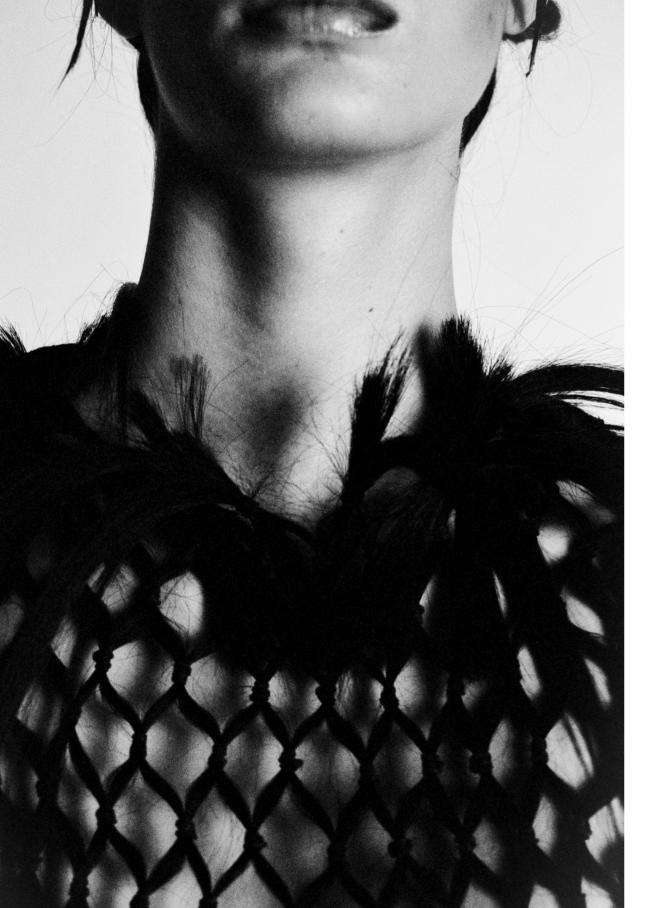
# CREATIVITY FOR A CHANGING WORLD. **Undergraduate & Postgraduate** Prospectus 2025/26



An arts university doing things differently, since 1856.

Welcome to the Undergraduate & Postgraduate Prospectus 2025/26

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# Welcome to Arts University Plymouth

#### Creative Education for a Changing World

Our vision for Arts University Plymouth is a new kind of art school for the 21st century, preparing graduates who are uniquely placed to provide creative solutions to the complex global challenges of our times.

Established in 1856, we are proud to be the Arts University in Plymouth, Britain's Ocean City.

Our university is widely regarded as a catalyst for individual, societal and ecological transformation, and we continually strive to deliver innovative and distinctive learning, teaching and research through our unique interdisciplinary ecosystem of materials, processes, technologies and knowledge exchange. All of this is wrapped within a city that is brimming with creative confidence and cultural opportunities, nestled between the wild beauty of the Atlantic Ocean and Dartmoor.

"In an age defined by increasing alienation from the natural world, our research and expertise in materials is the creative knowledge we can apply to support the health and well-being of the planet and society."

Our strategy, Creative Education for a Changing World, will ensure that our work is energised and designed to meet the ambitions of students and staff, while acknowledging the shifting realm of creativity through new technologies and the workplaces of tomorrow.

Above all, we consider our approach as a partnership with our students in the development of their ambitions as confident, highly employable creative practitioners. All of this provides the substance for a new way of doing things, albeit with a pedigree stretching back over 165 years.

Atmosphere is a hard thing to put into words, so I hope you visit us and witness first hand why our students voted us the top arts university in 2022 and 2023 for student satisfaction.

Vice-Chancellor

**Professor Paul Fieldsend-Danks** 



## **Open Days**

Our Open Days offer you, your friends and family an opportunity to visit Plymouth, meet and chat with our friendly course leaders as well as our Student Ambassadors. During your visit, you'll have the opportunity to tour our facilities, check out student accommodation and discuss your best study options with our team.

Head to our website for more information on booking your place for one of our Open Days or events, arranging a campus tour or a portfolio review.

After booking your place at aup.ac.uk/open-days you'll receive the latest updates, travel support and schedules before you arrive. You're also welcome to turn up on the day without booking.

In addition, we offer a series of bespoke events, both in-person and online, throughout the year covering a range of themes, including:

- Accommodation
- Individual course talks
- Personal statement and application advice
- · Portfolio advice
- · Preparing for student life
- · Student finance
- · Parents' guide to university



## A letter from Beth Evans, your Student Union President

Hi! My name is Beth and I'm the Student Union President at Arts University Plymouth. I'm here to represent and empower you, the student body, both at Student Voice and on Boards and Committees. Alongside being the Student Union President, I'm a writer and installation artist. I graduated from BA (Hons) Fine Art in 2023.

The Students' Union is here to support and represent you and your voice throughout your studies. Essentially, we're here to ensure that you have the best student experience possible! There are lots of ways we do this, including having an elected Student Union Executive Committee, a Student Union Food Bank, which also supplies free period products, and running a range of events, fundraising activities and student art fairs.

As Student Union President, I support your student-led clubs, societies and groups which include everything from LGBTQ+ Society to Zine Club. These groups offer opportunities to find people from outside of your subject area with similar interests, and have led to amazing collaborative work as well as some fun socials in the SU Bar.

Find out more through our website artsuniplymsu.co.uk or by following us online @artsuniplymsu and, of course, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to drop us an email studentsunion@aup.ac.uk

That's it from me, good luck on this exciting journey, and we hope to see you at the SU soon!

#### **Beth Evans**

Student Union President and Student Governor (They/Them)



## Our campus

We offer the richest, most diverse ecosystem of materials, technologies, processes, practices, and exchange of ideas at any arts university in the UK. Find us at the edge of the ocean, at the centre of creative teaching and research, and right by your side.

More than 13,000 square metres of studios and workshops across six buildings are filled with professional workspaces and state-of-the-art facilities. Our city-centre campus, home to over 1,000 student artists, designers and makers, serves as a thriving creative hub of collaboration and innovation, thinking and making. In this close-knit community, artists, designers and makers come together to explore and experiment with processes and materials, both contemporary and traditional.

Workshops within our specialist studios are open to students across all specialisms. Fashion designers collaborate with filmmakers, fine artists with photographers, animators with ceramicists. The opportunities for collaboration and exchange are limitless, awaiting your discovery.

Our academic and technical staff are active thinkers, writers and creative practitioners. Engaging with external partners is a crucial aspect of your educational journey, offering you direct experience in the creative industries and cultural sectors. This could involve live projects with national brands, placements, internships, volunteering.

The university actively encourages you to use areas and communal spaces to curate and exhibit work collaboratively or individually and in various 2D, 3D, 4D and digital formats.

Becoming part of our interdisciplinary learning community offers you a diverse and challenging environment in which to develop your thinking and practice.



## **Space to make**

## Open Access and Specialist Studios

Our specialist studios are openaccess resources that support your learning and facilitate skill acquisition in response to your ideas and research. During your time at the university you'll frequently work in a studiobased environment supported by an exciting and diverse range of facilities. Each space offers inductions and skill-specific workshops that encourage exploration and choice, as you engage with materials, processes and their applications. Our aim is to enable flexibility and mobility towards cross-disciplinary exchange at all levels.

We value experimentation across both traditional processes and new and emerging technologies. You will be immersed in a creative environment that offers a menu of curiosity across a wide range of analogue and digital opportunities.

## Cross-university Specialist Studios

Here are just a few of the resources that you'll have open access to, through regular inductions and specialist workshop sessions.

- Fab Lab research, development, digital design technologies:
   3D printing, 3D scanning, vinyl cutting, CNC milling, CNC routing and laser cutting
- Fabric Studio dyeing, sewing, cutting, tufting, knitting, embroidery, millinery, textile silk screening, digital embroidery and sublimation printing
- Imprint Studio drawing, monoprinting, etching, engraving, intaglio, silkscreening, lithography, letterpressing and our Digital Print Bureau
- Material Studio ceramic, hot glass, coldworking, architectural glass, plaster, metal, wood and plastic

 Multimedia Studio darkroom, specialist darkroom, scanning darkroom, rostrum, Steenbeck, green screen, lighting, sound, media studios, edit suites, infinity cove, interactive media and our Equipment Resource Centre

#### **Workshop Wednesdays**

Alongside your curriculum timetable, you'll be encouraged to choose from a selection of optional extra workshops that give you a chance to engage in broader learning opportunities at the university, encounter unfamiliar technical processes or strengthen existing skills.

#### **Make Space Studios**

Our 300m<sup>2</sup> Make Space Studios accommodate a range of creative projects from life drawing to large-scale installation work. You will be supported by experienced academic and technical staff who will help and guide you in the latest processes, techniques and methodologies.





#### **Digital Education**

Arts University Plymouth has a rich, resource-intensive online environment to support and enhance the learning experience of all its students. Our online infrastructure is designed for accessibility on both mobile and non-mobile devices, catering to all our students' diverse learning needs and requirements.

We have carefully curated our digital learning environment with user-friendly and accessible tools hosted through Google Apps for Education. All students have access to Google Drive cloud storage and many other applications, including Google Docs, Slides and Sheets which interface with each other. This allows you to work and study easily from wherever you are, on almost any device. Students are also given free access to the Microsoft Office Suite for home and onsite use. When onsite, you will have access to Adobe Creative Cloud in our IT suites and local resources in the baseroom of your course. Each course has access to dedicated industrystandard software to help you develop future employability skills.

At the heart of our digital ecosystem is the Student Portal, which is home to a wealth of information and resources to support you during your time at Arts University Plymouth. As well as a large collection of videos, downloadable guides and information, the Student Portal is also where you will find information from the Student Support team about learning support and wellbeing. Our campus app is another tool you can use to stay up to date with the latest news. It will also give you quick access to all your learning tools; information from all our important systems and platforms; and updates on competitions, on-campus events and job opportunities.

## Core software for Learning & Teaching

All modules and units have a dedicated space within our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to provide quick access to relevant information, resources, assessment and learning materials. Importantly, our VLE is used for discussion and engagement, allowing you to stay part of our community wherever

you are studying. Our VLE can also be accessed through a range of handy mobile apps, integrating the important tools and programmes you need, giving you easy access whenever you need it. We use additional digital tools to help you stay engaged with your studies. One of these is Padlet, a great tool for online co-creation and the sharing of ideas that supports engagement and development of concepts.

At Arts University Plymouth we are always working to improve our digital infrastructure, ensuring you get the best academic experience possible. We keep up to date with emerging digital trends in education and the creative arts, which means we often take part in exciting and innovative research projects.

#### Library

Our library provides students with a variety of spaces for both collaborative work and quiet study. The library collection is focused on art, design and media and has been created to support you while studying, with both the breadth and depth that you will need during your

course. The space has a wealth of resources, including physical and digital books and journals, a DVD and digital video collection, databases and an independent publishing collection.

In the library we have a dedicated IT suite consisting of iMacs and PCs for our students. To support academic referencing all students have access to Paperpile - our digital reference manager, and Turnitin. The Academic Skills team, who are based in the library, can provide advice and guidance on a variety of academic topics, including time management, critical thinking, academic reading, writing and much more, with bookable one-to-one sessions as well as group sessions available.

#### Careers Service & Enterprise Team

You begin your creative career the moment you step into university. We encourage students to think for themselves as professional practitioners from day one. Whatever you wish to do, we can support you during your study and help you to fulfil your career aspirations.

We offer you the opportunity to embark on an ambitious journey of self-discovery, professional development and business awareness, to enable you to use your practice as a springboard to an exciting career in the creative industries anywhere in the world.

As you progress through your studies you will be supported by a dedicated Careers service to continue into employment, professional practice or further study. Alongside taught sessions and one-to-one tutorial support, you will be provided with a wealth of supporting material including online toolkits, curated reading lists and career-planning tools. The Careers service and Enterprise team can also help with CVs and cover letters, job applications, interview skills, industry experience, work placements, live briefs and commissions with employers, personal branding and marketing skills, and business planning and financial advice. Our high-quality service is accredited by AGCAS (Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services).

## **Distance Learning**

Discover Distance Learning with a difference and join a truly global community of creative learners. Starting each January, these degrees are designed to kickstart your career in the creative industries. You will complete an accelerated and intensive first year online - at home, in a studio space local to you, or at our international host institution in Shanghai, China. You'll then join us on campus to complete your second and third years in Plymouth, immersing yourself in our rich array of facilities and collaborating in person with your peers.

Whether you're a local applicant rethinking plans to leave the South West for your degree, a mature learner returning to education from the workplace or an international student looking to save costs — our flexible distance learning provision will ensure you achieve your ambitions without disruption. Together we're redefining the arts university experience for the digital age, preparing students for success in a rapidly evolving society and job market.

As part of our January-start cohort, you will complete your first year remotely by July, allowing you to take a summer break before you continue with the second year of your degree at our city-centre Plymouth campus, in late September.

#### **Our Distance Learning courses:**

BA (Hons) Commercial Photography BA (Hons) Fashion Design BA (Hons) Fashion Media & Marketing BA (Hons) Graphic Design BA (Hons) Illustration BA (Hons) Interior Design & Styling

#### What will I study?

The first year of each BA (Hons)
January-start degree consists of
four online modules, delivered
to the same quality as the
university's on-campus degrees.
You can expect tailored support
from a team of expert academics
and technicians, helping you to
make full use of the virtual-learning
environment to collaborate,
communicate and co-create with
peers.

