

**DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD**

Course Title	<b>BA (Hons) Cultural Studies</b>
Awarding Bodies	<b>University of Suffolk</b>
Level of Award <sup>1</sup>	<b>FHEQ Level 6</b>
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	<b>None</b>
Credit Structure <sup>2</sup>	<b>360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits</b>
Mode of Attendance	<b>Full-time and part-time</b>
Standard Length of Course <sup>3</sup>	<b>3 years full-time</b>
Intended Award	<b>BA (Hons) Cultural Studies</b>
Named Exit Awards	<b>CertHE Cultural Studies DipHE Cultural Studies</b>
Entry Requirements <sup>4</sup>	<b>Typical Offer: 96 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) GCSE English and Maths at grade C (4) or above (or equivalent)</b>
Delivering Institution	<b>University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft)</b>
UCAS Code	<b>VQ33</b>

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Cultural Studies course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2022-23 academic year.<sup>5</sup>

**Course Summary**

Studying our interdisciplinary degree in cultural studies will give you specific knowledge and understanding of how the past and present helps shape social and cultural life You will study

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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](#).

<sup>4</sup> 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](#).

<sup>5</sup> 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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art and design, literature, cultural studies and social history in preparation for a range of post-graduation careers and study programmes. The BA (Hons) Cultural Studies programme could open career opportunities in public education, publishing, the heritage and tourism professions and associated events management, national and international voluntary and campaigning organisations, the media, public relations, public service organisations and government (national and local), marketing and journalism.

The course offers a flexible route within higher education for people with varying levels of experience and will enable you to develop your skills of writing, analysis, critical thinking, presentation and teamwork and apply them to contemporary issues and problems in the real world.

### **Course Aims**

1. To develop in depth knowledge and a critical understanding of historical and contemporary arts and culture within society in general, with rigorous linking of theoretical analysis with empirical enquiry to enable them to make links both between and within the subject disciplines.
2. To enable students to develop a critical understanding of subject-specific concepts, approaches and methods drawn from the study of forms and expressions of art and design, English literature, cultural studies and social history, with an awareness of the distinctive characters of the separate disciplines.
3. To develop an understanding of the contested nature and the problematic character of inquiry within each discipline
4. To enable students to develop and incorporate study and employability skills
5. To plan, carry out and evaluate research, demonstrating the student's understanding of the value of research generally, its role and practice, and the key concepts and theoretical models in research methodologies as applied in cultural studies careers and occupations.
6. To develop in-depth knowledge and critical understanding of the artistic, cultural and historical structures of modern and postmodern society from interdisciplinary perspectives, and an understanding of the social and cultural processes underpinning experience and change.
7. To enable students to evaluate the importance of arts, culture and society, develop critically evaluative knowledge of representation in all contexts, to critically apply that knowledge to a wider global understanding and to have critical evaluative knowledge of group and personal identities and critically apply that knowledge to the production and development of culture.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Cultural Studies 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

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generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)<sup>6</sup>.

### Level 6 Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course:

#### *Knowledge and Understanding*

1. The students will have in depth and critically evaluative knowledge of both interdisciplinary aspects of arts, culture & society and the subject discipline based theoretical analysis with empirical enquiry drawn from the arts, literature, cultural studies and social history to enable them to make links between and within the subject disciplines.
2. The student will have acquired a detailed knowledge base and have a systematic and critical understanding of the historical and contemporary structures and forms of arts and culture in society from national, European and global perspectives, and a theoretical understanding of artistic and cultural forms and processes underpinning artistic and cultural developments in contemporary society.
3. The students will have demonstrated acquisition of the a detailed, systematic and coherent body of evaluative knowledge of the nature of interdisciplinary cultural studies and to critically apply the concepts and principles from the disciplines outside of the context in which they were studied, recognising the uncertainty and ambiguity of the knowledge.

#### *Cognitive skills*

1. The students will be able to critically evaluate the contested nature and the problematic character of inquiry within the disciplines as well as the interdisciplinary approaches.
2. The students will be able to critically evaluate the importance of arts and culture in society through the key themes of artistic and cultural representation, the local and the global contemporary influences on the development of artistic cultural products, and the cultural self in contemporary society.
3. The students will critically analyse theoretical knowledge and concepts to social and cultural issues in relation to cultural studies and apply and interpret these in relation disciplinary and interdisciplinary content and concepts.

#### *Practical skills*

1. The students will be able to plan and analyse research and critically apply the key concepts to initiate and be able to competently carry out research in the future.
2. The students will be able to make use of scholarly reviews, primary sources, and have good information literacy skills.

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

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3. The students will be able to effectively communicate arguments, ideas, problems and solutions, in a variety of forms for a variety of audiences both specialist and non-specialist.

### Key Skills

1. The students will achieve threshold competence of employability skills and qualities as expected for an undergraduate at level six in cultural studies.
2. The student will apply decision making, personal responsibility, problem solving and commitment, in order to apply new transferable academic and employability skills.
3. The students will demonstrate initiative, decision making, problem solving and be able to undertake further training, education and skills as commensurate with their future plans.

### Course Design

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

- History 2019;
- Communication, Media and Film and English 2019;
- Cultural Studies 2019;
- Art and Design 2017;
- History of Art, Architecture and Design 2019;
- Social Policy 2019.

### Course Structure

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

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

	Module	Credits	Module Type <sup>7</sup>
Level 4			
	Modernity: Development and Structures	20	R
	Modernism, Social Change and Literature	20	R
	Art and Design – Contextual Studies	20	R
	Film, Cinema and Popular Culture	20	R
	Research Methods in Cultural Studies	20	R
	Academic Skills	20	R
Level 5			

<sup>7</sup> 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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	Social Policy and Social Change	20	M
	Science Fiction and the Archaeology of the Future	20	M
	Fashion: Design, History and Society	20	M
	Music, Youth Culture, and Society	20	M
	Research Practice in Cultural Studies	20	M
	Advanced Academic and Employability Skills	20	M
Level 6			
	Social and Cultural Futures	20	M
	Postcolonialism – The Literature of Diaspora	20	M
	Global Culture, Sustainability and Art and Design	20	M
	Digital Culture, Self and New Media	20	M
	Dissertation	40	M

Optional modules will be delivered every year.

### Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Cultural Studies. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Cultural Studies on successful completion of 120 credits at level 4 plus 120 credits at level 5 including all mandatory modules across both levels; or a CertHE Cultural Studies on successful completion of 120 credits at level 4 including all mandatory modules.

### Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft). Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Cultural Studies are likely to have approximately 12 contact hours per week. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, workshops and academic tutorials. Although there is no formal work placement, students are encouraged to seek such opportunities to assist with linking theory to practice and to support the employability ethos of the course. Students will normally be expected to undertake approximately 20-25 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 will mostly be course (including essays, reports, seminars, presentations, portfolios, briefing papers, posters) with a single examination included in each of levels five and six.

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### 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) Cultural Studies 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	£12,996 per year
Part-time EU/International	£2,166 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.

There are no additional costs to students other than for the usual stationery and various textbooks should they wish to purchase them.

### 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](#).