

Photography

Exam Board

EDEXCEL



Qualification

AS and A2 Level Art and Design:
Photography

Entry Requirements

GCSE Art at grade C; GCSE English at grade C

Content (Outline of Course)

This is an intensive course that starts with the basics of good photography in terms of subject matter, composition, concept and skill. It allows students with no previous experience of using photographic media the chance to develop their practical skills and be successful in this very creative area. Students are required to investigate external artistic sources within both of their modules and can choose any artists or artisans that they feel will help develop their own work. Both projects should include studies, research, wet and dry photographic techniques, and the use of mixed media which are developed through experimentation into a final artefact. Lessons are broadly skills-based and feature teaching of basic composition, dark-room techniques, digital imaging and use of technology to manipulate images, along with a mixed media fine art approach to taking quality photographs. Students are expected to work in the studio / dark room during their study time researching and learning for themselves the possibilities of the media, scale, composition etc. Their outcomes are expected to be high quality, creative and above all an individual response and exploration of their chosen themes and ideas.

Assessment

AS Level This is a standalone course - duration of one year

There is a modular structure with units to be completed over each year.

Unit 1 - Course Work (60% of the final mark and is based on the first fifteen weeks of set course work)

Unit 2 - Externally Set Assignment (40% of the final grade, and is based on a project which stems from a response to a title set by the examination board)

A2 Level This is a standalone course – duration two years.

Unit 3 - Course Work (40% of the final mark and is based on a project with a theme or focus chosen by the student at the end of the AS course)

Unit 4 - Externally Set Assignment (60% of the final grade, and is based on a project which stems from a response to a title set by the examination board)

At the end of the course all students are expected to exhibit both of their units in a final show.

This is finally assessed by the staff according to the exam board assessment criteria and these marks are moderated by a visiting external examiner.

Careers Guidance

Students taking this course have progressed into a wide range of sectors, in and out of the creative industries. Photography teaches multi-disciplinary skills of design, observation, creativity, originality and technical expertise which would be valued by many employers and universities. Most recent course leavers are completing degrees in Photojournalism and Criminology with Photography. Others have found photography has taken them abroad to work.