#### How does it work?

Distance Learning does not mean you'll be studying in isolation - in fact, it's quite the opposite. You will be working with students from the UK and around the world, fostering new friendships and networks and developing your practice informed by a transcultural education.

In your first year of study you'll be expected to attend approximately twelve hours per week of face-to-face online teaching by video call. Alongside teaching sessions, you will also engage in negotiated group work, personal practice, academic study and extracurricular activities, all supported by a team of highly experienced academics.

#### What can I access?

You'll gain access to all of our UK campus-based services including Student Support, Careers, Library and Academic Skills teams.

ensuring you can gain personalised advice on welfare, finances, English language support, time management, IT and access to resources (including an online database of e-journals, research papers, films and more).

As an Arts University Plymouth Distance Learning student, if you are based in the UK you will not have access to our specialist workshops and studios until your second and third year, these workshops are not essential to succeed on the distance learning courses. If you are an international student, you may also be able to access facilities at your dedicated host institution (e.g Artslink, Shanghai, China). Once you are based in the UK in your second and third year, you will benefit from the use of our state-of-the-art facilities on our thriving creative campus near the sea.



## JOIN A COMMUNITY OF **OVER 1.000 STUDENTS PURSUING SPECIALIST** CREATIVE DEGREES.

Top 10 - Ranked in the top 10 universities in the Complete University Guide's Arts. Drama & Music League Table 2024.



Arts University Plymouth was the highest scoring arts university in the UK in 5 of the 7 categories of the National Student Survey (NSS) 2023, including teaching and learning resources.

BEST SMALL OR SPECIALIST INSTITUTION IN

THE UK - WHATUNI

STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS 2022



**SECOND BEST** SMALL OR SPECIALIST **INSTITUTION IN** THE UK - WHATUNI STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS 2023.

**Arts University Plymouth** has been awarded **Teaching Excellence** Framework (TEF) by the Office for Students, a distinction that is valid until 2027.



3.5 million jobs supported by the UK creative industries.

93% of 16-18 year olds report that studying a creative subject has a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing.





13,200 visitors to our public gallery every year, showcasing contemporary visual art.



Rented accommodation in Plymouth is on average 66% cheaper than in London.



workers are highly resistant to the risk of losing their role to automation in future.



Founded in 1856, Arts University Plymouth is over 165 years old.



THE VALUE OF THE UK'S **CREATIVE INDUSTRIES** IS OVER £100 BILLION.



87% of creative industry





We achieved 87% student satisfaction for our teaching, which includes staff who are good at explaining things, staff who make the subject engaging, courses that are intellectually stimulating, courses that challenge students to achieve their best work (NSS 2023).



Opportunities to engage with more than 125 art and creative industry institutions worldwide



**Plymouth is consistently** ranked among the top 20 safest cities in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. **Plymouth** was named as the UK's top city for nightlife for young adults.





## Tea leaves & Tasseography Textiles — Meet Becky Dodman Wainwright

Becky Dodman Wainwright, **Lecturer in Textile Design at Arts University Plymouth, specialises** in colour theory, machine knitting, tapestry weaving and tufting. She also works with locally-sourced, natural dyes, fabrics and materials.

As well as being part of Arts University Plymouth's impressive academic team (and one of our MA Textile Design graduates), Becky is a multidisciplinary textile designer and artist with a colourful and bold style, whose work has been featured in The Sunday Times, VICE, Selvedge, and New York's Talking Textile Magazine.

#### Can you tell us about your personal practice and what 'Tasseography Textiles' means?

Recently my personal practice has involved using yarn to weave the tea leaves and choose colours with design plans for tufted pieces or tapestries to choose between.

I've created woven or tufted textile artworks for the first 60 ways to remove myself from the process by teaching tapestry weaving to small groups and empowering others to use weaving as a self-expression tool. While I was working on my MA I identified the main question that frames my work and research - how can I create an environment to pass on my skills and give others the confidence to create in the same



machine knitting?



## What was it that attracted you to traditional weaving, given that you previously specialised in

Modern professional life can have a hectic pace. Sometimes vou're working towards long-term goals of, but when you're weaving a tapestry on a smaller scale there's Sustainability is a very active a defined beginning, middle and end. Honestly, I feel like weaving is conducive to happiness. Sitting practice that creates time to plan for the future while you're engaged Trust and Poole Farm, to our in the pure enjoyment of making.

#### Why is colour so important to you and is your love of colour something that you share with students?

Sharing the exuberance of colour has been a lifelong obsession of mine! There's some really compelling research around the ways that colour can enhance or dampen our mood, the psychology of colour and the ways that people respond to colour in different spaces. Bright, bold colours are known to stimulate the release of dopamine in the brain, which we associate with positive emotions such as joy and happiness.

We have some fantastic technicians at Arts University Plymouth who teach the practical watercolours. I like to challenge

students to think about the psychology of colour and to identify ways that colour can be used to appeal to different audiences.

#### How do you balance your love of bright colours with the need to work sustainably?

conversation when we talk about textiles at Arts University Plymouth. From our sustainable dye garden, created in collaboration with the National natural dye workshops, we're all keenly aware of the impact of the textile industry on the environment and enjoyable. For me, the act and always working to reduce the impact that we have. Sometimes this might mean selecting natural dye over artificial chemicals; sometimes that means shifting our focus from textiles that look stunning when they're brand new to intentionally designing things that will age well.

Personally. I'm drawn to very bright, vibrant colours, some of which we can achieve naturally and some we can't manage yet, so processes and think about I try to be pragmatic. I use locally sourced varns from Axminster to create large scale tapestries in my own practice, reducing my carbon footprint by choosing yarn that I know has been dyed in the same county that I'm working in, not imported from somewhere half the planet away. I'm always looking for practical ways to be

more sustainable and that's the conversation that I have with students. We teach students to always strive to improve and make better choices, but to find ways to achieve the outcome that matches their dream.

#### Why should someone considering a career in textiles study at Arts **University Plymouth?**

Everyone has their own unique creative practice and students come to study textiles at Arts University Plymouth for all kinds of different reasons, but I think that the most important reason is choosing a path that's fulfilling of creating tapestries is about storytelling, the sharing of ideas and developing community. I found a way to make my personal creative practice sustainable and I want to help students to do the same.

We set dynamic briefs that allow students to define their own pathways through print, knit. tufting and stitch, to explore textiles, test out concepts and outcomes for interior spaces or fashion to visual art practices. It's all about acquiring new skills and finding a career path that you'll enjoy. We try to operate a really friendly, colourful and welcoming textile studio, because the better you feel about coming in to university, the better the work you'll produce.

85% of our graduates who responded to the 2020/21 Graduate Outcomes survey were employed or in further study (HESA/OfS)

## Meet the graduates



Suki Dhanda's portraits for The Observer and The Guardian include Sir David Attenborough, Rihanna, and Yoko Ono. She has gained a reputation as one of London's leading portrait photographers, and returned to Arts University Plymouth where she began her photography journey, with an exhibition entitled 'Race, Place & Diversity by the Seaside'.

"The university is there for you to use facilities, explore your ideas, and discuss projects with lecturers - it all helps guide you towards finding vour own direction. But it's really important for students to make some connection within the creative industry while they are studying. too. If you are resilient and talented enough, the transition from student to working will be easier. Being savvy with social media, particularly Instagram, is also beneficial. There's a lot of competition out there and you really have to believe in yourself and be prepared to work that extra bit harder to be seen and heard." Graduated from BA (Hons) Photography in 1992

sukidhanda.com sukidhanda



## Senior Artist, Industrial Light &

Henry South has worked on some of the biggest blockbusters to hit our screens in the past decade. Often working as a texture artist and sculptor for 3D modelling and character designs, Henry's past roles have included Technical Animator, Character Artist. **Environment Artist and Senior** Texture Artist. He has worked on titles such as Guardians of the Galaxy, Doctor Strange, Gravity, Avengers: Endgame, Star Wars: The Last Jedi and Jurassic World.

"The university was great and it had a vibrant, creative atmosphere that allowed me to find out what I was good at, but more importantly what avenue of art I wanted to pursue. Discovering 3D modelling at the university opened the door to films, games and mediums that I had never given any thought to. Leaving after the Foundation Diploma and the BA degree, I was set to walk into my Masters in animation in Vancouver." Graduated from BA (Hons) Photomedia & Design Communication in 2007

IMDD search Henry South



#### **TOM OLDHAM Portrait Photographer**

Tom has worked as a freelance photographer for over two decades. Specialising in portraiture, he has photographed musicians, sports stars, politicians and celebrities across the nation and worldwide, as well as being a brand ambassador for Hasselblad. Some of his most famous subjects include Dave Grohl, José Mourinho, Usain Bolt, Nick Cave, Jeremy Corbyn MP and Noel Gallagher. Other clients include the BBC, Huawei, Paddy Power, Samsung, Vivo and Virgin.

"When I was looking at where to study. I didn't feel ready to tackle London to be honest. I just wanted to knuckle down quietly and get on with it, which was completely what Arts University Plymouth enabled me to do. It had fantastic facilities, obviously great staff and it felt right for what I needed. It was a really obvious choice for me.

"The fact that now I've met some of the people I have is a constant surprise for me, I'm from this small village in Dorset, and to be recognised by someone like Usain Bolt and to photograph Robin Williams is a really nice moment." Completed ND Photography in 1994

tomoldham.com @tommyophoto

#### **STEFANI NURDING** Skater, Designer and CEO

CEO and professional skateboarder Stefani Nurding has worked with brands including Vans, Animal and Sainsburys. Inspiring girls around the globe, she has been at the forefront of Devon's skateboarding scene since she was 18. Stefani organised a local charity event to raise funds for Skateistan, a charity that uses skateboarding as a hook to provide educational opportunities for at-risk youths in Afghanistan, Cambodia and South Africa.

"The biggest achievement of my time studving was our final fashion show. because it really brought everyone together and while everyone was studying individually and studying really hard, everyone just came together and made it happen. That was a really good feeling being part of the team.

"Before I founded my company, Salon, I noticed that there were not a lot of companies within skateboarding that were representing women and when they were, they were never representing feminine women. And so I felt like that was me."

Graduated from BA (Hons) Fashion in 2014

salonskateboards.com

@stefaninurdingxx





## From Plymouthborn student to international illustrator — Meet Jack Viant

Drawing success – Jack Viant on life as an Illustrator and Lecturer

Jack Viant is a BA (Hons)
Illustration Lecturer at Arts
University Plymouth, as well as
being an acclaimed illustrator and
designer specialising in children's
illustration.

Jack is published by Bloomsbury, Miles Kelly, Hachette and Oxford University Press, and is represented by the Bright Agency. He's also a First-Class graduate who chose an Illustration degree with us after attending a summer school in 2011.

We caught up with Jack to find out what his journey looked like from student to professional illustrator, why he loves working with local businesses and what it was like to be headhunted by one of the world's most respected creative agencies.

How has our university changed your life?

I'm Arts University Plymouth's number one cheerleader! I've studied and worked at the university in one way or another for at least the past decade and I'm thrilled to come full circle and share my experience with students. As a teenager, I lost all confidence during my time at school, but after I joined Arts University Plymouth I felt it reawakening.

What would you say to somebody thinking about studying at an arts university?

I can't recommend learning a creative skill at degree level highly enough. In my second year of BA (Hons) Illustration I was selected for an industry placement at the children's department in Hallmark and it was a game changer.

I might have spent months on a project as a student, but at Hallmark they'd ask me to create ten designs every day and I rose to the challenge, illustrating pirates, dinosaurs, monsters... It was really fulfilling.

What sort of work were you offered when you first graduated? My first big commission was to brand Supha's Street Food

Emporium in Plymouth. Later I

commission from Capstone. Then I was working for a Korean publisher. Then Noodle Juice. And then I worked on a series of four books for Hachette. Then Miles Kelly... It

Within weeks I had my first

was an intensely creative period. I worked on hundreds of illustrations, pop-up books, board books, picture books, insects, pirates, prehistoric creatures. One of the projects that I'm most proud of is The Monster Who Was Scared of Soap, a Bloomsbury book written by Amy Sparkes.

## How did you get signed by one of the world's most respected creative agencies? How did you come full circle and return to BA (Hons) Illustration as a Lecturer? When a position as Lecturer on

Alongside illustration I discovered that I had a passion for teaching. While I was pursuing a teaching qualification in my free time. I began creating illustration and design work for Dynamo Limited, specialising in delivering illustrations to meet challenging deadlines. Ever since graduating I'd posted regularly on social media, to ensure that the work I was doing was visible. Which is how the Bright Agency found me. They're a global agency, based in New York, who represent some of my favourite illustrators, and they emailed to say they'd be interested in representing me. I was overjoyed!

worked with Urban Splash to help

Giant Squid in Royal William Yard.

designing activity packs for children.

collaborated with often returned for

more projects, providing a stable

foundation in my early career.

bring to life the Squiggly Wiggly

It's an honour to have my work

prominently displayed in the city

where I live. The organisations I

with teaching students how to become illustrators. I aim to help students learn from my experiences, so they can graduate with realistic expectations of themselves and their future careers. I want to empower students to look at what they want and how to get there, but also how to engage in work that is fulfilling and will ultimately become sustainable.

