

Photography

Course Leader: Mr S Green

Why Study Photography?

A Level Photography is an area of Art & Design that allows you to look at and respond to the world around you and is a course that will not only equip you with creative and technical production skills but will also develop your research and thinking ability. The creative industry is one of the largest growing areas in the UK and beyond. Increasingly, employers are requiring creative practitioners with vision and independence. Photography is used in a wide range of industries from Graphics and Digital Media to such areas as Forensics, the Police Force and the world of Fashion and Marketing. This course will give you excellent experience for the adaptability and transferrable skills needed in the future work place.



Course Content and Assessment

Students will have the opportunity to develop their own style of work through a well-balanced and varied course of study. All students will experience a range of approaches to Photography - both in the dark room and using photographic graphic applications such as Lightroom and Photoshop. The keeping of a visual diary/sketchbook will be paramount in the development of ideas and the growing awareness and understanding of the History of Twentieth Century Photography, and you will work with a wide range of themes from urban and rural landscapes, the figure, still life and such themes as 'Identity' and 'Reflection'.

An example of a project could be the development of some photographic compositions, which may then be developed with the knowledge of both earlier pioneers of Black & White Photography as well as contemporary practising photographers. You would then experiment in the dark room, and eventually print a portfolio exhibition of your chosen images that you have edited and developed using a wide range of digital manipulation applications. This imaginative development of projects will be an integral part of the course.

There will be gallery visits, where you will have the opportunity to research alongside Fine Art students during two foreign field trips, including one to Paris. The course will consist of ongoing assessments at the end of each module and student evaluations and critiques will be integrated into the course. Private study will feature as an important component of the course in developing both the observational and research skills of the individual.

The A Level course comprises two units:

- Coursework (60%):
 - Self-motivated projects, in liaison with staff, completed in the student's different approaches to photography.
 - Personal Study Component, focusing on the student's interest in critical studies linked to their own project.
- Externally Set Assignment (40%):
 - This represents the culmination of the A Level course.

Progression Routes

A Level Photography would be an ideal option for students considering working in the creative industries at degree level and beyond. Courses in disciplines such as Architecture, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Sculpture, Fashion and Marketing, Illustration & Computer Aided Design are all related areas. As well as these areas, there is a wide range of industries that require photography such as photo-journalism, the media, the police, the fashion industry, film and television or education.

Entry Requirements

Students interested in embarking upon this course should be committed and well-disciplined individuals, keen to develop their individuality and skills as young photographers. We would welcome students with a minimum of grade 4 in English, and, preferably but not essential, grade 4 in Art & Design or Design and Technology.