

ART & DESIGN (PHOTOGRAPHY) Advanced Level

Qualification Level 3 Advanced GCE in Art & Design

Exam Board OCR

Course Specific Entry Requirements Grade 5 or above in GCSE Art or GCSE Photography or a portfolio of relevant work. Access to a digital SLR camera is recommended but not essential

Overview

Advanced Level Photography is an exciting subject which is beneficial to many different career routes. You will develop your knowledge of visual communication and create imagery through a range of different traditional and digital media. You will have access to a large darkroom and fully equipped studio space as well as a modern Mac suite with the full Adobe editing suite. You will be introduced to a variety of experiences, exploring a range of photographic processes and techniques. Your work will develop through both practical and critical/contextual approaches, exploring a combination of the following areas of study: portraiture; commercial photography; still-life photography; documentary photography; experimental imagery; editorial photography; photographic installation; photographic process and landscape photography.

What will I learn?

The A Level course is assessed through two components.

▲ **Personal Investigation** (60% of A Level marks)

The A Level Personal Investigation is a digital portfolio of practical work responding to a personally set starting point, theme or scenario. You will also undertake a written study which complements any practical work.

▲ **Externally Set Assignment** (40% of A Level marks)

You will produce a body of work in response to a task issued by the exam board on 1st February of your final year. You will create a digital blog of development work before sitting a 15 hour exam in May in which a final response is created.

How will I learn?

You will be required to work both independently and collaboratively to create a personal investigation into a particular area of photography. Initially, you will be introduced to a wide range of different genres and techniques before deciding upon the direction you would like to focus upon. Support is given through regular teacher feedback and group critiques.

Where could it lead?

Photography is particularly valuable for careers in the arts, design, fashion, print and web-based journalism, merchandising, archaeology, forensics, conservation, pathology, advertising, marketing and many more. In a world where digital imagery, the internet and social media are integral vehicles in selling and promoting products, lifestyles and communicating visual messages, employers are always keen to employ people with a creative outlook and skills. This A Level is a well-respected and rigorously assessed course, valued highly by universities (including those in the Russell Group).