BA (Hons) Illustration came up, I

practice by balancing illustration

felt qualified and ready to unify my



Undergraduate & Postgraduate Prospectus 2025/26



## A city of creativity



Our campus is situated in the heart of a vibrant cultural quarter of Plymouth, adjacent to The Box and numerous other emerging art spaces and studios. With its picturesque surroundings, Plymouth is home to over 20,000 students and offers a blend of inspiration and culture.

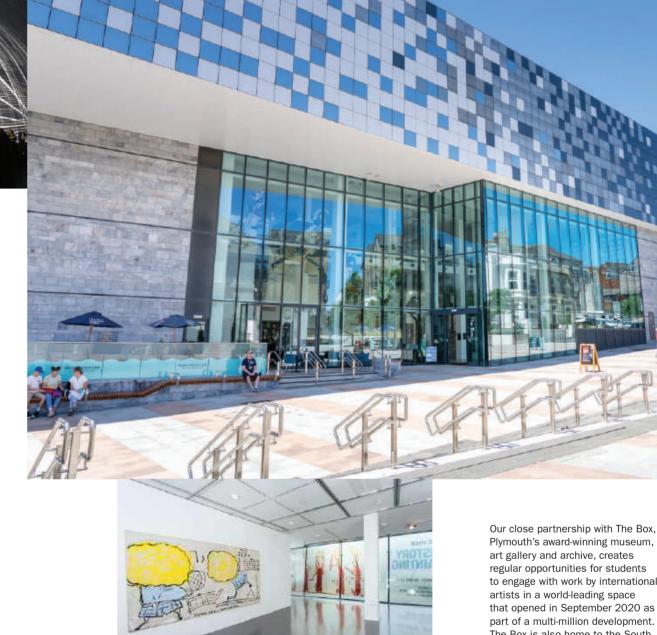
Plymouth effortlessly fuses music, art, and film in contemporary arts venues like KARST, as well as our own gallery, MIRROR, and Plymouth Arts Cinema, both on campus. We actively participate in an intergenerational placemaking project which is transforming Plymouth into the regional capital of visual arts – a transformation supported by investment from Arts Council England.

Across the city, you'll find lively music venues, thriving DIY creative communities and community-driven enterprises. The £7.2 million rejuvenation of Devonport's Market Hall, led by one of our close parters, Real Ideas Organisation, has established a digital centre for the arts, complete with a groundbreaking 15-metre immersive dome.

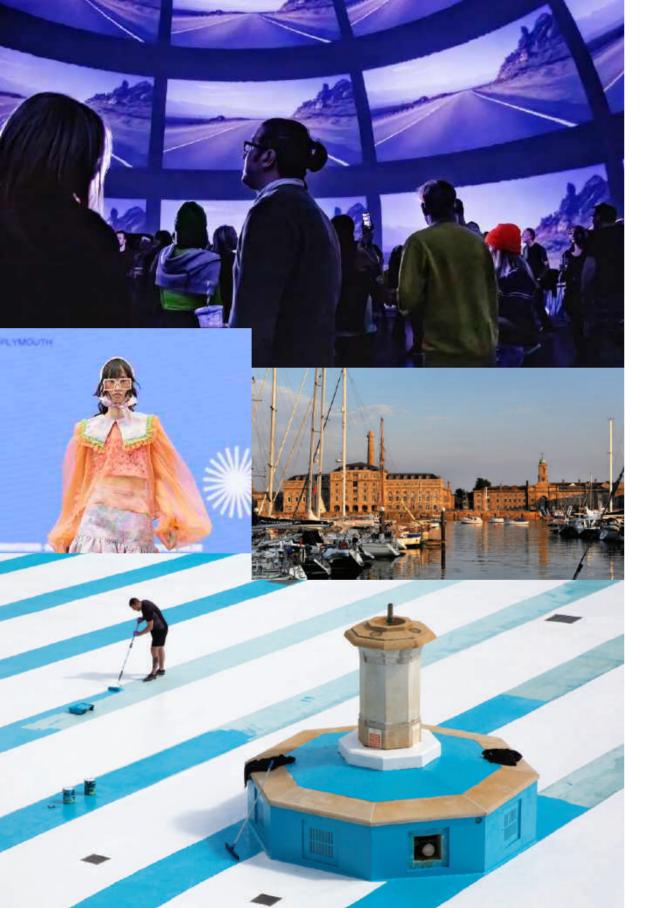
Plymouth has proudly hosted renowned national events like British Art Show 9, featuring artists such as Michael Armitage and Alberta Whittle. MIRROR played host to the show alongside our city partners. Other artists who have presented their work at MIRROR include Martin Parr and Rose Wylie, Across Plymouth, creative events and exhibitions such as The Atlantic Project, Plymouth Art Weekender and Rebel Film Festival have welcomed internationally renowned names to the city, including Oscar-winning filmmaker Mia Bays, Ryoji Ikeda and Postcommodity collective.

The Box, adjacent to our campus, is a hub of art and history, recently awarded the 2022 European Museum of the Year Special Commendation, Ocean Studios in Royal William Yard provides a nurturing space for collaboration and workshops, fostering a thriving community of creative businesses.

The city's artistic spirit is vividly embodied by Theatre Royal Plymouth, the UK's largest and most attended regional producing theatre. Our strong relationship with the theatre provides opportunities for collaborations and industry experience - it is currently the venue for our graduation ceremonies.



Plymouth's award-winning museum, art gallery and archive, creates regular opportunities for students to engage with work by international artists in a world-leading space that opened in September 2020 as part of a multi-million development. The Box is also home to the South West Film & Television Archive. In 2024 we will be launching our new MA Museum Studies in partnership with The Box, offering a unique opportunity to reimagine the role of the museum within contemporary socio-political debates.



Whether you're an avid hiker, wild swimmer, paddleboarding enthusiast, cyclist or someone who enjoys being out and about in nature, Plymouth has something for you. From coastal views that take your breath away on the iconic Plymouth Hoe to the idyllic Dartmoor National Park, the natural beauty here is a constant source of inspiration for emerging and established artists alike.

As well as being a gateway to nature, Plymouth offers the vibrancy of city life. The city hosts events all year round, including annual spectacles like the British Firework Championships, lively festivals on the Hoe, and local markets such as Native Makers. Additionally, Plymouth Pavilions also offers a wide variety of music and comedy nights.

In addition to the wealth of things to do, Plymouth boasts a variety of food and drink options for any budget. Explore a wide array of award-winning local and independent bars, cafés and restaurants, where you can enjoy delicious meals and create unforgettable memories throughout the seasons.

Plymouth, with its green spaces and historic architecture, is where inspiration, creativity, and adventure meet, offering a vibrant student experience like no other.

Student work: Molly Adlington, BA (Hons) Fashion and Matt Marshall, BA (Hons) Commercial Photography

Image (top): Students benefit from our new industry partnership with Real Ideas, gaining access to Europe's first immersive 15m dome, which features an impressive 19.1 speaker system and 360-degree visuals and is compatible with virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), mixed reality, animation, games software, 360 recorded and live-action content.

# **Beyond Plymouth**

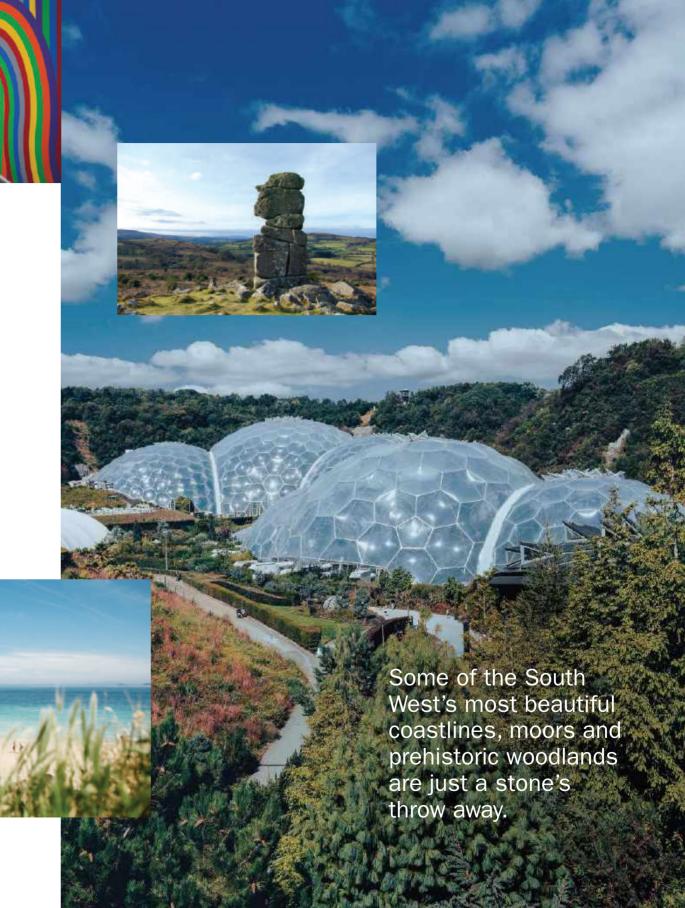
Some of the South West's most beautiful coastlines, moors and prehistoric woodlands are just a stone's throw away, as well as exciting creative hubs where you can discover independent shops and cafes, exhibition spaces and more.

From Plymouth, take a foot ferry over to the gardens of Cornwall's Mount Edgcumbe, or swim and sunbathe on the beaches of Kingsand and Cawsand.

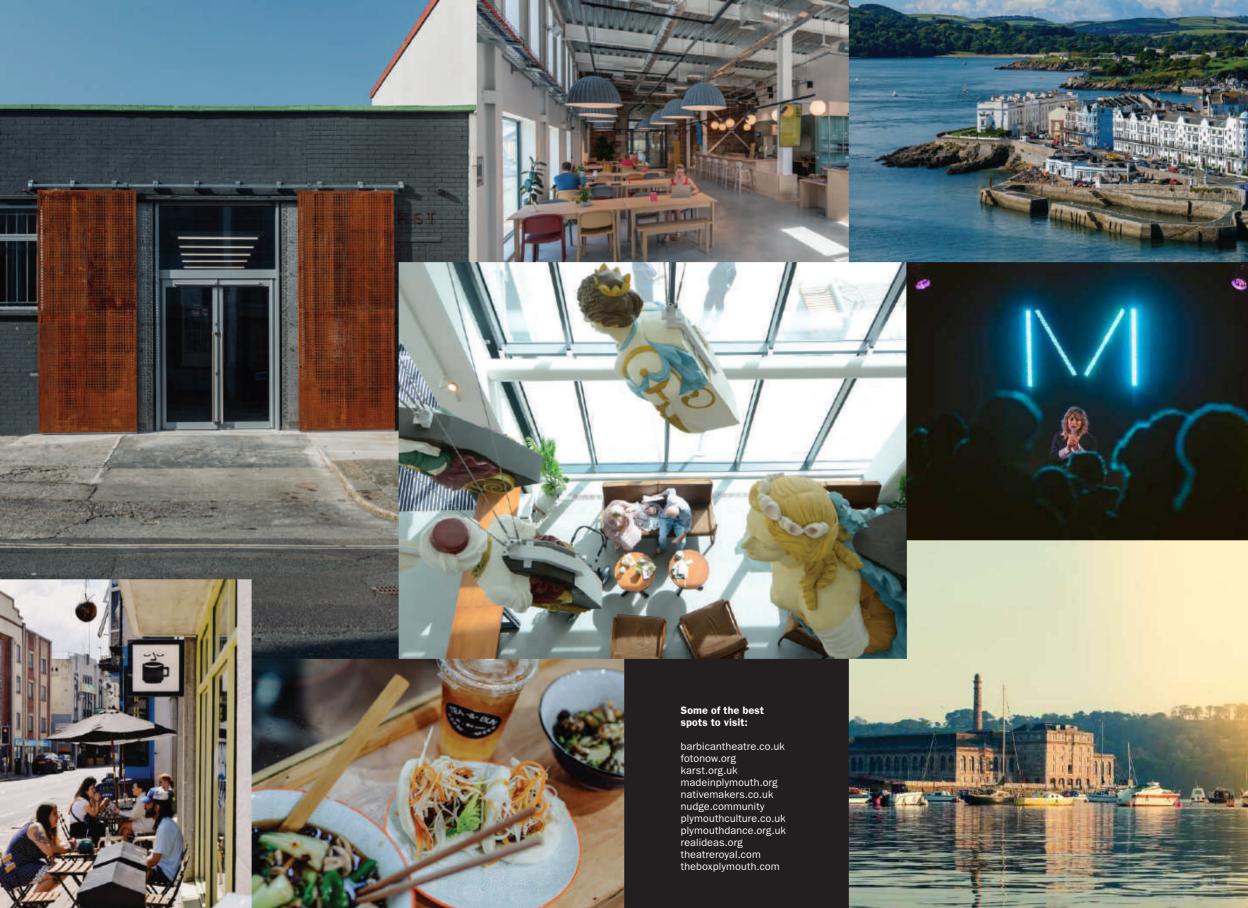
The nearby market town of Totnes is home to extraordinary vintage stores, independent artisan pop-ups and an eclectic record shop - a short train ride away, it's a perfect day-trip destination.

Less than an hour away, the Eden Project, the world's largest indoor rainforest, hosts the Eden Sessions each summer, where artists including Elton John, Muse, The Chemical Brothers and Foals have played intimate shows in a breathtaking setting.

