



Photography



STUDY LEVEL

A level

CONTACT DETAILS

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If you are attracted by the creativity and expressive aspects of photography then this course is for you. With the chance to learn digital photography techniques in our dedicated studio, you will be able to create a portfolio of stunning images.

What will I study?

This is an exciting, stimulating subject that encourages creative self-expression. Photography at Sir John Deane's is about students and tutors working together in a supportive and dynamic atmosphere.

You will learn about different technical aspects of photography including lighting, depth of field, lenses, and instruction in 'Photoshop'. You will be expected to learn how to present your images using a variety of sources for inspiration including the environment, still life and figure/portrait. You will focus on digital photography and manipulation rather than traditional darkroom practice and wet media. Digital portfolios are created using PowerPoint presentations combined with a full set of inkjet prints for all final work.

Students will have access to PCs with Photoshop and there are a selection of DSLR cameras, lenses and tripods which we loan out. We do rely on students generally having their own kit to back this up.

Co-curricular activities?

Students are taken to galleries in the area as well as on location days. Study trips abroad are also offered and in recent years students have visited Barcelona, Berlin, Paris and New York.

Some students have worked in the community with local businesses and organisations such as Weaver Hall Museum. Our photographers are also regularly given the opportunity to record student events at the College. Students are encouraged to actively seek their own venues and locations for image making.

Where might it lead?

A proportion of our students go on to study Photography as a degree subject or a related area such as film and media. Others will use the A level to apply for a foundation course in general Art and Design. Photography careers include, photo-journalism, fine art photography, wedding and occasions, forensics and medical, underwater and marine, sport, as well as industrial and editorial. Photography is also a valued A level for access to a huge variety of other creative industries such as fashion, interior design and 3D design to name a few.

Course Breakdown

Course Summary

- Exam board is AQA

Paper	Content	Marks	Duration	Weighting
Component 1	Coursework Portfolio	96	4 months	60%
Component 2	Externally Set Assignment	96	8 weeks	40%

Summary of Content

Component 1 (Coursework Portfolio)

A portfolio of visual photographic ideas based on a theme set by the students themselves. Students work through a process of ideas development and a sense of journey from first ideas to final shoots. All work will be supported by analysis and research as well as planning and reviews.

Students create a written essay of 1000-3000 words based on their journey throughout the process.

Component 2 (Externally Set Assignment)

Students select from a number of themes given by the exam board; to research and develop creative photography processes and outcomes, while demonstrating a visual journey from the starting point. All work is practical and there is no written examination.

Suggested Preparation for September

Students should begin to look at the work of other photographers and artists both on the internet and in gallery spaces around the north west and, if possible, London. As a course, art history is a clear requirement and we will be asking students to have an appreciation of a variety of approaches. Students may also begin to put together photographs either with a phone camera or DSLR which follow a simple project rather than simply recording anything and everything they see. It might also be useful to begin to save up to purchase your own DSLR as it makes life easier for you but we do have cameras in college for those who feel this is not possible.