

A-Level Photography

What are the entry requirements?

Students undertaking this course will be expected to have gained normal entry requirements plus at least a GCSE grade 5 in English. There are no requirements for students to have taken an Art/Design subject at GCSE.

What does the course involve?

This is a broad course that enables students to work in a variety of photography techniques and mediums. Students will be re-introduced to the basics of Photography then propelled into a range of creative and exciting workshops to further build upon skills and knowledge. Once students have developed their knowledge and understanding of the vast possibilities within photography, students will begin an independent coursework project based upon a starting point/theme.

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences employing a range of media, processes and techniques. Year 12 is based on experimentation, improving their practical, research and creative skills, exploring themes and developing exciting and original responses. Students will build a portfolio of work and find out what they enjoy, and what they would like to explore through their Personal Investigation/ Coursework (Component 1).

For a student's personal investigation, they will identify a theme, issue, concept or idea to fully explore through practical experimentation, eventually focussing to produce their own original outcome/s and responses. There will be a 1000-3000 word essay to support their practical studies. Students personal investigation continues into Y13. Component 2 is an externally set assignment that will take place from February until May in Y13, giving you a choice of interesting starting points.

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60% of A Level)

- Portfolio of Art, Craft & Design work, supported by essay

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40% of A Level)

- Preparatory period plus 15 hours supervised time

How will I be assessed?

Each component is internally marked. AQA moderators will then visit to check the marks are in line with national standards. Throughout the course you will receive individual tutorials, group tutorials and teacher reviews.

Progression

This course is an ideal choice for students wishing to progress to Art/Photography related courses in further/higher education.

Anything else I need to know?

Students would benefit from owning a DSLR camera, however this is not essential as we have Camera within department.

Visits to galleries and museums will be undertaken throughout the course, students may be expected to contribute towards admission fees, travel and accommodation. Students will be expected to equip themselves with basic Art equipment to be used on portfolio work at home.

Where can I find out more information?

See Mr. Lambert, Meadowhead Art & Design Department.

AQA website: www.aqa.org.uk Search for A-level qualifications / Photography. All the specifications are there.

