

# **Course Specification**

Course Summary Information					
1	Course Title		BA (Hons) Photogra	phy	
2	BCU Course	UCAS Code	US0790	W640	
	Code				
3	Awarding Institution		Birmingham City Un	iversity	
4	Teaching Institution(s)			-	
	(if different from point 3)				
5	Professional Statutory or				
	Regulatory Body (PSRB)				
	accreditation (if applicable)				

## 6 Course Description

On our BA (Hons) Photography degree you will develop a creative, professional identity and signature style by combining technique, theory, experimentation and ethical practice.

You will explore contemporary photographic practice, including fashion, documentary, portrait, moving image, landscape and fine art photography, gaining a rounded knowledge of these varied and exciting disciplines.

Collaboration with other disciplines is encouraged, developing new ideas and connections with subjects such as graphic design, illustration and animation. The course will show you how creative photographers can become commercially successful in a diverse range of careers within the visual arts and beyond.

#### What's covered in the course?

You will learn through practice, developing confidence as a contemporary photographer. Your learning will be informed by developing a deeper understanding of current photographic practice, from publishing and exhibiting to editorial and photojournalism work.

You will learn from award-winning staff with international reputations and a wealth of industry experience, having worked for clients such as the BBC, the Brit Awards, Studio Wayne McGregor, British Telecom, Adidas, Channel 4, Condé Nast, The Guardian, Hyundai, Liverpool FC, Marie Claire, Microsoft, The Sunday Times Magazine, Tesco, The Daily Telegraph, the Royal Society of Arts, Tate Britain and the Royal Opera House.

There is also a dedicated technical support team and exceptional facilities situated within the City Centre Campus. These include industry-standard photographic studios, darkrooms, television studios, editing suites, a giant green screen studio and an extensive Hires and Loans department.

We will help you to collaborate both within the University (for example, with the fashion, music, acting or product design courses) as well as externally, with live briefs for real clients. You will also have the opportunity to study abroad for part of the course, or to go on trips to destinations such as New York, Berlin and Paris.

We have exceptional levels of external engagement, with visiting lectures given by nationally and internationally-recognised photographers, as well as having numerous links with industry,



workshops, seminars, masterclasses, careers advice, portfolio reviews, mentorships and placements.

In an environment of imagination and experimentation, we will nurture your talent and help you to develop into an employable and creative photographer.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Photography	6	360
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Certificate of Higher Education Photography	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Photography	5	240
	Bachelor of Arts Photography	6	300

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	None

9 Delivery Pattern	Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)	
Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US0790	
Professional Placement	City Centre	4 years	US1352	
Year	_			

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a> , or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the LICAS website.

11	Course Learning Outcomes
1	Knowledge and Understanding
1.1	Describe and evaluate the critical, contextual and historical dimensions of photography.
1.2	Develop a high level of technical and practical skills in analogue and digital photographic image
	making and be able to creatively apply these.
1.3	Undertake research into photographic image making and its contexts, through the use of creative
	experimentation, academic rigour and critical analysis.
1.4	Develop multiple skills for employability and be working at a professional standard.
2	Cognitive and Intellectual Skills
2.1	The ability to source, synthesise and apply research and to develop and articulate ideas in
	practical, written and verbal forms.
2.2	Demonstrate critical and reflective analysis of their own practice and the work of appropriate
	photographic practitioners.
2.3	Demonstrate creative thinking skills and different approaches to solving problems.



2.4	Review, consolidate, and apply their knowledge in accordance with theories, discourse and concepts of photography.
3	Practical and Professional Skills
3.1	Generate a range of potential ideas and visual developments and apply this to the production of creative work.
3.2	Confidently apply appropriate practical and technical knowledge through a wide range of materials, tools, technologies and approaches to photography.
3.3	Explore the benefits of risk-taking, iterative failure and the possibilities found within innovative forms of cross-disciplinary activities
3.4	Synthesise theory and practice towards personal career ambitions and reflect upon their position within photography and related disciplines.
4	Key Transferable Skills
4.1	Manage own learning, including self-evaluation through reflection and take action that results in self-development
4.2	Employ negotiation, enterprise, planning, exhibition and presentation skills to a professional standard
4.3	Communicate ideas, information, problems and solutions in visual, written and oral forms.
4.4	Work effectively and efficiently, either autonomously or collaboratively.

12	<b>Course Requirements</b>
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#### 12a | Level 4:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
VIS4058	Introduction to Photography	20
VIS4047	Principles and Practice of Photography	40
VIS4046	Enterprise of Photography	20
VIS4041	Discourse	20

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
VIS4038	Narrative (Space and Place)	20
VIS4040	Narrative (Time and Sequence)	20
VIS4037	Narrative (Sound and Movement)	20
VIS4039	Narrative (Text and Image)	20
VIS4036	Narrative (People and Identity)	20

## Level 5:



In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
VIS5039	Context of Photography	40
VIS5041	Identifying Direction	40
ADM5001	Live Project	20

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ADM5000	Work Placement	20
ADM5006	Collaborative Practice	20

## Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
VIS6041	Advancing Practice	40
VIS6042	Independent Enquiry	20
VIS6039	Major Project	60



## 12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only as modules will only run if selected by 15 or more students. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

#### Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
<ul> <li>Introduction to Photography (20 credits)</li> <li>Principles and Practice of Photography (40 credits)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Enterprise of Photography (20 credits)</li> <li>Discourse (20 credits)</li> </ul>
Optional	Optional
No Optional Modules this Semester	<ul> <li>Narrative (Space and Place) (20 credits)</li> <li>Narrative (Time and Sequence) (20 credits)</li> <li>Narrative (Sound and Movement) (20 credits)</li> <li>Narrative (Text and Image) (20 credits)</li> <li>Narrative (People and Identity) (20 credits)</li> </ul>

## Level 5

Core	Core
<ul><li>Context of Photography (40 credits)</li><li>Live Project (20 credits)</li></ul>	Identifying Direction (40 credits)
Optional	Optional
No Optional Modules this Semester	<ul><li>Work Placement (20 credits)</li><li>Collaborative Practice (20 credits)</li></ul>

## Level 6

Core	Core
<ul><li>Advancing Practice (40 credits)</li><li>Independent Enquiry (20 credits)</li></ul>	Major Project (60 credits)



#### 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- Scheduled Learning includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- Private Study includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

#### Level 4

#### Workload

### % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	257
Directed Learning	703
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

## **Balance of Assessment**

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	

#### Level 5

## **Workload**

## % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	201
Directed Learning	759
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

## **Balance of Assessment**

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	66%
Exam	
In-Person	34%

#### Level 6



# **Workload**

## % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	89.5
Directed Learning	870.5
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

# **Balance of Assessment**

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	