

Photography A level



Hertswood

Why take this subject?

The subject of Alevel Photography here at Hertswood Academy is devoted to promoting a love of creativity and artistic freedom. We want to equip students with the skills they need to not only succeed in their photographic examinations but also throughout their lives further on from education. Students learn to give and receive critical analysis of work, they are exposed to iconic photographic moments that have shaped our Nation's history and current social climate, they learn to experiment and take risks in order to refine and present their visual creations.

What do I need to have studied in year 11?

- You must have at least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5 including English and Maths
- At least a Grade 6 in Photography or Art.

What will we study?

During the first year of this Alevel students will learn to build on the knowledge learned at GCSE level to make up the foundations of photography (Unit 1). Students will learn to understand their rights as a photographer, copyright laws, the anatomy of a camera and how to apply key terminology to explain their photoshoots. They will be introduced to a theme called Fragments which they will respond to creatively. This first year will enable students to express themselves with confidence as we progress into the second year of study.

The second year of photography will see students use the knowledge and skills they have gained and apply these to a theme that is externally set by the exam board. This exciting time will see photographers research, discover and be inspired by new ideas to form a personal and meaningful response in the form of a sketchbook and a final piece.

How will I be examined?

Unit	Assessment	Weighting
Unit 1: Building foundations Personal Study Essay Fragments theme response	Examination (15 hr)	60%
Unit 2: Response to externally set theme by the exam board.	Examination (15 hr)	40%

What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

All photography students are welcomed on a group trip to Kew Gardens to explore the Fragments of Nature and to begin to use their camera. We also run a trip to "The Print Space" in Londo so that students can witness professional photographic printing first hand along with photographic galleries such as the Photographers Gallery and the Tate.

What can this subject lead to?

Our aim is to prepare students for a wide range of further education options from a degree in Photography, to an apprenticeship at a photographic printing firm. Students will receive a clear understanding of requirements by many University courses and professional careers and by the end of the course they should be well equipped to understand and make judgments on what their future may look like.

Subject Specification

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>