

A Level Photography:

Art is a primarily practical course that develops several skills, two of which are your observation and analysis skills. There are lots of opportunities to experiment and work in the way that you want to, and the course offers a certain level of freedom. You will have the chance to explore a range of photographers and artists as well as developing your own skills and style.

What To expect:

A Level photography is a two-year course involving two components.

Component 1: Personal Investigation (coursework worth 60%) Component 2: Externally set assignment (exam worth 40%)

Year 1: complete initial project to develop skills, techniques and establish understanding of expectations.

Begin Coursework project.

Year 2:

September- February: Complete coursework including essay and final piece. February- May: Complete exam unit and 15 hour exam.

Expectations:

A Level photography is a very independently led course with you coming up with ideas and choosing your own personal theme for your coursework project.

It is a demanding course and requires you to think more in depth about your own work demonstrating an analytical and practical understanding.

You will need to use your study periods wisely and will be expected to find your own photographers and artists to inspire your work.

Job Prospects:

- Advertising art director.
- Film/video editor.
- Graphic designer.
- Magazine features editor.
- Medical illustrator.
- · Photographer.
- Press photographer.
- Television camera operator.

And many more....

Areas of study

Students are required to work in **one or more** area(s) of photography, such as those listed below. They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas:

- portraiture
- landscape photography (working from the urban, rural and/or coastal environment)
- still life photography (working from objects or from the natural world)
- documentary photography, photojournalism
- fashion photography
- experimental imagery
- multimedia
- photographic installation
- moving image (video, film, animation).

Skills and techniques

Students will be expected to demonstrate skills, as defined in <u>Overarching knowledge</u>, <u>understanding and skills</u>, in the context of their chosen area(s) of photography. Students will be required to demonstrate skills in all of the following:

- the ability to explore elements of visual language, line, form, colour, pattern and texture in the context of photography
- awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of photography
- the ability to respond to an issue, theme, concept or idea, or work to a brief or answer a need in photography
- appreciation of viewpoint, composition, aperture, depth of field, shutter speed and movement
- appropriate use of the camera, film, lenses, filters and lighting for work in their chosen area(s) of photography
- understanding of techniques related to the production of photographic images and, where appropriate, presentation and layout.

Knowledge and understanding

Students must show knowledge and understanding of:

- relevant materials, processes, technologies and resources
- how ideas, feelings and meanings can be conveyed and interpreted in images and artefacts created in their chosen area(s) of photography
- historical and contemporary developments and different styles and genres
- how images and artefacts relate to social, environmental, cultural and/or ethical contexts, and to the time and place in which they were created
- continuity and change in different styles, genres and traditions relevant to photography
- a working vocabulary and specialist terminology that is relevant to their

Summer Homework Task for A-Level Photography Students

Task 1: Research Slide on Photographer Anthony Ryan Schmidt

Instructions for creating a good research slide:

- 1. Provide an introduction to Anthony Ryan Schmidt, including his full name, nationality, and photography style.
- 2. Discuss Schmidt's background, education, and notable achievements.
- 3. Explore Schmidt's photography style, techniques, and recurring themes.
- 4. Highlight his major projects or series and their significance.
- 5. Investigate the influences and inspirations behind Schmidt's work.
- 6. Discuss the impact of his photography and any recognition received.
- 7. Include credible sources and references for further exploration.

Task 2: False Perspective Photoshoot

Instructions:

- 1. Use toys or household items to create false perspective effects in the style of the artist.
- 2. Use a camera phone or any available camera to capture the photographs.
- 3. Experiment with angles, compositions, and placements for engaging shots.
- 4. Capture a series of photographs (30-50) showcasing false perspective.
- 5. Select the best images and create a contact sheet on a slide.

Task 3: Contrast and Brightness Editing

Instructions:

- 1. Choose the three best images from the false perspective photoshoot.
- 2. Use image editing software to enhance contrast and brightness. (This could just be the photo app on your phone).
- 3. Experiment with settings to make the images visually striking.
- 4. Save edited versions and retain original files for comparison.
- 5. Create a slide showcasing the original and edited versions side by side.

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