

A Level Graphic Communication

Awarding Body: AQA

Course content

The course involves exploring, researching and acquiring techniques and developing skills, knowledge and understanding in a range of media specific to Graphic Communication. Students may use traditional methods such as drawing, printing and/or digital techniques to produce graphic images. In addition, students will develop skills applying and using composition in Graphic Communication, understanding and applying formal elements such as colour, tone, texture, shape and form in relation to Graphic Communication, selecting, editing and highlighting Graphic Communication imagery and text and manipulating imagery.

Year 1

Students will undertake a series of projects in order to develop skills, knowledge and understanding and a sketchbook of work. Beginning with a chosen brief students will explore a wide range of media and graphical techniques including print, Adobe Photoshop/illustrator and mixed media. Students will also be required to undertake research and explore the ideas surrounding other artist's/designer's work and methods and relate this to their own work.

Mock externally set task:

This will take the form of a timed practical test responding to a chosen theme of interest. Students begin their preparatory studies for their theme in January and then have 15 hours of controlled time in May to complete their final outcome.

Assessment

Year 2

Personal Investigation (60%)

This module is broken into two parts. Students will research, investigate and analyse into an area of study through the creative development of practical pieces. Connection with an artist or movement or style must also be included. In addition to this students will need to complete a related personal study element. This will consist of a 1000-3000 word essay. Throughout the module students will complete one sketchbook, various

and a written and presented related study.

Externally set task (40%)

In this module students will work independently to develop ideas in a sustained and focused way, researching and developing practical work for a particular area of study in a sketchbook. The final practical outcome of the project is then produced during the allotted 15 hour period.

Progression:

Many students will go on to complete a one year Foundation course or University equivalent. The majority of our students go on to further study on Art Foundation courses and have been highly successful in their applications straight onto degree courses from A level. The partnership with UCA entitles students to automatic entry onto the foundation diploma and a guaranteed place being offered at degree level. Possible future career paths include Graphic design, Web design, Illustration, Print design, Industrial design, CAD/CAM design, Product design and furniture design.

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 5 or above in Graphics or Art/Textiles (subject to interview). It is important that you are a creative, enthusiastic and interested in all areas of design and graphic communication.