Venturing further into Cornwall you'll find the quaint town of St Ives. Nestled in a hillside and overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, St Ives is home to Tate St Ives, celebrating the artistic connections that have made the town a destination for artists since Victorian times. Renowned names associated with the town range from Mark Rothko to Barbara Hepworth – a must-visit while you're studying at Arts University Plymouth.







of yourself as a professional practitioner. Whatever you wish to do, we can support you during your studies and help you to fulfil your

long-term career aspirations.

-YOUR PLACE, IN THE WORLD.

# ANIMATION & GAMES

UCAS CODE: W61M / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Our BA (Hons) Animation & Games degree prepares you for today's highly competitive market and rapidly expanding environment in the entertainment industry, which is forecast to be worth £200 billion globally by 2025.

Through storytelling, prototyping and problem-solving, you will develop projects and lead in interdisciplinary contexts, gaining knowledge that will be valuable whether you work for a multinational organisation or a small studio. With teaching in animation and games, and other content linked to entertainment designs, integrated studies and the humanities and arts, you will develop a comprehensive and sustainable approach for creating dynamic and engaging animations and games.

The objective of the course is to prepare each student to join a studio, having observed and practised the numerous phases required in the production of animated features and game development, including writing, concept art, storyboarding, art direction, animation and editing. During the first year, a significant part of the course is devoted to fundamental drawing practice such as anatomy, characters, posing and animation. Following on from this, your skills will be developed further through working with the digital tools that are widely used within the industries.

As a student you will focus on concept art and visual development towards outputs such as: characters, worldbuilding and asset creation. During your second year, you will be able to select either an animation or games career development specialism. The animation path develops students in the disciplines of character animation, storyboarding, modelling, art direction and the principles of 2D and 3D lighting. While the game arts path prepares students to create and communicate visual concepts through 3D and 2D prototyping, iteration and production.





# **COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

UCAS CODE: W643 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Our BA (Hons) Commercial Photography course will help you succeed in today's dynamic and competitive photographic industry, providing you with the knowledge and skills to flourish. You'll combine visual awareness and innovation with technical excellence, professional understanding and business competencies.

This course is designed to develop a new generation of photographers who are at the cutting edge of creative commercial practice. We encourage students to push the boundaries of commercial photography through exploring a wide range of genres from fashion, film, editorial, installation. art practice and new technologies. We want to equip our graduates to become the next wave of commercial photographers who are challenging the conventions of commercial photography, forging new trends and shaping the future of the photographic industry.

Our course is geared towards employability and enterprise. We develop photographers who are technically proficient, visually sophisticated and professionally astute. You will graduate understanding trends in the industry, knowing how to pitch for business and with a broad range of transferable skills that will enable you to succeed in the creative industries.

You will work individually. collaborate in interdisciplinary groups, and learn from real-world mentors, gaining vocational experience to be able to flourish both academically and professionally. You will acquire a broad range of entrepreneurial abilities in marketing, selfpromotion and business development, enabling you to develop a financially sustainable practice, fundamental to your success in the industry. With support from our teaching and technical team, as well as practitioners from the industry. you'll develop your confidence in responding to client briefs while demonstrating creative problemsolving and conceptualisation skills.





# COSTUME PRODUCTION

UCAS CODE: PW34 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Our BA (Hons) Costume
Production course offers a fresh
approach to the study of design,
realisation and construction for
costume. Working from classic
and contemporary texts, music
and storytelling, students will
become skilled at producing
bespoke costumes for a range of
performance genres, whether for
stage, screen or live action events.

Throughout this course, our dedicated Workshop Labs will provide you with extensive resources, alongside support and guidance from expert technicians, allowing you to experiment with computer-aided design (CAD) right through to laser cutting, moulding, casting and digital fabric printing.

You will work on live projects with professional designers and performers, providing essential experience of industry practices; this may take the form of heritage, stage and film work.

Your learning will be guided by a dedicated team of creative professionals who have worked for theatre and TV companies, including Netflix and the Royal Shakespeare Company, as well as on West End productions. You will also gain insight into industry from visiting professionals such as Paul Farnsworth (Lend Me a Tenor), Lucinda Wright (The Witcher) and Susannah Buxton (Downton Abbey), as well as a close relationship with Theatre Royal Plymouth.

In TV and film, our students have contributed to the BBC's Diamond Jubilee Parade, Netflix's Bridgerton and the BBC's EastEnders. They have also worked behind the scenes of smash hit touring productions of Strictly Come Dancing, Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty and The Bank Robbery That Went Wrong.

This course encompasses cultural, social and political contexts for costume, enabling students to create costumes for public exhibitions and commissions from heritage societies such as the National Trust and The Box, Plymouth. Immerse yourself in the vibrant world of costume production, where creativity meets craftsmanship.





# CRAFT & MATERIAL PRACTICES

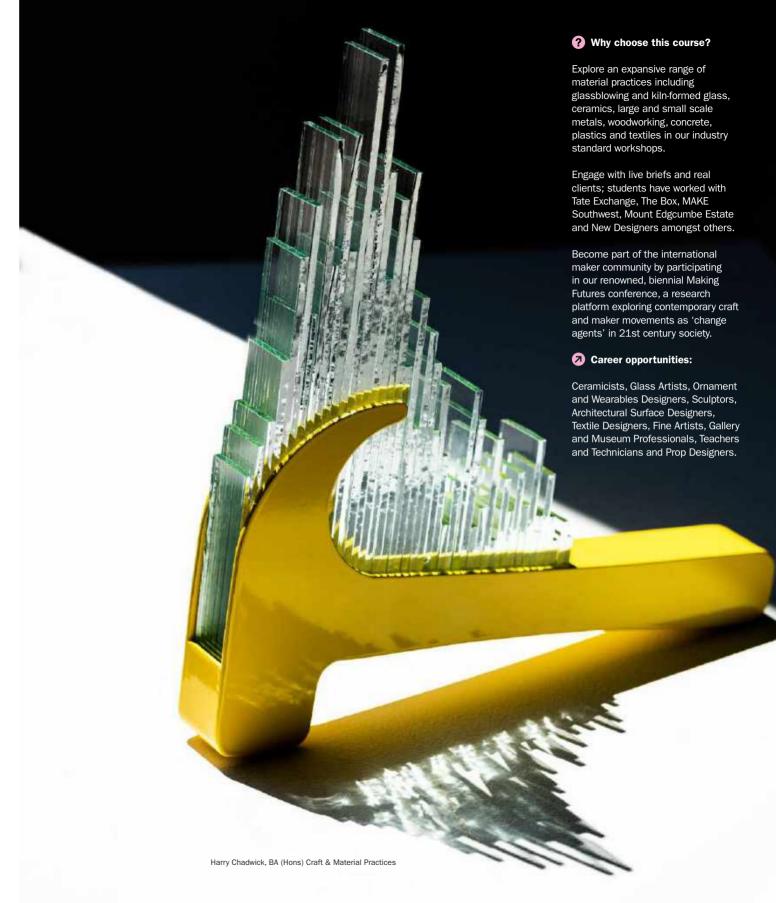
UCAS CODE: 67T2 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

With almost 150,000 people employed in the UK's craft industry, skilled craftspeople are putting the country on the map for original, forward-thinking contemporary design. The relationship between thinking and making is constantly evolving. Experimentation and innovation are driving a new wave of craftspeople to explore original directions, often looking to develop methods in which we can live harmoniously within natural and fabricated environments while supporting a healthy ecosystem.

Our spacious Materials Lab includes specialist facilities for ceramics, glass, metal and wood, encouraging you to explore traditional making; it is complemented by the rapid digital prototyping facilities in our Fab Lab, giving you the opportunity to reinvent craft for the 21st century. However, learning isn't limited to our studios and workshops; you will meet some of the UK's most inventive and entrepreneurial contemporary makers and thinkers through gallery visits, demonstrations and presentations.

On this course you will have the opportunity to study specialist ceramics techniques such as throwing, slip casting, slab building, coiling, glazing and raku firing. You may work with glass including hot glassmaking, kiln-formed glass, coldworking and lampworking. If working with metals you may be casting, welding and grinding. If you're looking to specialise in woodworking, you may have the opportunity to learn woodturning, joinery and CNC routing, then in the Fab Lab you can experience laser cutting, CNC milling and 3D printing.

As a student, you will learn about enterprise and entrepreneurship, and how to price, display and promote work for a range of different markets, including; large-scale site-specific work, individual exhibition pieces and domestic products, all based on knowledge of your customers and the experience gained by working on live briefs, pitching to clients and entering competitions.





# FASHION DESIGN

UCAS CODE: W290 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

This course provides a comprehensive design education for independently minded fashion thinkers and makers who are looking to influence change within the fashion industry.

From future forecasting, concept and design development and creative pattern cutting through to the leadership of compelling marketing campaigns. Fashion is one of the largest employers in the UK's creative industries – offering endless opportunities to those forward-thinking individuals who seek to challenge the assumptions of design, take creative risks and communicate their individual style through their work.

A spirit of independence runs through our vibrant fashion programme. We empower and prepare young creatives to become versatile future fashion thinkers, makers and designers. By combining traditional craft techniques with digital technologies, you will transform your concepts from two-dimensional fabrics into three-dimensional

forms. You will learn ways of thinking that will inform your personal design philosophies and lead you towards an individualised specialism.

Our Fashion Studio is spacious and well-lit, offering panoramic views. It's also fully equipped with industry-standard technologies, but your experience at our university is not limited to just the Fashion Studio. We encourage cross-disciplinary and collaborative working, where you can expand your skills by exploring our professional textile print studios, workshops for jewellery and ceramics and our Fab Lab, which houses the latest laser cutting, 3D printing and design technology.

The course covers all aspects of the design process, from trend analysis, research and design development, drawing and illustration, colour and fabric development, historical and cultural studies and the translation of ideas from 2D to 3D, through to presentation, marketing and business development.





# FASHION MEDIA & MARKETING

UCAS CODE: NW52 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Fashion is an evolutionary and multifaceted industry that takes innovations in technology and culture as inspiration. From fashion media and fashion marketing, through to discussions exploring disruptive technology and changing consumer behaviour – this course will place you at the forefront of fashion communication.

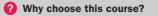
This creative and hands-on degree is for students who aspire to work in fashion imaging, styling, social media and marketing. We encourage innovative experimentation in all areas of fashion communication and promotion. This practice-based, multidisciplinary program nurtures talented, self-motivated students, enabling you to strategically engage with fashion while focusing on experiential and digital futures.

Our comprehensive Fashion Media & Marketing course enables you to cultivate strong conceptual, visual and communication skills. You will explore a broad range of techniques including photography and moving

image, analytics and market research, art direction and styling, social media strategies and trend forecasting.

Strictly for the fashion curious, this course trains you to gather intelligence and insight from the cultural and economic landscape, turning it into exciting multimedia communications for print, digital and campaign design. With support from experienced industry professionals and expert technicians, you will transform contextual sources into broadcast media, observing themes such as culture and appropriation, customer behaviour and commodity and business strategies.

Whether you aspire to work in fashion media, fashion marketing, fashion promotion, styling and art direction, print journalism, visual merchandising, visual influencing or roles that have yet to be created, this course will future proof you for success and adaptability in the ever changing global fashion, lifestyle and beauty industries.



Innovate through into future fashion trends, products, and their potential impact on consumers.

Specialist knowledge and a deep understanding of the fashion industry, allowing for better targeting of potential customers and identifying new trends.

Produce your own fashion publications and industry reports based on the latest insights, exploring opportunities to distribute over digital and print media.

Learn how to study trend forecasting, plan product launches, and implement effective marketing and advertising campaigns.

100% of Fashion Media &
Marketing students gave the best
possible response to five of the
27 National Student Survey 2023
questions, including 100% agreeing
that "the teaching staff are good at
explaining things."





# FILM & SCREEN ARTS

UCAS CODE: W692 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

BA (Hons) Film & Screen Arts is a practical filmmaking course that focuses on the craft and aesthetics of contemporary filmmaking. With a focus on cinematic storytelling, the course allows you to design and create storyworlds for a range of audiences, and to gain real insight into the global filmmaking industries.

This course allows you to explore the practical craft skills necessary to succeed as a practical filmmaker or content producer. These skills include cinematography and lighting design, directing and camera operation, sound design and mixing, production design and art direction. editing and post production. In addition to practical skills, you'll be challenged to consider the societal role of film, multi-platform consumption by audiences, and effective strategies to showcase your work. From initial idea, to shooting and screening, you'll be guided to think critically about your creative techniques in the context of culture, society, and the broader world.

Studying filmmaking in an arts university fosters creative collaborations, leading to the creation of unique works that go beyond traditional film forms—such as screen-based installations, music videos, and site-specific cinema. Led by a team of practising filmmakers, sound artists and film writers, all areas of your learning are underpinned by rigorous critical thinking and cultural enquiry in order to understand how film functions in its many contemporary forms.

Our experienced technicians support your practical learning, and you'll have access to our outstanding facilities including film and media studios, sound recording and post-production studios, vocal recording booths and foley studio space. Our Multimedia Studio is stocked with specialist media equipment, with cameras including Arri Alexa, Black Magic Ursa, Arri Super 16mm cinema cameras, camera rigs, specialist lighting kit, sound recording kit and much more.





