

Our outstanding grades are a testament to the students' hard work. In 2019, 2020 and 2021 - 100% of our students achieved A*- B grades with 70% attaining A*- A grades

Every year a large percentage of our students go on to successfully study Product Design, Design Engineering, or Architecture at top universities, including Bath, Cardiff, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Imperial College, Loughborough, St Martins and UCL.

For further information, please contact:

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A Level 3D Design



3D DESIGN

Prospective students ask

Q. What grades do I need?

A. You will need standard advanced course entry requirements including a grade 5 or above in Art or a Design related GCSE subject, or Merit or Distinction in BTEC level 2 first certificate in Art and Design, or if GSCE Art/Design has not been studied, suitably qualified students with a good portfolio of work will be considered.

Q. What is the 3D Design course like?

A. Looking at the world in a questioning and inquisitive way and then responding to it through drawing, model making, material experiments and final three dimensional outcomes for both product design and architectural briefs. It is a hands on practical course with a creative and experimental bias rather than a technology course. All of your work is documented in an A3 sketchbook.

Q. What goes on in lessons?

A. Design lessons are predominately practical where you are introduced to a wide range of materials, processes and machinery. One lesson you might be recording ideas through observational drawing, computer aided design, quick card models, the next lesson you could be making more resolved 3D models in wood/plastics/ metal etc. You would also be learning to safely use all the workshop equipment and machinery to enable you to produce your ideas.



Q. What kind of equipment do you have?

A. We have a range of hand tools such as saws, chisels, hammers etc; Electric hand tools such as drills, jig saws, spot welders; fixed machinery such as a band saw, brazing hearth, vacuum former, plastics oven, laser cutter, 3D printer, metal guillotine, pillar drills etc.

Q. How big are the groups?

A. Group sizes are generally between 15 - 16 students

Q. How much independent work is there?

A. We set four hours' worth of work a week to be completed outside of lessons for the following week, this could be a continuation of class work, critical research or further development of your ideas in to your sketchbooks. You are expected to take your A3 sketchbook home to work in and bring it to every lesson.

Q. How is the course assessed?

A. It is 60% practical coursework consisting of one major personal project which you start in the April of year one and complete by January of the second year. You would hand in a final architectural or product piece, extensive recording of the development of your ideas, material and process experiments and trial models, as well as a 3000 word critical essay related to your personal practical work. The other 40% is an assignment set by the exam board. You get a choice of 8 themes, you select one and develop preparatory work over an 8 week period in lessons and then complete a 15 hour practical exam in the workshop where a final 3D outcome is produced.

Q. Are there any trips?

A. There are regular trips to London exhibitions and museums and local research visits. There is the opportunity to take part in the Visual Arts Department's bi annual trip abroad.

Are there any costs?

A. Students make a contribution at the start of the two year course to help pay for the cost of materials and equipment. This is the same for all Visual Arts courses.



Q. What other subjects can I take with 3D design?

A. Students will often do another Art/Design subject, many will do Physics and/or Maths, and others will be doing a whole range of combinations of courses. If you have a particular interest in studying Architecture/Engineering/Product Design at University it is worth checking the UCAS website for preferred subject choices.





