

Graduate Diploma in Photography

Programme Specification 2019/20

Full-time | 30 Weeks | September 2019 enrolment

Graduate Diploma Photography

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	London College of Communication
School	University of the Arts London
Programme	Photography (L046)
FHEQ Level	Level 6 Grad Diploma
Course Credits	120
Mode	Full Time
Duration of Course	1 year
Valid From	September 1st 2019
QAA Subject Benchmark	Art and Design
UAL Subject Classification	Photography
JACS Code	W100 - Fine art
UCAS Code	N/A
PSRB	N/A
Work placement offered	N/A
Course Entry Requirements	<p>Applicants should have an honours degree or equivalent experience to be considered for this course. We are looking for applicants who may be progressing from an undergraduate course (or equivalent) and who already have a portfolio that demonstrates a good level of practice.</p> <p>Alternatively, you could be considering a career change and already have a portfolio of good quality photographic images, and now interested in expanding your subject knowledge and understanding, and developing a career in photography.</p> <p>APEL (Accreditation of Prior Learning)</p>

	<p>Applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered in exceptional cases. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related academic or work experience • The quality of the personal statement • A strong academic or other professional reference • OR a combination of these factors <p>Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.</p> <p>Language requirements</p> <p>All classes are conducted in English. If English is not your first language, we strongly recommend you let us know your English language test score in your application. If you have booked a test or are awaiting your results, please indicate this in your application. When asked to upload a CV as part of your application, please include any information about your English test score.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS 6.0 (or equivalent) is required, with a minimum of 5.5 in each of the four skills. • If your first language is not English, you can check you have achieved the correct IELTS level in English on the Language Requirements page. <p>For further details regarding international admissions and advice please visit the International Applications page.</p>
Selection Criteria	<p>Your application and supporting material will be assessed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality of the applicant's practice • The appropriateness of the applicant's skills, experience and practice to the area of interest identified for development in the course • Effective communication of intentions, purposes and issues

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The level of contextual awareness and expression of perspective• The potential for realisation of the stated objectives within the timeframe of the course and envisaged resources• Evidence that the applicant has the confidence and ability to benefit |
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Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

Year 1

Percentage of Scheduled Learning	18
Awards	Credits
Graduate Diploma	120

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	To provide students with a serious interest in photography with an opportunity to gain professional skills and a qualification at graduate level.
Aim	To explore, focus and strengthen individual creative identity by developing and enhancing appropriate imaginative and professional skills in parallel with aesthetic judgment.
Aim	To equip students with a range of technical and production skills suitable to allow them to embark on a career as a contemporary professional photographic practitioner.
Aim	To contextualise each student's practice within a deeper understanding of global commercial photographic practice through research, international student input and generating awareness of cultural differences.
Aim	To assist students in creating a body of work contextualised through appropriate personal and professional development to support application for postgraduate study in the subject area and/or entry into employment or obtaining commissions in the photographic industry in major cities around the world.
Aim	To provide students with the appropriate frameworks and research methodologies to enable them to undertake independent learning and decision making in complex and unpredictable situations
Aim	To give students an understanding of industry, industry relationships, and the business aspect of professional photography and introduce them to key contacts within the photographic industry in key global markets.
Aim	To provide students with the opportunity to collaborate with other specialised programmes at LCC within the Media School.
Aim	To act as bridging course for appropriately qualified students supporting progression to further study in Photography at postgraduate (Masters) level.

Outcome	Apply appropriately a range of professional photographic skills (Knowledge, Realisation);
Outcome	Creatively plan and develop photographic projects and realise creative solutions to commercial photographic challenges (Process);
Outcome	Learn independently and gain the capacity to manage your time effectively and work to a professional standard (Process);
Outcome	Respond creatively to specific market and technical demands in solving photographic problems (Realisation, Enquiry);
Outcome	Present ideas and information effectively using appropriate visual and oral communications skills in relation to specific industrial or cultural contexts (Communication);
Outcome	Gain awareness of the varying demands of the differing markets, which comprise the international photographic industry (Enquiry, Knowledge);
Outcome	Review your personal and professional strengths and evaluate appropriate educational and employment contexts in which your creative practice could be developed (Enquiry);
Outcome	Originate and bring to completion practical projects that synthesize your knowledge and understanding of research principles and methodologies and appropriate use of materials, technologies, and market awareness in the context of the discipline of photography practice (Enquiry, Realisation);
Outcome	Consolidate your work into a high quality portfolio suitable for presentation to potential clients in order to gain commissions or employment (Realisation);
Outcome	Critically evaluate potential opportunities for future academic study or creative training in photography (Enquiry, Knowledge).