## FINE ART

UCAS CODE: W101 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

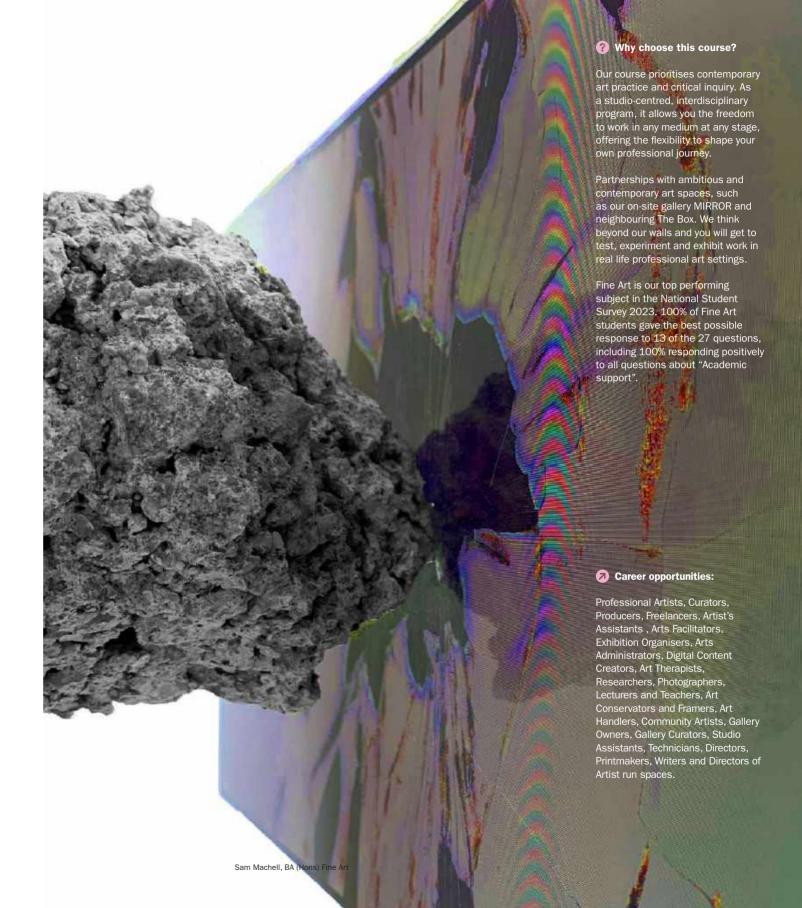
Our BA (Hons) Fine Art course is rigorous and questioning, encouraging an ambitious diversity of approaches in thinking and making.

We promote an interdisciplinary exploration of contemporary art, for ambitious, self-directed and critically engaged approaches to developing creative practice. This is a dynamic course where you will gain skills to critically question and actively create.

This course provides opportunities for working collaboratively, deepening cultural understanding and exploring new processes in workshops. Students on this course will work in a learning environment that provides a meaningful link between your studio practice and contemporary art theory. You'll participate in workshops for drawing, sound, glass, installation, video, clay, performance, painting, scale and sculpture, projection mapping, wood, video, printmaking, critical writing, 3D casting in plaster, alginate, rubber and traditional sculptural practices.

The course is characterised by its focus on the development of individual practice-based study through exposure to a wide variety of material methods and modes of art practice. Led and supported by a stimulating community of creative practitioners, the core academic team are experienced artists who are active makers, writers and researchers in contemporary fine art practice. The course encourages diversity in thinking and making, based on the potential in material exploration, collaborative working, cross-fertilisation of ideas and the exploration of new concepts and materials.

As a student you will develop an unrivalled understanding of the professional art world through our ongoing partnerships which include emerging and established galleries, museums, creative organisations and practising artists. You will gain a deep understanding of the professional landscape through our partnerships, preparing you effectively for a career in the creative sector upon graduation.





## **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

UCAS CODE: W214 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

There's never been a more exhilarating time to study graphic design as a creative discipline. Clients from around the globe are striving to connect with their audiences in new and innovative ways.

Our BA (Hons) Graphic Design course empowers you to understand how to influence and activate the public conscience through the power of graphic design. You will stay up to date with current events, trends and societal issues as you find inspiration in, and respond to, the world around you. By championing creative self-expression alongside communication for the greater good, you will develop skills and abilities that prepare you to join the creative industries as a graphic designer. Be inspired by life and design for it.

On this course, you'll acquire the essential skills and knowledge to thrive at the forefront of the industry. From print publications and large-format advertising to brand development, user experience, and data visualisation, you'll learn how to bring your ideas to life both online and offline.

You'll become part of a new breed of professional designers empowering brands and inspiring community action on a global scale, through both traditional and hybrid design approaches. You will be taught the mindset of a design professional, with a critical awareness of commercial, cultural and societal backgrounds. With the support of our expert academics and technicians, you will forge your own professional journey within an ever evolving international landscape of graphic design.

Master the art of responding to design needs, from initial research and concept definition to thoughtful development and polished deliverables. Your studies will not only instill professional confidence but also enrich you personally. Become a progressive problem-solver and an effective communicator, while keeping abreast of current issues like ecological sustainability, emerging technologies, and user-centred













### Why choose this course?

Identify what it takes to influence and activate public conscience through graphic design as you experience communication for the greater good.

Gain first-hand experience of reallife work situations, from working with clients on live briefs through to communicating directly with the creative industries from our

own experienced team through to networking events, industry mentors and visiting lecturers from companies such as Getty Images, JDO Raw and Creative Conscience.

100% of Graphic Design students gave the best possible response to six of the 27 National Student Survey 2023 questions, including agreeing that "the course has developed their knowledge and skills that they think they will need for the future."

### Career opportunities:

Graphic Designers, Letterpress Designers, Web Designers, Brand Managers, Print Designers, Design Managers, Concept Artists, Art Directors, Digital Designers, Motion Graphic Designers, UX Designers, Advertisers, Brand and Marketing Officers, App Designers, Content Producers, Studio Managers, Account Managers, Educators, Editors, Game Designers and Creative Directors.



## **ILLUSTRATION**

UCAS CODE: W220 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

This industry-informed degree explores and defines what it means to be an illustrator today. You'll learn how to apply your understanding equally to commercial briefs and personal self-expression, and build a sustainable and fulfilling lifelong practice.

On this course, you'll cultivate a variety of conceptual and imagemaking methods by dissecting and tackling the essential 'ingredients' of illustration and how you might apply them to your own creative practice. You'll become an effective practitioner in the areas that you feel most connected to - from editorial and advertising to narrative books and research - all informed by the expert experience of your tutors who work in those fields. We'll challenge you to cultivate a culturally curious attitude while being mindful of the ethical responsibilities that accompany the field of illustration.

Throughout this course you will be based in a spacious and naturally-lit collaborative studio space,

where you'll cultivate a unique blend of skills and attributes, with a strong emphasis on curiosity and perseverance, making you a well-rounded practitioner. You will be challenged to develop authentic ways of working, assuming agency and autonomy as an image-maker and learning what this means to you as a practitioner.

Within a supportive studio environment, you'll delve into your subject both individually and as part of collaborative, interdisciplinary teams. You'll approach independent work with a critical mindset, considering the purpose, rationale, production and application of your own original work. We'll inspire you to engage with our nurturing, student-led communities across the university, showcasing your final outputs as part of enterprising collectives. pop-up shops and curated exhibitions. In the past, students have had the opportunity to engage with industry professionals from Hallmark cards, Penguin and New Designer of the Year, through their studies.





# INTERIOR DESIGN & STYLING

UCAS CODE: 5LWB / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

This course has been devised to develop your skills in interior design and styling, emphasising the impact of colour, texture, materials, surface and ambience in a range of environments. We will ensure you enter industry as a well-rounded interiors specialist, ready to work on projects from super yachts to magazine photoshoots.

You'll gain a great introduction to designing interiors for a variety of environments – from residential and commercial spaces to the public realm and even transport.

Your studies will place special emphasis on trends, colour, materiality, sustainability and accessibility in a range of interior contexts, both public and private.

You'll develop your own distinct taste in style curation, exploring lighting, furnishing, surface and textural finishes to make your design concepts a reality. You'll also develop a keen understanding of consumer trends and learn how to design for different levels of the market. Specialist modules cover interior project management, materials and regulations in design, event planning and live design briefs. You'll also develop skills such as technical drawing, visualisation, editorial photography and the use of industry standard CAD software.

You'll be taught by industryactive academics and specialist technicians who are responsible for some of the world's most impressive design and styling choices in hotels, restaurants and private residences. Boasting a combined client list including the National Trust, the BBC, Royal Caribbean Cruises and Sheraton, as well as multi-million-pound commissions in New York and Barbados, our team are well connected and at the forefront of their field.





## PAINTING, DRAWING & PRINTMAKING

UCAS CODE: WWDF / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

This course will immerse you in a range of traditional, contemporary, and hybrid skills and techniques, so you can express your unique ideas and discover your voice and explore the interplay of materials within painting, drawing, and printmaking. It is designed to give you fluency in the six visual languages of line, form, space, movement, tone and colour.

Learn from our tutors, all of whom are practising artists, who bring unique, real-world experience straight into the studio. Based in large, open-plan studios designed with lofted ceilings and windows that allow for northern exposure to natural light, you will be encouraged to develop an ambitious working practice through encounters with all three disciplines.

During your time studying, a comprehensive series of technical workshops and material demonstrations provide a core component to the curriculum, fostering a hands-on, deep material knowledge that will directly inform the ideas and methods of your emergent studio practice.

You'll be able to take advantage of numerous cultural and community-based institutions in and around Plymouth, providing you with opportunities to see and participate in exhibitions that will expand your knowledge of the contemporary art world. Recent student trips have included visits to Tate Galleries in London and St Ives, the Barbara Hepworth Museum, Spike Island, Arnolfini, Hauser & Wirth and the Rabley Drawing Centre.





## PHOTOGRAPHY

UCAS CODE: W645 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Our BA (Hons) Photography course focuses on a blend of creative and critical practice. It examines and encourages the many types of photographic image-making that emerge from photography as a contemporary art practice.

As a student, you'll develop the technical and critical skills needed to become an accomplished, independent photographer. Approaching photography with a spirit of enquiry and experimentation, while developing your technical and communication skills, will open up a range of creative and professional possibilities for you as a photographic practitioner.

We consider the expanded and innovative potential of photography within the context of contemporary art. Our students explore a range of conceptual, practical and experimental approaches to photography in locating their own

creative language, as emergent and highly individual, contemporary artists.

You'll develop creative and technical production skills using a range of media, covering digital and film-based photography, from 19th-century processes through to the latest and emergent technology. You'll learn to critically reflect on your own practice, understanding photography as a key visual language in contemporary culture. You will also be encouraged to develop your own ideas in relation to your practice and in doing so will try out a range of photographic methods.

In addition, you will examine photography as one contemporary art form in relation to others. You will consider photography in relation to culture, society and the wider world. During your time studying with us, you will publish, exhibit and present your work and your ideas.





# **TEXTILE DESIGN**

UCAS CODE: WYC2 / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Our BA (Hons) Textile Design course is an exciting, industry-focused and experimental environment where you will develop essential skills needed to design for different markets and audiences. Our course covers all aspects of the textile design sector, including trend forecasting, product development, branding, and marketing.

You'll work with our experienced tutors to nurture your unique design personality through project based units that explore an exciting mix of surface experimentations and constructed processes. This course encourages strong professional and personal development following creative industry live briefs and project opportunities.

Our course structure is centred around experimentation, innovation and exploring the future of textile design and sustainability. New textile strategies can be thoroughly investigated through production methods, textile printing and dyeing processes, business modelling, and creative approaches to longevity and presence in the textile industry thanks to the exploration of sustainability through a wide range of lenses and global challenges.

Throughout the course you'll have freedom to utilise new materials, techniques and technologies; from traditional print processes and knit and dyeing methods to contemporary digital printing and creative surface pattern design. You will have access to our natural dye garden, biomaterials lab, and a wide range of tools and equipment while learning current digital design skills that will bring your creative visions to life.

Our graduates emerge as dynamic textile designers, ready to make their mark in fashion, interiors, product design, and the arts, as well as in roles like textile buying, styling, and merchandising.





# FOUNDATION DIPLOMA IN ART & DESIGN

The one-year UAL Foundation
Diploma in Art & Design will
enable your process of thinking
and making to develop, within
a vibrant and diverse creative
environment. This exciting and
immersive course is designed to
prepare you for degree study in the
creative arts.

