

A Level

Art (Fine Art)

AQA



If you choose not to continue this subject onto year two, you are able to sit an AS exam at the end of year one.

Course Content

This art course places a distinct emphasis on the exploration of ideas, materials, visual and other sensory sources. They are concerned with the development of your individual responses to your own first hand experience. During the first two terms of the AS course; you will be encouraged to explore the creative potential of different media and processes. The aim of this essentially experimental phase is to encourage you to acquire and develop skills and awareness.

Drawing from observation as a means of investigation and research is an essential aspect of the course and all students will be expected to develop their experience and confidence in this area. You will also be encouraged to make connections with the work of other artists and the wider worldwide context of art and throughout the course you will have the opportunity to study selected aspects of art through lectures and visits.

Methods of Teaching

Projects are introduced by your art tutor in the first phase of the course, this is followed by ones tailored more to your own particular concerns. Our aim, particularly in your AS year, is to adopt a flexible approach that can respond directly to your interests, ideas, needs and accumulative experience.

Year 1

You will receive continual assessment on your progress and one to one tutorials. Your final assessment for your AS level award is as follows:



Component 1: Coursework Portfolio

During the first two terms of the course you will have the opportunity to experience drawing, painting, printmaking and photography. This phase provides the basis for (one extensive practical project) Unit 1: Coursework Portfolio (worth 60% AS). Alongside this work you will be expected to build up evidence of your critical awareness of the wider context of art within culture to complement and inform your practical work.

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Component 2: Externally-Set Assignment

Towards the end of the AS course you will complete an Externally-Set Assignment (worth 40% AS). This involves a preparation period of approximately ten weeks plus 10 hours unaided supervised time.

Year 2

If you choose to continue into the second year to complete the A Level course there are two assessments:

Component 1: Personal investigation

This involves one, extended, in-depth coursework project using skills acquired at AS level. It also includes a written log of your progress between 1000 – 3000 words.

Component 2: Externally-Set Assignment

Your response to externally set questions. This involves a preparation period of approximately fifteen weeks plus 15 hours of unaided supervised time.

Financial Implications

Although the Art department will provide essential materials for you to work with (paper, paint, drawing media, plaster, clay) you will need to purchase some equipment (paint brushes, portfolio etc). It is important to stress that Art can be an expensive subject and should you wish to use more specialised media this may well involve some personal expense. The College has a Student Support Fund for those students who have difficulty meeting these costs.

Where will it take me?

Careers in Art are numerous and include Commercial Art, Graphic Design, Textiles, Fashion, Ceramics, Interior, Theatre Design, Architecture, Photography, Film Animation and Video. Also Arts administration, Conservation and Restoration, Teaching and Art therapy.

It is possible to combine Art (Fine Art) with either Textiles, Photography, Three Dimensional Design or Graphics. However, this needs to be considered carefully as the deadline days for each of these subjects are the same. Therefore, students who combine arts subjects need to be well organised.

Minimum Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grades A* - C including Maths and English.

Apply online: www.psc.ac.uk/apply t: 01962 857555 e: admissions@psc.ac.uk

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