Computer Labs
AIS students benefit from seven state-of-the-art computer labs dedicated to support courses in graphic design, Web design, digital imaging, publishing prepress and print output. These labs also serve as open labs that students can use during evening and weekend hours to support skill development.

- Digital Printing
AIS students train on several black and white and color laser printers, including some with light production finishing and workflow management software, wide format and sheet fed professional photographic quality ink-jet printers.

- Studio
AIS students work in two well-equipped studio rooms: a drawing/design studio and a digital photography/video studio.

Student Skills and Capabilities – Preparation for a Career
Students learn how design content is prepared, organized and published for presentations, print products and the Web. They learn individual and team responsibilities from design to final product throughout the production workflow.

Selected Hardware and Software Used to Develop Technical Skills
Students use primarily Macintosh computers with some Windows PCs for dedicated workflow requirements. Depending on the concentration and elective courses they select, they have access to the following hardware and software.

A unique employee.  A superior solution.
Arts & Imaging Studies

Applications Software
Current version of Adobe Creative Suite including Acrobat Pro, After Effects, Bridge, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, Flash, Illustrator, InDesign, Lightroom, Photoshop, and Premier Pro Filemaker Pro Final Cut Pro Microsoft Office QuarkXPress A variety of task-specific applications and utilities for animation, media, and pre-press productivity

Selected Hardware and Equipment
Epson and Canon large format inkjet printers Macintosh Intel computer workstations Nikon and Canon digital cameras and camcorders Various types of small bindery equipment Xerox Docucolor XC550 color printer with FreeFlow front end and production finisher Xerox, Xante, HP laser printers

Selected Technical Courses Leading to an Associate Degree

Care

Graphic Design
Animation Art History Cartooning Digital Illustration Drawing I Drawing II Graphic Design & Typography II History of Graphic Design Identity Design Publication Design Visual Idea Development

Graphic Production

The following employers throughout the country have hired Arts & Imaging Studies students and graduates:

Allstate Insurance Aspen Camp Catholic Charities Center for Disability Rights City of Wichita Falls, TX Deaf C.A.N. Deaf Net Habitat for Humanity Houston Schools Printing Service Hearts and Minds IKON Kankanee Public Library LionWorks Mario Dickens Creations MGW Productions Miami Photo PRALID Printworks University of California at San Diego United Way

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RIT/NTID co-op students, graduates and alumni provide employers with highly trained, highly motivated employees with excellent skills. We appreciate your interest in our co-op students and graduates and will work with you through the recruiting process to help you hire the right employee. For your convenience, access further information and services on our website at www.rit.edu/ntid/coops/jobs/.