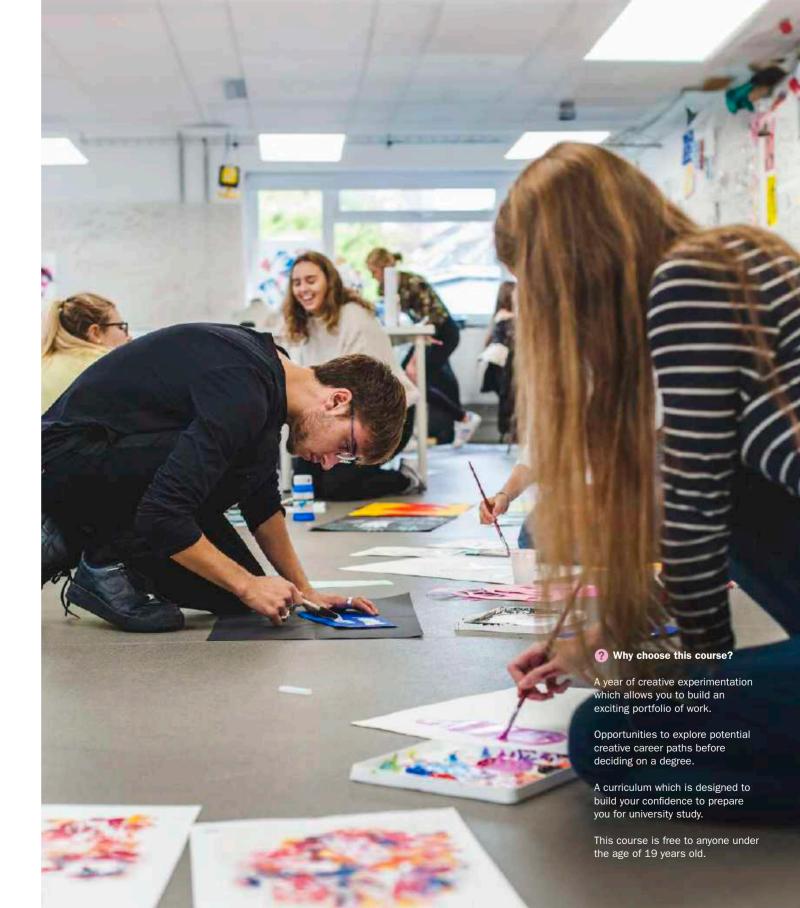
Designed for students aged 25 or under who may be trying to decide which area to specialise in, this course offers the opportunity to spend a year immersing yourself in discovery, experimentation and exploration of different artistic disciplines that are unavailable in conventional education settings. Within our purpose built studios, you will explore a range of subjects and learn key techniques through experimentation and risk-taking. You will have a year to experiment with your creativity, which is a great opportunity to develop the way you think in terms of critical skills, being able to analyse your own work and to research in a more inventive way.

The course propels you beyond your comfort zone as you establish your unique creative voice and explore your areas of interest. You will develop an individual approach to problem-solving, giving you the confidence to discuss your work in formal and informal settings, and in large and small groups.

You will be introduced to critical thinking and creative approaches to art, design and media through a rotation of methodologies, processes and materials. You will then identify your chosen pathway and develop project ideas and outcomes, as well as developing the skills and confidence to pursue your creativity to degree-level study.

Foundation Diplomas in Art & Design maximise your chances of gaining a first if you decide to progress on to degree level study. Your year of study culminates by bringing together your learning in the development of a self-initiated project which includes an extended critical essay and public end of year Summer Show.





## **EXTENDED BA**

UCAS CODE: SEE BA (HONS) COURSE CODE / UCAS POINTS: 104-120

Our four-year Extended BA (Hons)
Degrees allow students who
may be returning to education
after a break or perhaps without
formal qualifications to gain the
necessary skills, knowledge and
experience to succeed on an
undergraduate course.

The Extended BA experience offers a subject-led exploratory year, where you'll develop a broad understanding of art, design, and media skills and approaches. The environment is dynamic and supportive, helping you discover your own particular passions and strengths within the creative arts, whilst building academic confidence, purpose and direction. During this year you will produce a body of work that will start to reveal your personal identity and approach to your chosen programme of study.

Our Extended Degree is intensive and challenging, taught through

lectures, workshops and practical studio sessions, seminars and tutorials. The course attracts a diverse age range, from budding eighteen-year-olds to creative and experienced individuals in their seventies; some are returning to education after a break and some come straight from school.

You will have the freedom to take risks, generate ideas, experiment, and develop a breadth of approaches to problem-solving. You will experiment with materials, processes, methodologies and practices. You'll develop a range of critical skills relevant to degreelevel study, while broadening your use of drawing, visual research, contextual studies, digital imaging and design methods

This year primes you to become a confident, independent, and creative artist, designer, or maker, setting you on the path to excel in higher-level degree studies.





# **Undergraduate course structure**



Our unit structure applies to all of our undergraduate courses, and creates a culture that promotes curiosity and creative thinking that extends beyond subject boundaries. Thematic approaches foster an environment that encourages free-flowing creative learning and opportunities for collaboration.

Each unit will be tailored to the specialisms of your chosen subject, with delivery of each unit uniquely influenced by approaching tasks through the specialist lens of each course.

### Extended BA

(Year 1 of a 4 Year degree)

If you choose to study an Extended BA, this will provide you with a preparatory year that will support your creative development through a broad range of art, design and media skills, as the basis for continued study in your chosen specialist degree. You will learn through experimentation, exploration and discovery. Successfully completing this year allows automatic progression to Year 1 of the named BA at Arts University Plymouth.

### Undergraduate Degree Year 1

(Level 4)

#### Unit 1 Methods & Materials

Develop and extend your existing knowledge of processes and technologies associated with your field of study, through the exploration of associated methods and materials. You will be introduced to a range of practical methods, processes and techniques, and encouraged to think critically about your subject.

#### **Unit 2 Encountering Place**

Focusing on the geographical offerings and potential of a site specific location (e.g. Plymouth or other location), and its surroundings, you will orientate your practice through considering immediate geographies and the relationship of the local to the global. You will develop ways for generating creative ideas in response to a brief, with a

primary focus on creative problem solving, methods and materials.

#### **Unit 3 Exploring Subject**

Engage with subject-specific ideas and applications, encouraging critical reflection on your individual creative practice and subject within the larger creative arts domain. You will be supported to undertake an imaginative approach to your subject that challenges historical and cultural assumptions.

#### **Unit 4 Platforms of Exchange**

Focus on collaboration as a practice, way of working and experience. Share your skills in pursuit of creative problem solving through mutual interest and cooperative approaches, while being introduced to methodologies from other disciplines.

## Undergraduate Degree Year 2

(Level 5)

#### **Unit 1 Speculative Strategies**

Enhance your awareness of research-informed practice, the role of risk and failure, and the adoption of new or unfamiliar methodologies in developing creative practice. You will focus on the critical and practical processes used for ideas generation, propositional and hypothetical creative outputs, rather than finished outcomes.

#### **Unit 2 Global Challenges**

Think deeper about how creative solutions might help solve real-world challenges. Draw on expertise and ideas from the arts and sciences to provide alternative propositions for solution-focussed practical enquiry.

#### Unit 3 Ideas & Audience

Through the use of real-world scenarios (live or simulated), you will be encouraged to use the methods, knowledge and understanding gained in previous study to place your work in relevant professional and creative contexts in order to facilitate knowledge transfer into the public domain.

#### **Unit 4 Emergent Practice**

Develop individual authorship in your creative practice, and ownership of your learning through a self initiated project. You will be introduced to methods for managing and producing an independent creative project, developing skills in project articulation and management to include consideration for project scope, time and resources management.

## Undergraduate Degree Year 3

(Level 6)

#### Unit 1 Research & Development

You will further refine your aims and ambitions for your final year of study, formulating and testing out ideas for your Final Project. You will present a creative pitch that outlines the concepts and methods behind your project and demonstrates knowledge of appropriate contextual and professional frameworks.

#### **Unit 2 Publication**

You will produce a researchinformed critical text that contextualises your research interests and demonstrates sustained engagement with your subject. This could be an extended critical essay; or an original publication (text & image) and accompanying essay.

#### **Unit 3 Positioning Practice**

This unit will extend your understanding of appropriate audiences and markets for your work, and raise your awareness of relevant technologies, techniques and innovations. Your learning will support the articulation of your personal career ambitions, informed by an awareness of professional contexts and opportunities for creative practice.

#### **Unit 4 Final Project**

The culmination of your undergraduate study provides a period of consolidation and creativity, where you will realise a final major project to demonstrate your specialist knowledge and skills. At the end of the unit, you will have the opportunity to present this project to the public within the context of the annual Summer Shows.

### Sandwich Year

We offer a year-long Sandwich Year option taken upon successful completion of your second year (Level 5) and prior to your final year (Level 6). The experience is offered as a unit that contributes credits to your BA (Hons) Degree.

The Sandwich Year can take the form of an internship or work placement, of between 6 and 12 months in the UK or worldwide. It is intended to give you the possibility of gaining experience in art and design practice in a 'real life' industry setting, before you return to complete the final year of your degree. You will be able to build your CV and, if you choose to take on your sandwich year outside of the UK, enhance your experience of international creative practice.

Sandwich Year placements can be selected by each student who wishes to take one, assisted by university staff. Opportunities may also come through corporate approaches to the university or through links built by your course tutors. Each placement opportunity will be reviewed by the university before being approved to ensure its suitability to be part of your course. During the Sandwich Year you remain enrolled at Arts University Plymouth with access to IT and your email accounts, online library and learning support.

Once approved, the Sandwich Year will count towards your overall degree and completion of it will be acknowledged on your degree certificate. Participation in the undergraduate Sandwich Year will incur a reduced tuition fee for this year. The fee for 2025/26 is £1250.

# **Entry requirements**

We're passionate about innovation, collaboration, community, making, and putting creativity into action. We're eager to hear from inquisitive students with ideas and energy, who share our passion.

Although many of our students do come in with top grades and high UCAS points, these aren't necessarily essential for entry. For undergraduate entry, we typically ask for a minimum of 104 UCAS points. For postgraduate study, we require at least a second class honours (2:2) in an art, design, crafts or media discipline, but we understand that talented artists, designers and makers can have a wide range of relevant strengths and skills beyond formal qualifications. We're as interested in exploring your portfolio and discussing your creative experiences as we are in seeing your grades.

## We also offer direct entry options for Year 2 or Year 3:

- Students with 120 credits from a Foundation Degree, HND or Honours Degree can apply to join Year 2.
- Students with 240 credits, of which 120 credits must be at Level 5, from a Foundation Degree, HND or Honours Degree can apply to join Year 3.

If you are interested in part-time study (6 years), please contact our Admissions team for more information.

#### Submitting a portfolio

Meeting you is a great opportunity for us to get a better idea about your creative flair, and to find out what inspires you and what you aspire to. We like to see your work too; it helps us to understand you more, as well as being a great way to show us creative ability and how you've explored different processes, media and techniques.

#### Getting to know you

During your visit, you'll have the opportunity to meet your future lecturers and gain a better understanding of our institution. And you'll have plenty of time to check out our stunning studios and beautiful city. Our student community, much like our teaching community, is very diverse, and we're strong believers in the opportunities and ideas that come out of different thinking, cultures, backgrounds, lifestyles and experiences coming together. We welcome applications from

international students, and we're passionate about being fully inclusive and understanding.

To find out more, and to start your creative journey with us, contact our Admissions team on +44 (0)1752 203400 or admissions@aup.ac.uk

You don't have to have a traditional portfolio - we want to see your work in whatever way you want to show it to us. It could be work created as part of a course, or projects that you've done in your own time - the most important thing is that it tells us more about you. We are interested in hearing about how you approach ideas and the processes you choose to express your ideas, as well as seeing finished pieces.

We'll send you more guidance or you can check our webpage for more information about what we're looking for across our subject areas. However we suggest that you are selective in what you show us - we like to see 10-20 pieces of work, and that you try to show us a range of work, that reflects your practice and influences.



# Applying for an undergraduate degree

## Portfolios, showreels and meeting you

Your UCAS application will tell us about your qualifications and previous experience, but studying the arts involves more than what can be captured on forms. We like to find out about your creative potential and abilities, so we will invite you to show us your work. You can search our Portfolio Guide on our website for suggestions on what to consider. We like to meet all of our applicants, either at an Open Day, Applicant Experience Day or one-to-one discussion; this is your opportunity to tell us about your aspirations, and it's a good way to find out what we can offer you. We can meet you in person or online - let us know what's best for you.

## Full-time undergraduate applications

Apply through UCAS for any of our full-time undergraduate courses; this can be done online at ucas.com. The UCAS deadline is at the end of January each year. We encourage you to get your application in by the UCAS equal consideration deadline. For more information, visit the UCAS website. If you miss the deadline, don't worry - get in touch with us to see how to make an application when you're ready.

### Part-time and postgraduate applications

If you would like to study an undergraduate degree part-time or any postgraduate degree, you should apply directly via our website rather than via UCAS.

#### **Entry requirements**

We value a variety of qualifications and relevant experience, and welcome applications from students who have followed less traditional educational and professional routes. Please refer to our website for our usual entry requirements, and visit the individual course pages on our website – aup.ac.uk – for more information. You can also consult the Tariff Table on ucas.com

#### **Equality and diversity**

We welcome applications from all sectors of the community regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation or ethnic background. Our student population is extremely diverse, and it is important to us that every student is able to realise their full potential in an environment free from discrimination, harassment or victimisation. We also welcome applications from individuals with disabilities. If you have a learning difficulty or disability and would like to discuss the options available to you, please email studentsupport@aup.ac.uk

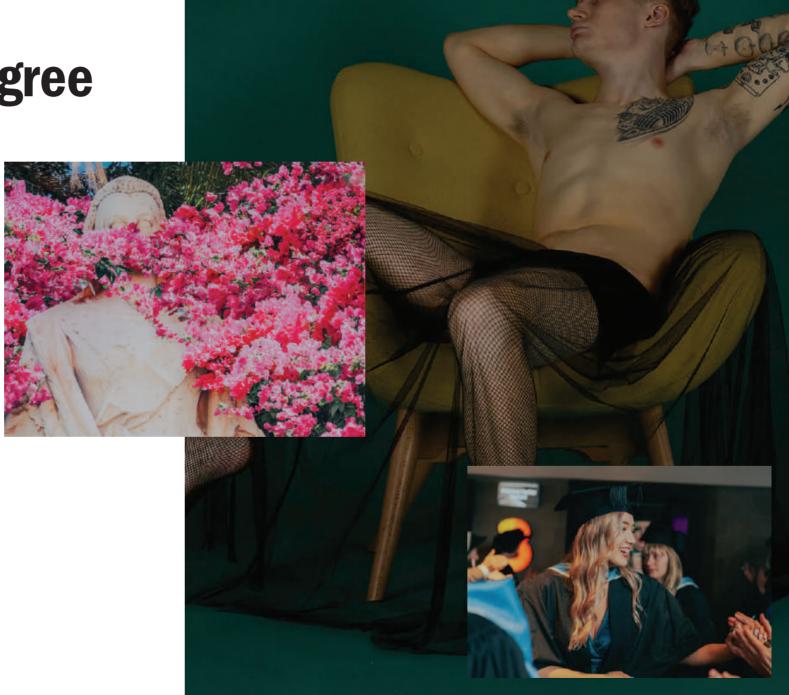


Image: 'Your tongue in my mouth' by Huma Mulji

Student work: Libby Ward, BA (Hons) Commercial Photography

# Undergraduate fees and funding

#### **Discounts and progression awards**

There are a range of awards and discounts available for those who have previously studied at Arts University Plymouth.

