



# BOAZ INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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## Curriculum - Mastering Adobe Illustrator

### 1.0 Introduction

This curriculum provides a structured approach to learning the skill, covering foundational concepts/principles, practical skills, leading from beginner to intermediary, mastery until advance levels. Adjustments can be made based on the specific goals, learning pace, and level of expertise of the students. Practical projects and hands-on exercises are essential to reinforce learning and prepare students for real-world scenarios in the field of web design.

### 2.0 Course Overview

This course is designed to provide in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience with Adobe Illustrator. It covers fundamental to advanced techniques, enabling students to create professional-grade vector graphics for various applications.

### 3.0 Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the core functionalities and tools of Adobe Illustrator.
2. Develop advanced skills in vector graphic design.
3. Apply Illustrator techniques to real-world projects.
4. Enhance soft skills such as creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration.
5. Prepare for professional roles in graphic design and related fields.

### 4.0 Learning Outcome

At the end of study, the students will be equipped with a range of knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to succeed in the field. The expected outcomes or goals to be achieved include:

***Knowledge and Understanding:***

- Master the interface and essential tools of Adobe Illustrator.
- Understand vector graphic principles and best practices.

***Skills Development:***

- Create complex vector illustrations and designs.
- Utilize advanced features like gradients, meshes, and patterns.

***Practical Application:***

- Complete real-world projects such as logos, posters, and digital illustrations.
- Integrate Illustrator with other Adobe Creative Cloud applications.

***Soft Skills Enhancement:***

- Improve creative thinking and design problem-solving abilities.
- Collaborate effectively on design projects.

***Professional Readiness:***

- Build a professional portfolio showcasing a range of Illustrator projects.
- Prepare for industry certifications and job roles in graphic design.

## 5.0 Course Outline

***Module 1: Introduction to Adobe Illustrator***

- Overview of the interface and basic tools
- Creating and managing documents

***Module 2: Basic Drawing and Shape Tools***

- Using the Pen, Pencil, and Shape tools
- Understanding paths and anchor points

***Module 3: Color and Painting***

- Working with color swatches and gradients
- Applying fills and strokes

***Module 4: Advanced Drawing Techniques***

- Using the Pen tool for complex shapes

- Creating custom brushes and symbols

#### ***Module 5: Typography and Text Effects***

- Working with text and fonts
- Creating text effects and typography designs

#### ***Module 6: Layers and Masking***

- Organizing artwork with layers
- Using clipping masks and opacity masks

#### ***Module 7: Advanced Effects and Appearance***

- Applying effects and graphic styles
- Using the Appearance panel for complex designs

#### ***Module 8: Working with Images***

- Placing and tracing images
- Using image trace and live paint

#### ***Module 9: Preparing for Print and Web***

- Setting up documents for print
- Exporting graphics for web and digital use

#### ***Module 10: Portfolio Development***

- Compiling and presenting a professional portfolio
- Final project and peer review

## 6.0 Assessment Methods

- Quizzes and Tests: To evaluate understanding of key concepts and tools.
- Assignments: Practical tasks to apply learned skills.
- Projects: Real-world design projects to demonstrate proficiency.
- Peer Reviews: Collaborative feedback sessions to enhance learning.
- Final Portfolio: Compilation of all projects showcasing the student's skills.

## 7.0 Course Prerequisites

- Basic computer skills
- Familiarity with graphic design principles (recommended but not required)

## 8.0 Course Duration

- Total Duration: 12 weeks
- Weekly Commitment: 3-4 hours of instruction and 2-3 hours of practice

## 9.0 Certification

- Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a Certificate.

## 10.0 Enrollment Information

- Course fee: **KSHS 53,500**

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# Appendices on Adobe Illustrator

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## Menu Tabs and Sub-Menu Tabs on Adobe Illustrator Software Interface

1. **File**
  - **New:** Create a new document (Ctrl+N)
  - **Open:** Open an existing document (Ctrl+O)
  - **Save:** Save the current document (Ctrl+S)
  - **Export:** Export artwork in various formats (Ctrl+Shift+E)
  - **Print:** Print the document (Ctrl+P)
  
2. **Edit**
  - **Undo:** Undo the last action (Ctrl+Z)
  - **Redo:** Redo the last undone action (Ctrl+Shift+Z)
  - **Cut:** Cut the selected object (Ctrl+X)
  - **Copy:** Copy the selected object (Ctrl+C)
  - **Paste:** Paste the copied object (Ctrl+V)
  
3. **Object**
  - **Transform:** Scale, rotate, reflect, or shear objects
  - **Arrange:** Bring objects forward or send them backward
  - **Group:** Group selected objects (Ctrl+G)
  - **Ungroup:** Ungroup selected objects (Ctrl+Shift+G)
  - **Lock:** Lock selected objects (Ctrl+2)
  - **Unlock All:** Unlock all objects (Ctrl+Alt+2)
  
4. **Type**
  - **Create Outlines:** Convert text to outlines (Ctrl+Shift+O)
  - **Character:** Open the Character panel (Ctrl+T)
  - **Paragraph:** Open the Paragraph panel (Ctrl+Alt+T)
  
5. **Select**
  - **All:** Select all objects (Ctrl+A)

- **Deselect:** Deselect all objects (Ctrl+Shift+A)
- **Inverse:** Invert the selection (Shift+Ctrl+I)
- **Same:** Select objects with the same attributes

## 6. Effect

- **Stylize:** Apply stylization effects like drop shadows
- **Distort & Transform:** Apply distortion and transformation effects
- **Warp:** Apply warp effects to objects

## 7. View

- **Zoom In:** Zoom in on the document (Ctrl+Plus)
- **Zoom Out:** Zoom out of the document (Ctrl+Minus)
- **Fit Artboard in Window:** Fit the artboard in the window (Ctrl+0)
- **Actual Size:** View the document at actual size (Ctrl+1)

## 8. Window

- **Workspace:** Manage and switch between workspaces
- **Panels:** Open various panels like Layers, Swatches, and Brushes

## Essential Tools and Their Functions on Adobe Illustrator Software Interface

- **Selection Tool (V):** Select and move objects.
- **Direct Selection Tool (A):** Select and manipulate anchor points and paths.
- **Pen Tool (P):** Draw precise paths with anchor points.
- **Type Tool (T):** Add and edit text.
- **Rectangle Tool (M):** Draw rectangles and squares.
- **Ellipse Tool (L):** Draw ellipses and circles.
- **Paintbrush Tool (B):** Draw freehand paths with a brush.
- **Pencil Tool (N):** Draw freehand paths like a pencil.
- **Eraser Tool (Shift+E):** Erase parts of objects.
- **Gradient Tool (G):** Apply and edit gradients.
- **Eyedropper Tool (I):** Sample and apply colors and styles.
- **Hand Tool (H):** Move the canvas around.
- **Zoom Tool (Z):** Zoom in and out of the canvas.