

Art and Design

Applied AS/A Level

Edexcel

Structure & Specification

Year 1- Six units- Double Award AS GCE (8712)

Year 2- Six units- Double Award A2 GCE (9712)

Syllabus details

Edexcel 9712 syllabus is followed.

What does the course include?

This course is suitable if you are hoping to study art & design in higher education and eventually find a career in a branch of art or design. It will give you experience of a range of aspects of this subject intended to give you the practical skills, knowledge and experience which are important for further study.

The course includes work in 2D & 3D materials, visual language, visual communication, art & design appreciation, working to briefs, developing ideas and professional practice.

How will I learn?

You will have ten hours of lesson contact time a week and will be expected to do a minimum of a further six hours of independent study. You are also expected to attend Thursday evening life drawing classes for six weeks to improve your observational drawing skills and to enrich your portfolio. You will have four different teachers. During your lessons you will be set various practical assignments to heighten your awareness of different aspects of art & design and the opportunities and possibilities they present. The assignments will involve such things as experimenting with materials, the use of the formal elements of visual language, researching and developing ideas and meeting the requirements of various briefs. You will use sketchbooks as well as larger pieces of paper to record your research and exploratory work. You will study the work of other artists through slide presentations, organised visits to galleries and by using the Learning Resource Centre for independent study. You will take part in student presentations of work and group discussion. As the course progresses you will build a portfolio of work which will be essential when you apply to higher education.

How will my work be assessed?

You will be assessed entirely on coursework assignments but some of the assignments will be set by the examination board. The work you do will contribute to units which will cover the many different aspects of the course and each assignment may contribute to several units. Six units are covered at AS and six at A2. Higher standards of work are required at A2 to reflect the way you have developed.

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

You need a strong interest in art & design together with good drawing skills and imagination. You must be prepared to try new ideas and to develop your skills at using a wide range of materials and techniques covering many aspects of art & design. You must be willing to study and analyse the work and ideas of other artists and designers and you must be good at having ideas of your own.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need 5 GCSEs at grades A-C. Normally a minimum of grade C in GCSE Art or a similar subject is needed to be successful but an exception will be made at the discretion of the art teachers where you can demonstrate ability in art or design.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

This course will enable you to build the portfolio of work needed to gain entry to university or employment in areas related to art, design, architecture and media studies.