Alumni Progression Award: 15% discount on MA or MFA fees for Undergraduate, Pre-Degree and Foundation Diploma in Art & Design graduates who go on to postgraduate study with us.

#### **Funding your studies**

Education is an investment for life, not only financially but also personally and socially. Having a degree not only improves your chances of employment, but also increases your earning potential over your lifespan compared with non-graduates. As an undergraduate student, you can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan (subject to your UK residency status and previous study), which means you won't have to pay upfront for your tuition fees. You will only start paying back your undergraduate student loan once you are earning £25,000 a year or more (income thresholds are subject to change). For advice on any aspect of funding your studies, including eligibility

for Student Finance, please get in touch with our Registry Team on +44 (0)1752 203423, or studentfinance@aup.ac.uk

#### Fees

For 2024/25 and 2025/26 fees per year for our undergraduate courses are £9,250 for full-time and £4,625 for part-time UK students. International and EU students' fees are £16,500 for full-time. Scholarships of up to £2,000 per year may be available for international students, subject to eligibility and availability.

For general information, please contact Student Finance England by visiting gov.uk/student-finance or calling +44 (0)300 100 0607.

All tuition fees are subject to annual review and tuition fees for 2025/26 have not been confirmed at the time of publication. Please always check our website for up-to-date information on tuition fees for UK and International students.

Students previously charged the home tuition fee rate as part of reciprocal EU agreements are required to pay the international tuition fee rate, following the UK's exit from the EU. For up-to-date information on overseas tuition fees, visit our webpage aup.ac.uk/international/finance

Please also refer to official government websites for more detailed information on potential future changes to immigration requirements.

### Scholarships and bursaries for international students

Our Pro-Vice-Chancellor's Creative Excellence Awards are offered to two excellent undergraduate international applicants each year, awarding each successful candidate a discount of £2,500 from full international fees, each vear for three years of study. This is awarded by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor on a competitive basis, subject to terms and conditions. We also award Creative Bursaries on merit to international undergraduate and postgraduate applicants who meet benchmarks for excellence of portfolio and commitment to study at interview, offering a discount of up to £2.000 from full international fees. For more information please contact the International Office for advice at international@aup.ac.uk



My work takes place in the field.

Observational drawing contains some big themes that pervade many disciplines because observation itself is much more than human, indeed, much more than animal. How many of the five kingdoms can we say 'observe'?

The Masters course in Fine Art at Arts University Plymouth begins as something of a philosophical space. You can let your mind wander, let it go even. When I returned to practice in earnest I found myself expressing something closer to my core values and more in touch with the world around me.



# **Choosing**postgraduate study

#### Interdisciplinary teaching

Whether you want to diversify your career or deepen your existing knowledge, our postgraduate curriculum is by design a place where you can both understand how a subject operates in the world and how your unique approach expands the way in which it is understood or encountered. Through three main units of study. which guide you from proposal, to experimentation to synthesis, an illustrator may realise an interest in sustainable inks; a researcher in cultural theory may apply their ideas to ceramic objects; or a painter may realise their landscapes through a public-facing event. The opportunity is to creatively transform and be transformed by your studio interactions, discussions, seminars and project collaborations with peers, tutors, visiting lecturers and the professional networks that make up our MA ecosystem.

#### **Our Community**

Our dynamic postgraduate community offers a rich environment that provides critical and technical expertise in a range of disciplines. We understand practice, research and enquiry in the arts as an

authentic dialogue and encounter with the world and its materials through an exploration of their creative possibilities. We provide the space, time and resources for you to gain confidence within your field by refining your critical practice while developing your professionalism, autonomy and engagement with key debates across art, design and media networks and disciplines.

#### **Build Your Career**

Our Masters courses equip you with the agility to embrace rapid change – our aim is for you to become a proactive, transformative and change-making professional who contributes to the future of the creative and cultural industries, responding positively to the complex issues facing contemporary society. Internationally focused, you will have the opportunity to take your research abroad through the Wilhelmina Barnes-Graham Bursary, or undertaking a Venice Fellowship with the British Council to build your profile and professionalism.

#### **Our Research**

The impact of our research at AUP extends internationally, through our three research groups: Making

Learning; Memory, Site, Artefact; and Making Futures which reflect the strategic dimensions of the University's work. With the global community facing major environmental and geo-political issues, we believe that artists and creative thinkers have central roles in resolving our relationship with the environment, with equality and diversity and the challenges of migration among many others, and that the world needs creatives now more than ever.

### Why Choose Arts University Plymouth?

Our vision for Arts University Plymouth is a new kind of arts university for the 21st century, preparing graduates who are uniquely placed to provide creative solutions to the complex global challenges of our times. Our place is a city-centre campus in the heart of the vibrant cultural quarter of Plymouth, adjacent to The Box and numerous emerging and established art spaces and studios. Situated between the moor and the sea. Plymouth is home to over 20,000 students and offers a distinctive blend of inspiration, opportunity and

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# Postgraduate course structure

Our Postgraduate course invites you into a diverse and dynamic learning environment which allows you dedicated time to professionalise your ideas through direct encounters with the world and existing cultures of making.

Students enter the course by proposing a creative research project that is developed through the introduction of a set of research and critical skills that contextualise your understanding of your discipline, situating your ideas within a range of practices, methods, theories and histories which challenge you to see your discipline through other perspectives.

You are encouraged to think about your discipline as a leader and innovator, requiring you to synthesise your learning in a final major project that represents the transformation of your ideas into a professional practice that demonstrates new knowledge or a creative approach, that disrupts the established understanding of art, design and media.



### MA Structure

#### **Duration:**

1 year full-time; 2 years part-time

#### How you'll learn:

The learning modality for MA study is a combination of taught content through lectures, critiques and tutorials and self-directed study. A full-time student would need to commit at least four days per week to MA study. A part-time student should commit at least two days per week to MA study (one taught day and one self-directed study day).

#### Units of study:

**Unit 701** You will start to build an iterative body of written or studio-based work and be introduced to research-based skills and frameworks.

**Unit 702** Expanding on your growing understanding of your individual discipline through other disciplinary approaches, you will work with a range of practices and critical contexts for contemporary practice and culture.

**Unit 703** Synthesis of learning in previous units will lead you in the development of a unique body of work or professional project culminating in a public display or presentation.

#### **Entry requirements:**

It is expected that you will have achieved a 2:2 classification or above in a related undergraduate discipline. By exception, we will also consider applications based on equivalent professional knowledge and/or demonstrated industry experience.

### MFA Structure

#### Duration:

1 year full-time; 2 years part-time

#### How you'll learn:

The MFA has a supervisory mode of study through creative practice, supported by access to our postgraduate community and regular opportunities for critical dialogue and feedback through group critiques alongside MA students and one-to-one tutorials with subject specialist tutors and visiting lecturers.

#### Units of study:

The MFA course consists of 120 credits of self-directed, studio practice-based study additional to your existing MA qualification in a creative subject or after completing an MA course with us. This is a course aimed at those students seeking or requiring an additional period of concentration and professional focus to produce and disseminate a substantial body of work.

#### **Entry requirements:**

We accept candidates with a recent MA qualification or 180 Level 7 credits. Applicants must submit a strong portfolio and personal statement which summarises your creative practice and the work you intend to develop on the MFA course.

#### To Apply:

For more information on the application process, visit our website:

aup.ac.uk/study/postgraduate

To arrange a one-to-one, preapplication advisory meeting, please get in touch:

postgraduate@aup.ac.uk or +44 (0)1752 203434

# Postgraduate community

Our Postgraduate courses are led by practising artists, designers and academics: active makers and researchers in their fields of expertise. As a postgraduate student you are invited to join this community, with opportunities to engage in research and practice both in your own discipline and across Arts University Plymouth.

We also facilitate connections to our network of industry partners, who can provide invaluable opportunities to gain skills and real-world experience. Our campus, as well as being a place for creative discourse among students and staff, is a meeting place for industry representatives, our visiting lecturers, our guest speakers and our undergraduates.

Postgraduate students have opportunities to present their work in our developmental research seminars, where you can experience what it is to be involved in a research network with staff, industry professionals and invited academics alongside opportunities to engage with keynote lectures, workshops, and crits across the University research community. You will be invited to experience our vibrant public gallery and events programme, with the chance to engage with exhibiting artists and

curators, organise gallery events, gain critical writing skills and assist with exhibitions.

During your time on the postgraduate programme, you will have a number of opportunities to broaden your knowledge of your subject through professional placements, residencies, exhibitions, fellowships and bursaries. Some of these opportunities are an ongoing part of the postgraduate curriculum and others are offered as additional components or competitions that change each year through new university partnerships and academic research projects.

### Arts University Plymouth Venice Fellowship

Our Venice Fellowship of £3,000 is offered in partnership with the British Council and provides an extraordinary opportunity to study and work in one the most important global cities for art and culture. The Venice Fellowship sponsors one MA student to live and work for a month in Venice. Italy, during the Venice Biennale, the oldest and largest international art and architecture exhibition in the world. During their time in Venice, Fellows conduct creative research and act as invigilators for the British Council's exhibition

on display at the British Pavilion alongside other Fellows from universities and arts organisations across the UK.

## Wilhelmina-Barns Graham Travel Bursary

Wilhelmina Barns-Graham (1912-2004) was a leading member of the St Ives group of artists who made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of post-war British art. Scottish and St Ives-based artist Wilhelmina Barns-Graham, CBE. established the Barns-Graham Trust in 1987 to promote and broaden the understanding and reputation of her work as one of Britain's most significant 20th century artists. Since 2019-20, our Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Award of £2.500 is given to an Arts University Plymouth postgraduate student to fulfil their potential in the visual arts by providing financial support in their education and funding artist residencies and travel.

See our research staff here: aup.ac.uk/research/research-staff

Take a look at some of our past exhibitions and visiting speakers here: aup.ac.uk/visit/the-gallery

Check out the upcoming programme of exhibitions and events at MIRROR here: mirrorplymouth.com/whats-on



Elliot Walker, Glass Artist (UK)
Gert Beista, Educator, Author (EIRE)
Pablo Helguera, Artist, Performer,
Educator (US)
Abigail Reynolds, Artist (UK)
Lev Manovich, Artist, Author
(Russia/US)
Manuel Lima, Designer, Author (US)
Keiken, Artist Collective (UK)
Phoebe English, Fashion Designer
(UK)

# Postgraduate testimonials

Having been taught within an environment where students are encouraged to be thought leaders in their respective disciplines, our graduates go on to take prominent roles in the cultural and creative industries, higher education and as individual practitioners.

As an alumni of Arts University Plymouth, you will have opportunities to continue to be part of our creative community and contribute through our network of creative professionals, including options to participate in residencies, fellowships, work placements, exhibitions and project grants.

Our Careers and Enterprise team provides a portfolio of tools and workshops during your course of study to aid you in planning for your next steps after graduation. The team can support your connection with local and national professionals working within academia and the creative industries, who might be interested in your work.



#### LAURA QUINN MA 3D Design Crafts

"My time in Plymouth really let me springboard from my degree. The model of learning at Arts University Plymouth gave it that sense of an open-door policy. Going into different departments, trying different techniques and using new equipment was invaluable to progressing so quickly in my career, despite the pandemic. That doesn't happen everywhere and it's something that Arts University Plymouth does so well. They don't just say it's interdisciplinary practice, they genuinely back that up."

@lauraquinndesign

#### **GEORGINA GRANT**

#### MA Fine Art

"I'm a completely different person now, than when I began and to me that is absolutely invaluable. So, anyone who wants to open their mind and use different materials, should come to Arts University Plymouth as the workshops and facilities are absolutely amazing."

@ @georginagrant2art



#### **SUE LEWRY**

#### **MA Printmaking**

"To me, Arts University is like a creative playground. You can shift and move between the ceramics studio, to the Fab Lab, then into the wood workshop and then into the computer suite. So you can cross all disciplines, which for me was really really exciting and I was able to kind of explode with ideas and also learn some really good skills as well. That had a really big influence on what I was making and doing."

@ @suelewry



## SUNNY WU MA Illustration

"My Master's project has helped me significantly with looking at my work and other people's works critically and more meaningfully. I've learnt to 'notice the things I notice', which helps me explore my own visual identity. I tend to go on autopilot when I'm illustrating, drawing motifs in my culture or personal experiences that I don't even realise at the time when I'm creating. I've had the honour to know so many people of all ages, which I didn't expect, and witness the expansiveness of the art they've created. Seeing the beautiful variety has also compelled me to experiment with facilities and studio spaces around campus with mediums such as silkscreen, tufting, knitting,



ceramics, and woodwork."

