Art and Design Photography

AQA A Level Art & Design (Photography)

Course Description

A Level Photography is designed to promote and encourage independent and creative thinking. Candidates are encouraged to develop:

- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and innovative qualities.
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical, expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and judgement.
- Independence of mind in relation to developing personal ideas, showing refining and reviewing by developing own intentions and personal outcomes.
- Passion and enthusiasm for visual arts.
- Experiences to work in a range of styles and media, including traditional and new technologies.
- Knowledge and understanding when creating, where necessary linking to contemporary and past societies and cultures.
- Awareness of different roles, audiences and consumers of art and design practice.

Candidates should produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas, including: Portraiture, Still-life photography, Landscape photography, Documentary photography, Photo-journalism, Fashion photography, Experimental photography, Multimedia, Photographic installation and moving image (including video, film animation).

Methods of Assessment

Students need to produce an extended collection of work that exemplifies aspects of their developing knowledge, skills and understanding. It should provide evidence of research, the development of ideas, making skills and critical/contextual understanding. It should demonstrate the student's ability to sustain work from an initial starting point to a realisation.

- Component 1 – A Level. 7206/C: Personal Investigation. 60% of A Level (96 marks). No time limit.
- Component 2 – A Level. 7206/X: Externally set assignment. 40% of A Level (96 marks). Supervised time 15 hours.

Progression

A Level Art Photography develops students' ability to use materials, techniques, and processes confidently and safely—skills that underpin all Assessment Objectives. As they progress, students build a personal visual language, linking creative intentions to outcomes with increasing independence and assurance.

The course encourages critical thinking, experimentation, and self-expression, preparing students for further study in creative fields such as Photography, Fine Art, Graphic Design, and Media. It also supports progression into careers where visual communication, creativity, and digital skills are valued.

Class of 2024-25

SIXTH FORM
Where are they now?
Liam C.
Employment
Optical Support Ltd.

SIXTH FORM
Where are they now?
Verona M.
Two Mile Ash University
Primary Teacher Training