

Art and Design (Photography)

Course overview

A LEVEL

Level 3

AQA

This course provides learners with the practical skills to become a competent and confident photographic artist. You will develop skills in a range of photographic techniques whilst learning about the history of photography and the work of other photographic artists. As you progress, you will develop your skills and knowledge in both practical and contextual elements of photography

Entry Requirements

You must have a minimum of 5 grades 9-4 (equivalent to A*-C) at GCSE, including English and Maths at grade 4, plus you must also meet the specific subject entry requirements.

Subject Specific Requirements

Grade 4 in Maths and English GCSE and a grade 4 in Art and Design GCSE or a Merit in Level 2 Art or Design BTEC or a portfolio of work.

Popular Subject Combinations

A Level: Fine Art, Film Studies, Media Studies, English Language, English Literature

BTEC: Creative Digital Media Production (TV and Film or Digital Magazine Production)

Possible Enrichment Opportunities

Film Society,
Arts Bronze Award,
Photography Society

What will I learn?

Over the space of two years, you will investigate and practice several photography techniques and formats, including portraiture, landscape, still life, documentary, fashion, experimental, installation and moving image (animation).

Alongside these areas of study, you will also acquire knowledge about important photographic materials, processes, resources and technologies. You will understand how to work with both digital and film photography.

How will I be assessed?

A Level Photography is assessed through both coursework and an externally set, timed assignment. The coursework element is a personal investigation supplemented by written material and is worth 60% of a learners grade.

The externally set, timed assignment takes place over 15 hours towards the end of the second year. You will undertake preparatory work based around a particular theme, then create a final piece or series based on your preparatory work.

Where might it lead?

Learners who perform well in A Level Photography, will have the skills to work in the creative industries. They will also be well placed to enrol on a higher education course or take up an apprenticeship position.

Jordan Hill (ex pupil of Wexham School)

"I enjoy the Photography course, the content links well to my other courses and we do a lot of practical work. The teachers are very helpful and supportive."

If you would like further information about this course please contact the admissions team at

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