

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Design
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
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Design
Named Exit Awards	DipHE Design CertHE Design
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical offer: 112 UCAS tariff points (or above), BBC (A-Level), DMM (BTEC).
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft)
UCAS Code	WW27

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Design course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2021-22 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

BA (Hons) Design is a skills based course providing an exciting opportunity to develop creative, technical and cognitive design skills. Theory and practice are inextricably linked. The ‘hands on’ approach integrating manual and digital processes and materials is delivered via a broad inter-disciplinary curriculum in four subject specialist areas: Ceramics, 3-Dimensional Design, Graphics and Textiles.

In the first year students study all subject specialist areas and identify opportunities for inter-disciplinary working. In the second year students follow an inter-disciplinary approach or may choose to work in one subject specialism. In the third year students define their own design focus.

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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The professional and transferable skills acquired throughout the course produce versatile and resourceful design practitioners with a sound knowledge and understanding in the key principles of design, decision making, project development and time management.

This unique course is delivered in small, friendly and supportive peer groups and there is a strong emphasis placed on providing pastoral support for our students.

Course Aims

- To enable the student to acquire the analytical, conceptual and practical skills necessary for the solving of design problems, and to relate and articulate those concepts and skills across all aspects of the programme
- To support a learning experience which will enable all students to recognise and work towards the fulfilment of individual potential through reflective enquiry both within and beyond the duration of the programme
- To foster in each individual a significant personal engagement with contemporary design practice based upon practical exploration, intellectual curiosity and reasoned critical judgements
- To develop in the student the personal qualities, professional attitudes and self-reliance essential for successful employment in design practice, post-graduate study or self-employment

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Define and critically evaluate design practice and its' influence on culture and society through negotiated inquiry
2. Apply professional and independent working method to meet deadlines using communication and presentation skills
3. Apply entrepreneurial skills in the development of personal design practice
4. Exhibit and disseminate design solution for self-promotion purposes taking into consideration target audience
5. Take a responsible role in a creative team resolving any problems that may arise and exercising a variety of transferable skills
6. Utilise problem solving skills in the resolution of process, technical issues in the resolution of innovative and forward thinking design product

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 (2008)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Design 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 ⁷
Level 4			
	Forming & Construction	20	M
	Technical Studies 1	20	M
	Communication & Context	20	M
	Casting & Wasting	20	M
	Concepts & Application	20	M
	Design Context	20	M
Level 5			
	Technical Studies 2	20	M
	Process & Development	20	M
	Commercial Innovation	20	M
	Professional Practice	20	M
	Process & Production	20	M
	Advanced Design Context	20	M
Level 6			
	Design Practice	20	M
	Design Dissertation	40	M
	Final Major Project	40	M
	Design Futures	20	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Design. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Design on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5, or a CertHE Design on successful completion of 120 credits including all mandatory modules at level 4.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft). Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Design are likely to have approximately 360 contact hours for

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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level 4, 320 contact hours for level 5 and 175 contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar, individual studio tutorials and practical workshops. Students will also be encouraged to participate in 10 days of work placement during their level five studies. Students will be expected to find their own placement. Students will normally be expected to undertake 30 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 essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning blogs, portfolios 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) Design will be charged tuition fees as detailed below:

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK	Not applicable
Full-time EU/International	£13,725 per year
Part-time EU/International	Not applicable

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

Students are likely to incur other costs for equipment, materials, optional field trips and exhibitions amounting to approximately £250 per year.

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](#).