



CTEC Level 3 Diplomas in Art & Design

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The CTEC Introductory Diploma is designed for students who are interested in Art and Design. The Diploma and Extended Diploma are for students who are more attracted to a career in the Art and Design industry. Any of the above courses prepare students for progression onto higher education.

COURSE CONTENT

The Introductory Diploma course is the equivalent to one A Level, to be studied by combining it with two other A Levels or equivalents. The Diploma is equivalent to 2 A Levels, it can be combined as art and photography, or you can study just art. The Extended Diploma is a full time art course, equivalent to 3 A Levels, and can be combined with photography and/or textiles.

The course is based around one mandatory unit alongside additional specialist units which enable students to choose and study particular Art and Design subject areas in depth. These areas could cover printmaking, Fine Art, graphic design, painting, multimedia, 3D and large scale design.

Students learn by completing assignments that are based on realistic Art & Design studio and workplace scenarios, challenges and briefs. They are encouraged to realise their creative potential by applying their ideas, techniques and training to these problem solving assignments using a variety of different art practices. Critical and contextual studies of other artists' work are also used to develop students' practical and theoretical understanding.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

All work undertaken throughout the two year course counts towards the final grade, there is no examination element.

Candidates can be awarded a Fail, Pass, Merit, Distinction for their work. All work is assessed internally, standardised internally and externally moderated.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Upon completing any of these courses, students could go into Higher Education to study at Foundation or possibly Degree Level in areas including Graphic Design, Advertising, Fashion Design, Textiles, Multimedia or Fine Art. Alternatively, students can use the qualification to enter into other areas of training.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entry requirements for Level 3 applied study apply. In addition, students must have achieved at least a grade 4 or Merit at Level 2 in a creative subject. Students who have not studied Art at Level 2 will be asked to provide examples of their work to demonstrate their aptitude for the course.

A Level Fine Art

If you have enjoyed your GCSE in a Creative Arts subject and wish to continue to develop your creative visual skills at A Level, you have the opportunity to choose one of the three different Fine art courses that SJSF offer.

It is essential that you contact, visit and look round the different departments directly to find out about each course and the different approaches and structure of each course, to choose the right one for you. All three courses are designed to develop your own ideas through the use of traditional and/or digital media, materials, techniques and processes for the purpose of self-expression or reflection. Fine Art may be created to communicate ideas and messages about the observed world, the qualities of materials, perceptions, or preconceptions. It can also be used to explore personal and cultural identity, society and how we live, visual language, and technology. Fine Art allows us to consider and reflect on our place in the world, both as individuals and collectively.

A LEVEL COURSE CONTENT AND SKILLS

The Fine Art Courses available at SJSF are all focused on painting, drawing, print and digital media, encompassing many aspects of the modern interpretation of Fine Art. The courses will equip students to make meaningful and high quality artwork in a variety of media for their portfolio on the Arts pathway or to support further studies in the future.

- Possible disciplines within fine art:
- Painting and drawing
- Printmaking
- Mixed Medias and 3D
- Lens-based image making.

THERE ARE 2 KEY COMPONENTS OVER THE TWO YEARS IN THE A LEVEL FINE ART COURSE:

1. Personal Investigation and portfolio work – comprises of practical work and the personal study. At the start of the course there will be a foundation stage which will equip students with fresh approaches and skills within Fine Art, which will build and extend on your skills and approaches to Fine Art practice. The foundation stage will lead to more independent response work from internally set or negotiated themes during the courses. The personal Investigation incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study. The first component makes up 60% of the A Level grade. Supporting studies and practical work will comprise a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal

starting points. The personal study will be evidenced through critical written communication showing contextual research and understanding in a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose, which may contain integrated images.

2. Externally set Assignment – Externally set theme, which makes up 40% of the A Level grade consisting of two elements: preparatory practical and critical work and a final outcome produced in the timed test, which is produced in 15 hours. Students will be given their exam paper in the first months of Year 2 and will complete the exam in supervised timed conditions for them to conclude their ideas with an outcome.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

All work is internally marked and then externally moderated by the relevant board AQA/EDEXCEL/OCR moderator. Formal assessment points throughout the year are followed in the department in line with school policy.

FURTHER STUDY AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Completion of an Art A Level can lead to working in the creative industries with careers such as; fine arts, advertising and marketing, architecture, crafts, product design, illustration, graphic design and fashion design, film, TV, video, radio and photography, IT, software and computer services, publishing, museums, galleries and libraries, performing arts and general visual arts or a creative subject can be used by students as a facilitating subject, which is desired in many different careers for independent thinking and confidence in problem solving. It is usual that students will follow a one year foundation course, or a direct entry place at a University course at the end of the A Level.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If you are interested in taking art to A Level you must be committed and focused to the subject, having confidence and enjoyment in visual language. Enjoy taking risks, learning new techniques and thinking freely and independently.

The minimum entry requirements for level 3 academic study apply. In addition, applicants will require a Grade 6 in GCSE Art along with a portfolio review.

Please contact the individual schools directly and visit the departments to gain more insight into how each of the courses are differently structured.