	Distinctive Features
1	An opportunity to study professional photography in the rich international cultural and professional context of LCC Photography with its long established courses, guest speaker programmes, research culture and industry networks.
2	An opportunity to gain awareness of the varying demands of the differing markets, which comprise the international photographic industry.
3	To develop a first class photographic portfolio within the context of a major international city renowned for its contribution at the fulcrum of the photographic industry.
4	An opportunity for students new to photography education or those changing careers to gain a professional qualification at graduate level while working with a very diverse group of fellow students from major international markets.
5	An introduction to key industry contacts including camera and lighting manufacturers, bespoke printers, post-production companies, photographic organisations, photographic professionals, gallery owners and seasoned art buyers.
6	An active and challenging curriculum that will enable students to develop a foundation of technical and professional skills at a high standard for professional photographic practice.
7	A structured timetable that focuses on the technical and professional skills needed in contemporary photography practice including optional choices, combining taught and independent study.
8	A grounding in research methodologies and their use in the context of self-initiated research in the development of a portfolio and personal project to enhance your portfolio with a strong personal identity.
9	An opportunity to collaborate with students in other key specialised areas within the Media School such as: photojournalism, graphic design, film and marketing.
10	This course may also serve as a preparatory course for students wishing to study at the Postgraduate level.

Course Detail

In a rapidly changing industry that thrives on both print and digital media sources, photography plays an increasingly vital role in all aspects of our lives. LCC is at the heart of these changes and with its rich tradition of photography education and location in the heart of central London. Whether you are starting as a photographer looking to develop a commercial practice or you're transitioning careers into photography, it is the ideal place for you to pursue the development of your career in photography. The Graduate Diploma Photography is an internationally recognised course that enables you to develop an understanding of your own contemporary position, while contributing to the contemporary practice and future vitality of the medium. This one-year course in professional photography practice is underpinned by skilled-based methodologies as they relate to analogue and digital applications, as well as the professional framework needed to build a career within the industry, along with seminars in the history and criticism of photography to enhance your understanding of visual communication. This grounding assists in the development of technically competent, critical and creative communicators who are able to take a lead in beginning their own contemporary practice and exploring different visual approaches to their own work. You will be collaborating with students from all over the world, learning the diverse international markets that make up the photographic industry and networking with key industry contacts. The course is designed to enable you to launch your career in commercial photography with a broad foundation of technical and professional skills as well as help you build a personal identity for your practice. You will be joining a growing community of distinctive photography and related media courses in the Media School, notably MA/BA Photography and MA/BA Photojournalism and Documentary. These courses are made up of staff, fellow students and guest speakers from a diverse range of creative disciplines and cultures. All the tutors on your course are actively involved in professional practice, scholarly investigation and media related areas. This has helped the course to develop and sustain strong relationships with industry and provide a valuable context to reflect the range of further study and vocational opportunities in creative fields. We are committed to teaching, learning and assessment designed to enhance, nurture and recognise your employability, individuality and entrepreneurship. Enterprise and employability within a creative education in arts, design and media is about the integration of practice, behaviours and qualities that enable you to develop and sustain a rewarding professional life. The curriculum is designed to communicate and open up the possibilities of your own creativity by developing your career aspirations and professional awareness for enterprise and employability, whether for the creative and cultural sector or beyond. Enterprise and employability is about more than getting a job, it is about enabling you to find, make and take opportunities and to meet your aspirations in a changing world, whether as a successful creative professional, innovator, practitioner, employee and/or entrepreneur in the UK and globally.

Course Units

Unit 1: Professional Photography in Practice (Photographic Technology & Applied Production Skills) (40 credits) • A series of workshops and project briefs will enable you to develop and utilise specialist photographic skills and knowledge to solve photographic problems. Through planning, implementation and review, and engagement with industry, you will be able to apply your photographic skills in a realistic professional context. Unit 2: Critical Approaches (Photographic Culture, History & Theory) (20 credits) • This unit gives you the opportunity to study major developments and critical approaches in photography. Unit 3: Personal Project (Research & Development) (20 credits) • Through the research and development of a comprehensive project you will be able to recognize creative influences in your own work and develop an understanding of your own creative ambitions. Unit 4: Professional Identity and Portfolio Development (Professional Context & Progression) (40 credits) • Within this unit you will bring together skill, knowledge and understanding gained in other units you have studied to produce a final portfolio of work within your chosen area of specialism. This process for all units will involve you in original applications of knowledge, together with a practical ability to use and critically assess existing photographic techniques and formats. You will also, in the process of the critical evaluation of your own and others work, develop innovative solutions to creative challenges.

Learning and Teaching Methods

- WORKSHOPS - these form the core of the teaching programme and involve a critical peer review of your work in progress.
- LECTURES - these concentrate on the craft elements of Photography, and are delivered by the course team together with visiting speakers from industry.
- INDEPENDENT STUDY - this provides an opportunity for you to engage with research, writing and other activities related to your academic and creative progress, outside formal teaching hours.
- REFLECTIVE REPORTS – reports in which you, the student, reflect upon your practice with respect to projects
- TUTORIALS - these one-to-one sessions with a tutor provide a platform for assessing your development and addressing issues relevant to the course

Assessment Methods

The course objectives are assessed using the following assessment methods:

- Practical project work and computer based activities
- Prepared writing
- Responses to case studies
- Oral presentation
- Personal presentations of prepared work

- Simulations and role plays
- Workshop based activities
- Written research
- The creation of a portfolio of collection of work which may contain a number of different activities.

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London
- The College policies and initiatives
- Level descriptors
- Benchmark statements

The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable

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