



# CTEC Level 3 Diplomas in Art & Design - Photography

## AIMS OF THE COURSE

The CTEC Introductory Diploma in photography allows those students with an interest in the subject to apply their knowledge, skills and enthusiasm and specialise in this area. It will give students the skills to go to university or seek employment in the industry.

## 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. This course can also be combined with one or both the Art and Textiles courses to create a Diploma (2 A Level equivalent), or an Extended Diploma (3 A Level equivalent).

The course is based around one mandatory unit alongside additional specialist units which enable students to choose and study particular Photography subject areas in depth. These areas could cover digital photography, film-based photography, portrait photography, digital image creation and landscape photography. Critical and contextual studies of other photographers' work are also used to develop students' practical and theoretical understanding.

Students learn by completing assignments that are based on realistic photographic 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 practices.

This course boasts of having two fully equipped studios complete with an abundance of lighting equipment and cameras. We also have a dark room for film-based production.

## 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. Assessment methods include portfolios, projects, presentations and essays. This is a two-year course equivalent to one A Level.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students can use the UCAS points to apply to Higher Education or choose to seek employment. Candidates are well prepared for applications to study photography related degrees at university or seek employment in the photographic industry.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entry requirements for Level 3 applied study apply. A Level 2 BTEC/GCSE qualification in a creative subject would be an advantage.

# A Level Photography (Lens based medias)

## AIMS OF THE COURSE

Photography has been used by practitioners to record, document and present examples of everyday life, in ordinary and extraordinary circumstances. It has also been used as the vehicle for artistic expression, communicating personal ideas about the world around us. It is used to convey personal identity more widely than any other art form, is applied in the creative process across art, craft and design and is widely used in social, commercial and scientific contexts. The development of affordable lens-based technology has changed the way that both professionals and the public use photography.

## A LEVEL COURSE CONTENT AND SKILLS

This course is focused on digital and darkroom photography, animation, video and digital media with Fine Art practical skills. This diverse and exciting course will equip students to make meaningful and high quality artwork in a variety of lens based medias. On the course students are given the opportunity to take part in our visual arts programme of activities which include working with practising artists and practitioners, life drawing and study visits to London. These are just some examples from the busy visual arts calendar. 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.

### *Disciplines within Photography*

- Mixed media work
- Printmaking / collage & photomontage
- Digital and darkroom photography
- Animation and Video

## THERE ARE 2 KEY COMPONENTS IN THE A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE

### *1. Personal Investigation*

Internally set theme and project work, incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study, which begins in the final part of Year 1 and 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. The personal investigation component follows the foundation

stage of the course, which takes place in the first part of the first year. The foundation stage will equip students with fresh approaches and skills within lens based media, which they will bring into their personal investigation.

Starting with practical workshops to build their skills in Lens based media, enabling them to make an individual and original interpretation from a given theme.

### *2. Externally set Assignment*

Externally set theme, which makes up 40% of the A Level grade consisting of two elements: preparatory work and a final outcome, which is produced in 15 hours.

## ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

All work is internally moderated and then externally moderated by an EDEXCEL moderator. Formal assessment points throughout the year are followed in the department in line with school policy.

## FURTHER STUDY AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Recent students have followed degrees in a range of different disciplines through direct entry at top universities such as Edinburgh/Glasgow/Norwich school of Art, Newcastle, Reading and Leeds and entry to foundation years at Art school. 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. 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.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If you are interested in taking Photography 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 an Art/Creative specialism.