

PHOTOGRAPHY (Edexcel: A Level Art and Design: Photography 9PY0)

The two-year Photography A-Level course explores the taking, making, creating and reading of images. You will be expected to produce innovative, creative and experimental images in response to given themes. Part of the course is the analysis of photographic images taken by established photographers as well as yourself. You will learn to read images as works of art and be expected to research the work of photographers, demonstrating the influences that this has upon your own ideas and developmental work. The course will cover digital photography and explore a variety of manipulation techniques both in Photoshop and physical manipulations. You will learn the basic techniques of using cameras and studio equipment as well as software used in the creative industry.

Component 01: Personal investigation (60% of overall marks)

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

- Incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.
- Supporting studies and practical work will comprise of 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 study comprises 12% of the total qualification and is marked out of 18.
- Work must cover all four Assessment Objectives.

Component 02: External task (15 hours with a preparatory period) (40% of overall marks)

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme.

- Incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and the 15-hour period of sustained focus.
- Preparatory studies will comprise a portfolio of practical and written development work based on the Externally Set Assignment.
- During the 15-hour period of sustained focus under examination conditions, students will produce final outcome(s) extending from their preparatory studies in response to the Externally Set Assignment.
- The Externally Set Assignment is released on 1 February and contains a theme and suggested starting points.
- Students have from 1 February until the commencement of the final 15-hour period of sustained focus to develop preparatory studies.
- Work must cover all four Assessment Objectives.

Assessment Objectives

- AO1 Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding
- AO2 Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops
- AO3 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress
- AO4 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.

Possible Career Pathways

- Graphic Designer
- Magazine Features Editor
- Medical Illustrator
- Photographer
- Television camera operator
- Advertising Art Director
- Digital Marketer
- Film Director
- Film/Video Editor