

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Photography
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Photography
Named Exit Awards	BA Photography DipHE Photography
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 112 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Applicants may be expected to attend an interview and show a portfolio as part of the application process
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	W601 BA/Phot

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Photography course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2023-24 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

The BA (Hons) Photography continues to offer a range of approaches to theoretical, critical, practical and creative work in photography, which are relevant to a range of professional and entrepreneurial sectors. Each student is encouraged to engage with the analysis, theory and history of photography, develop the practical, technical and conceptual skills involved in the making of photography, and are given the opportunity to initiate, negotiate and deliver independent research, including critical and practical projects. The integration of this holistic approach to the medium gives the course a specific identity.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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Photography at University of Suffolk is almost unique in its design and provision for students in that it offers both analogue and digital platforms with emphasis on the integration of both. In doing so it accurately reflects the current climate of the professional industry and places it in an increasingly distinctive position as many educational institutions move over to purely digital resources.

Course Aims

- Offer an integrated approach to theoretical, critical, practical and creative work in photography, relevant to students' futures in work or further study.
- Engage critically with the analysis, theory and history of photography in ways which complement, inform and underpin creative photographic practice and production.
- Develop the practical, critical and conceptual skills involved in the making of creative photographic work.
- Provide opportunities to initiate, negotiate, deliver and reflect upon independent research, including critical and practical projects.
- Develop a range of subject-specific and generic skills to facilitate the continuing growth of professional and personal identities, the capacity for lifelong learning, entrepreneurship and a sustainable career.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Photography course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

1. Demonstrate an advanced knowledge and application of the ways in which theoretical, critical, practical and creative work in photography can be combined to produce a range of photographic based artefacts and underpin ongoing professional and personal development.
2. Show a sophisticated and developed capacity to innovate and experiment and to be adaptable, creative and self- reflexive in their work in response to a self-initiated enquiry in the production of a major body of work.
3. Undertake sustained period of independent research, drawing on a range of relevant historical and contemporary sources and to demonstrate advanced critical skills of analysis, interpretation and/or evaluation in the close reading of texts, including their aesthetic, formal, narrative, generic or representational qualities.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Art and Design (2017)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Photography comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Location-Based Practice	20	M
	Documentary as Contemporary Practice	20	M
	Portrait as Contemporary Practice	20	M
	Photographic Techniques	40	M
	Critical Studies: Photography and Visual Culture	20	M
Level 5			
	Individual Practice	20	M
	Professional Practice 1	20	M
	Advanced Photographic Techniques	20	M
	The Photo Book & the Published Image	20	M
	Collaboration as Practice	20	M
	Themes and Ideas: Perspectives on Photography	20	M
Level 6			
	Degree Project	60	M
	Professional Practice 2	20	M
	Dissertation	40	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded BA (Hons) Photography. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a BA Photography on successful completion of 320 credits or a DipHE Photography on successful completion of 240 credits including all modules at levels 4 and 5.

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BA (Hons) Photography course are likely to have approximately 16 tutor-structured learning hours per week for level 4, consisting of lectures, presentations, technical workshops, and tutorials. These will be a blend of campus and online contact. At level 5 an average week consists of approximately fourteen hours of teaching, comprising lectures, workshops, tutor set learning, critiques, seminars, and tutorials, which will be a blend of campus and online contact. At level 6 an average week consists of approximately eight hours of lectures and student presentations in addition to individual tutorials, which will be a blend of campus and online contact. In addition to the tutor-structured learning hours, students will normally be expected to undertake 35 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary, based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course will be 100% coursework (including imagery, essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects).

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BA (Hons) Photography will be charged tuition fees as detailed below:

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time EU/International	£14,598 per year
Part-time EU/International	£2,433 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students across all years have the opportunity to go on national and international trips. They are not mandatory but students will be required to pay additional costs for any trips that are undertaken.

Students are likely to incur other costs for materials in level 4 as follows:

Photographic Techniques

5 x rolls of B&W film (HP5 Plus/FP4) = £25.75 (£5.15 each)

1 x Ilford Multigrade (Pearl) B&W photographic paper 9.5 x 12" 50 Sheets = £32.50

14 x A4 inkjet prints (£1.75 each) = £24.50

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Materials for level 5 and 6 are variable depending on the work produced (e.g. the size, media and process) but are approximately £115 to £650 for level 5 and £50 to £1600 for level 6.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).