National awards and international recognition are simply the norm for students and faculty in the School of Visual Communication. Professionally recognized groups, including the Society of News Design, Adobe, Photo District News (PDN, an award-winning monthly magazine), International Pictures of the Year, Hearst Foundation, College Photographer of the Year, and the National Press Photographers Association, annually award VisCom students, faculty and alumni with competitive awards for their publication design, interactive design, commercial photography and photojournalism. No other group of visual communication students and alumni has been so applauded for their influence on the materials that touch our daily life in the visual communication world of digital to print.

The school faculty consists of 12 members, plus one on extended leave at the White House, for about 300 undergraduates and 40 graduates. Undergraduate majors include Commercial Photography, Information Design: Publication and Infographics, Photojournalism, and Information Design: Interactive and Multimedia. Graduate tracks are identical, plus an additional Multimedia Production and Visual Management track.