

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	Certificate of Higher Education/DipHE Photography
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 110 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 2017-18 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.

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

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](#)

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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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 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 4/5/6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

Subject Knowledge and Understanding – Level 6

Photography graduates will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

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 artefacts and underpin ongoing professional and personal development
2. Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of a range of modes of photography practice from different periods and places, including mainstream, alternative and oppositional forms
3. A sophisticated understanding of the processes linking various types of production, distribution, circulation and consumption
4. An advanced understanding and application of key crafting and production processes and professional practices relating to relating to photography practice and production, including financial, market, legal, ethical, regulatory and technical contexts
5. An advanced understanding of their own creative processes and practices, through engagement with a variety of photographic practice and production tasks

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

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6. Knowledge of a substantial range of photography movements and genres at an advanced level
7. A sophisticated, advanced and developed understanding of the aesthetic, formal, narrative and representational qualities of a wide variety of photography texts
8. A sophisticated awareness of developments in photography theory and criticism and how these are related to the development of photography practices and the student's own critical and creative practices
9. An advanced awareness and application of the ways in which forms of photography consumption are embedded in everyday life and the contribution of photography to the ways in which identities are constructed and contested
10. A critical insight and application into the social basis of aesthetic pleasures and judgements relating to various types of photography
11. An appreciation and understanding of new and emergent photography technologies and forms

Subject Specific and Practical Skills

Photography graduates will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

12. Analyse critically modes of photography production and/or consumption, including links between types of production, distribution, circulation and consumption
13. Show an awareness of highly developed creative ideas, concepts and projects informed by appropriate research and judgements of feasibility
14. Produce advanced photographic work which is informed by relevant economic, cultural, market, theoretical and/or critical contexts, issues and debates
15. Demonstrate advanced technical competencies in specified aspects of practice, production and application
16. Analyse critically a range of photography movements and genres, drawing on a range of relevant historical and contemporary sources
17. 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
18. Present work in accordance with a higher standard of academic and professional conventions
19. Undertake sustained period of independent research, drawing on a range of relevant historical and contemporary sources

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20. Show a sophisticated and developed capacity to innovate and experiment and to be adaptable, creative and self- reflexive in their work
21. Develop an advanced ability to reflect critically on aspects of their work, including knowledge of their own cultural commitments and positioning
22. Give and receive feedback constructively, and use this process to develop their skills, knowledge and creative work and ideas at an advanced level

Course Design

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

- Art and Design (2008)

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			
	Documentary	20	M
	Portrait and Light	20	M
	Space and Place	20	M
	Photographic Techniques	40	M
	Critical Studies: Photography and Visual Culture	20	M
Level 5			
	Constructed Narratives	40	M
	Individual Practice	20	M
	Advanced Photographic Techniques	20	M
	Professional Practice 1	20	M
	Themes and Ideas: Perspectives on Photography	20	M
Level 6			
	Degree Project	60	M
	Professional Practice 2	20	M
	Dissertation	40	M

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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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 DipHE Photography on successful completion of 240 credits including all modules at levels 4 and 5 or a Certificate of Higher Education on successful completion of all Level 4 modules.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BA (Hons) Photography course are likely to have approximately 13 contact hours per week for level. A level 5 student typically has 11 hours in semester 1 and 8 in semester 2. Level 6 students can have up to 11 contact hours in semester 1 and individual supervision in semester 2. The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar, 1-1 & group tutorials, practical activity and workshops. Level 5 students will also be expected to participate in up to 10 days of work placement. Students will be expected to find their own placement. 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 overall 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/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£11,580 per year
Part-time International	£1,930 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:

Documentary (Including Photographic Techniques)

10 x rolls of B&W film (HP5 Plus/FP4) = £47.50 (£4.75 each)

1 x Ilford Multigrade (Pearl) B&W photographic paper 9.5 x 12" 50 Sheets = £31.00

Portrait & Light (Including Photographic Techniques)

2 x Kodak Portra 160 120 5 Pack = £52.00 (£26.00 each)

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1 x Fuji Crystal Archive colour paper (Lustre) 10 x 12" 50 sheets = £26.00

Space & Place (Including Photographic Techniques)

10 x 10 x 8 or A4 archival inkjet prints = £17.50 (£1.75 each)

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](#).