# Research

Study at MA level is intended to bring you into direct, extended contact and critical dialogue with your discipline as well as providing an opportunity to deepen your understanding of the scholarship, ideas and innovations that are transforming it.

As a university dedicated to the value of creativity and the importance of art, design, media and culture for human ingenuity and connection, we focus on areas of research and knowledge that have been central to our unique vision. Our research groups—Making Futures, Making Learning and Memory Site & Artefact—are led by our research-active staff and are ongoing platforms for projects and enquiries that showcase the emergent thinking that is at the forefront of creative practice, creative education and crossdisciplinary innovation. The research groups also provide opportunities for postgraduate students to engage in external projects and sector-leading, research under the direction of academic staff project leaders.

Making Futures is a research platform exploring contemporary craft and maker movements as 'change agents' in 21st-century society. It is an international research community that examines the transformative potential of contemporary craft/maker practices

and technologies that move toward more renewable, climate-conscious forms of art and materially-led design.

Making Learning seeks to challenge implicit hierarchies of artistic engagement to explore creative pedagogy, using the processes of learning and 'unlearning' to look afresh at the economic, political and ideological implications of 'creativity'. Making Learning seeks to understand new ways that individuals, groups and institutions can develop purposeful agency through creativity, in a complex and unstable world.

The Memory, Site & Artefact research group focuses on cultural discourses and contemporary articulations of collective and personal memory, through the investigation of image and object, as well as textual, performative and interventionist practices. Shared research interests include themes such as globalisation, borders, migration, decolonisation, archives and materiality.

In addition to the research groups, we provide forums and events for exploring some of the leading questions being asked about the future of art, design, media and culture with partners across the South West, England and Europe.

Every two years since 2009, we have hosted our Making Futures conference in Plymouth which brings together an international community of scholars, makers, curators, economists, ethnographers and activists to debate and share ideas on the state of contemporary craft. cultures of making and fabrication technologies. Through the StudioLab for Embodied Media, we conduct cutting-edge experiments in biomaterials, multi-material 3D/4D printing, wearable media and augmented reality. The StudioLab invites applications from recent MA graduates to become Research Affiliates who develop prototypes in haptic and responsive technologies alongside university and local researchers.



# Applying for a postgraduate degree

Our MA courses attract a wide range of artists, designers, craft and media practitioners, educators, critics and entrepreneurs, all of whom are seeking a critical space in which to interrogate and push the boundaries of their specialist interests and working practices.

#### Postgraduate courses

Our courses are structured to encourage debate, exchange of ideas and interdisciplinary collaboration. In order to enrol on one of our Masters courses, a first degree of at least a lower second class honours (2.2) in an art, design, crafts or media discipline is normally required. We may consider equivalent experience as an alternative to part, or all, of these requirements in individual cases: judgements will be based on the relevance of previous art and design work and the strength of your project proposal.

As part of the application, you will be asked to provide digital images of your work, and to submit a short Application Statement (300 words maximum). This statement is a chance to tell us what you want to do on your chosen MA. It might include details of the techniques or themes that you want to investigate, the creative practitioners, and reading that inspire you, and your longer-term professional and creative goals. The application statement is important because it helps us to begin a dialogue about how we can best support your distinctive and individual creative voice.

To enrol on our MFA, a recent MA or 180 Level 7 credits in an art, design, crafts or media discipline is required. The Application Statement can be used to outline the work you intend to develop on the MFA.



# Postgraduate fees & funding

#### Discounts and progression awards

There are a range of awards and discounts available for those who have previously studied at Arts University Plymouth.

Alumni Progression Award: 15% discount on MA or MFA fees for Undergraduate, Pre-Degree and Foundation Diploma in Art & Design graduates who go on to postgraduate study with us.

#### Fees

For 2025/26, fees per year for our postgraduate courses are £8,900 for full-time and £4,985 for part-time UK students. International and EU students' fees are £16,500 and £8,800 for part-time students.

For 2025/26, fees for our MFA course are £5,800 per year for full-time UK students and £3,250 for part-time UK students. International and EU students' fees for MFA are £11,000 for full-time students and £5,830 for part-time students. For more information contact postgraduate@aup.ac.uk

### Scholarships and bursaries for international students

We offer our Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Award to one excellent postgraduate international applicant each year, awarding the successful candidate a discount of £3.500 from full international fees. This is awarded by the Vice-Chancellor on a competitive basis, subject to terms and conditions. We also award Creative Bursaries on merit to international undergraduate and postgraduate applicants who meet benchmarks for excellence of portfolio and commitment to study at interview, offering a discount of up to £2,000 from full international fees. For more information please contact the International Office for advice at international@aup.ac.uk





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# **Accommodation**

Plymouth is a fantastic city for students, regularly ranked highly for quality of living, safety, buzzing student nightlife and being one of the most affordable cities to live in in the UK. In February 2024 StudentCrowd.com ranked Plymouth as the 22nd cheapest city in the UK for student accommodation, easily beating Bristol, Falmouth, Exeter and London.

Compared to many UK cities where student accommodation is scarce, there is an array of city accommodation near to campus for students who apply by the January deadline.

Host are our recommended accommodation partners, providing a range of rooms in two Halls of Residence buildings (The Old Dairy and Frobisher House) which are very close to our campus so you'll only ever have a short walk to get to university - great if you have an early start. Host offers rooms with no deposit, no bills, no additional fees and a no visa, no pay policy for international students.

We also recommend Cross House as an alternative, approved provider owned by Homes for Students. They have options to suit all budgets, also located a short walk from our campus. Plenty of other providers are also available in the city, and we'll do everything we can to help you find your perfect student accommodation iust get in touch with us on accommodation@aup.ac.uk to discuss your options. If you apply after the January deadline or during Clearing, we will still do all we can to support you in finding a high-quality option within walking distance which is endorsed by our Student Union team based on our students' experience of living there.





# Here to support you

We offer a comprehensive range of support services to make sure your university experience runs as smoothly as possible.

Did you know that Arts University Plymouth won a Kindness in Education Award 2023, recognising our collective work in building a kinder and more compassionate university and an inclusive community for staff and students?

#### Student support services

Our Student Support team offers specialist advisors who can provide information and guidance in a variety of areas, including disability support, health and wellbeing.

An example of free services currently offered by the team includes: general health and wellbeing advice; mindfulness training; wellbeing in practice advice; acupuncture for decreasing stress, anxiety and depression; meditation; solution-focussed therapy; relaxation techniques; welfare support; yoga and more. You can contact Student Support by emailing studentsupport@aup. ac.uk or by calling +44 (0)1752 203423

#### Academic support

The Academic Skills team can provide advice and guidance on a variety of academic topics, including time management, critical thinking, academic reading and writing and much more. They offer bookable one-to-one sessions as well as group sessions.

#### **Financial support**

Our Registry team can offer advice and guidance on student finance. We also offer a Hardship Fund that does not need to be repaid, to alleviate unforeseen financial hardship and help support you to continue your studies. You can contact our Registry team by emailing studentfinance@aup.ac.uk



# Welcoming international students

If you aspire to launch a successful career in the creative industries anywhere in the world, there is no better place to start than at Arts University Plymouth. The UK is internationally recognised as the place to study art, design, craft and media, and leads the world in creativity and innovation.

Plymouth is a city of unspoilt coastline and countryside, with top clubs, arts venues and historic sites. Whatever you enjoy, there's something close to Arts University Plymouth for you to get involved in. With affordable accommodation and a safe, friendly environment to offer too, it's not surprising that more than 40,000 students have chosen to make Devon's biggest city - Britain's coolest city by the sea - their home. We are the gateway to the South West of England. We are served by a main Great Western Railway link from London Paddington and by Cross Country Trains north to the

Midlands and Scotland. Plymouth is approximately three hours from London by train.

Becoming an international student at Arts University Plymouth means joining a vibrant creative community with the same goal: success in the creative industries. The UK has a world-renowned reputation for excellence in higher education and as a cultural and commercial hub for the arts: studying in the UK exposes students to the emerging practices that are shaping the creative industries internationally. Choosing Arts University Plymouth for your degree studies means you will gain a globally recognised qualification, and professional experience that will set you apart from other graduates.

We are an international art, design, craft and media institution, welcoming students from the UK and around the world to share ideas and practice, and we encourage our students to explore global opportunities and horizons. We use our onsite public exhibition space, MIRROR, to showcase international artists, and we welcome guest lecturers from overseas at every opportunity, as well as curating, publishing and exhibiting abroad. We arrange exchange programmes and research opportunities with our partners in North America, China and Europe.

We review international applicants' qualifications on a case-by-case basis and assist you through every stage of the application process. We can also offer online pre-sessional English courses to support those applicants who do not meet the direct English entry requirements. For further information about our international fees, English language requirements and international support, please visit aup.ac.uk/international or email international@aup.ac.uk





- "The past year has been transformational for my project and myself. The first few months were about settling in to a new country and getting acquainted with the course. And what started with a fascination to document craftspeople and their practices soon evolved into an admiration for their hand movements which ignited the ideology of embodying their essence in symbolic shapes
- "The various talks throughout the course have played a crucial role in fulfilling this journey by providing the opportunity to learn from artists and experts belonging to diverse disciplines who imparted their experience and knowledge for our understanding.
- "I have managed to expand my perception from 2D to 3D projection. And to achieve this I have upskilled by learning softwares which assisted the development of my research. Throughout the project I have progressed from one form to another and explored interdisciplinary studies.
- "I want to document various other aspects of the crafting world and work towards preserving traditional crafts through visual mediums. The course has unlocked a new arena of research and practice for me and I am inspired to further investigate it."

Chesta Nagar, MA Photography

# **Employability**

Arts University Plymouth is committed to creating positive futures for our students, and our long-standing connection with the creative industries is one of the many reasons why so many of our graduates progress on to work or self-employment so soon after graduation.

Employability is embedded in our curriculum at every level. From core skills such as communication, presentation and negotiation, through to the practicalities of team working, creative collaboration and responding to client briefs, our curriculum has been designed to harness and direct the talent of aspiring creatives enabling them to achieve their career ambitions.

We also place emphasis on enterprise and entrepreneurship, addressing the needs of students who aspire to work as freelance creatives or set up their own businesses. Financial awareness. business planning and marketing skills, supported with one-to-one mentoring, are all part of the curriculum designed to support the next generation of creative entrepreneurs.

Workroom, launched in 2023, supports graduates through our creative business incubation programme. Workroom is designed to accelerate the journeys of ambitious graduates who demonstrate a flair to create and a desire to collaborate, to grow and innovate their creative entrepreneur start-ups.

We are a proud member of Creative UK, the industry body that seeks to place creativity at the heart of the UK's culture, economy and education system. Our students also benefit from Creative UK membership, providing access to events, resources, industry insights and opportunities to kickstart their creative careers.



# **Sustainability**

## Sustainability lies within the heart of Arts University Plymouth.

We are working towards being net carbon zero by 2030. Our sustainability initiatives include moving to a 100% carbon neutral electricity tariff that has significantly reduced our carbon footprint. The university has installed eco-friendly LED lighting throughout our estate and installed solar pV installations to generate more electricity, have increased wall and roof insulation to reduce the amount of energy used to heat the buildings, and replaced singlepane windows on campus with double glazing.

We are continually increasing our green spaces and biodiversity across our campuses and developed the Contemplative Garden during Summer 2021 and a subtropical garden in Summer 2022.

Sustainability and looking after our world and its resources is embedded within our curriculum. Students are empowered to develop practices which reflect this, so they can take their learning into the workplace or their own businesses when they graduate.



In recognition of our efforts, we were shortlisted in the Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility category for the 2022 Think Global Awards, and we continue to encourage staff and students to incorporate sustainability into their practice.



#### Some of our sustainable best practices include:

- Having an active Sustainability Policy, which sets out our sustainability goals
- A dedicated Environment and Sustainability Working Group, run by both students and staff
- Free creative sustainability workshops that students can get involved in through Smart Citizen events run by our Fab Lab, or through our partners at Green Minds
- Being registered with Plastic Free Plymouth, an initiative aimed at providing a comprehensive listing of organisations that are making efforts to reduce their plastic use
- 25kW solar pV system installed on our Charles Cross roof, generating over 15,500 kWs of electricity annually, further reducing our carbon emissions
- Implementing building fabric improvements to ensure each creative space is thermally insulated, and requires less heat to keep the buildings warm
- Installing an electric-powered furnace for our glass workshop, reducing our emissions compared to gas powered furnaces

- Recycling over one third of all our waste
- Recycling all food waste from the canteen
- We have a vape recycling bin on site to allow for safe recycling of 'disposable' vapes
- A vehicle fleet that is 50% electric
- Using local contractors to support local livelihoods and reduce travel mileage
- Sourcing locally produced food for our canteen meals
- Improving and promoting the daily vegan and vegetarian meal options available
- Free bicycle services during Student Sustainability Week
- Partnering with Plymouth City Council to have six e-bikes stationed outside our Tavistock Place campus
- Frequent second-hand and upcycled clothing sales and workshops
- Making our printed prospectus materials for all study levels fully recyclable, and printing fewer of them to reduce waste

# **Getting here**

Known as Britain's Ocean City and the gateway to the South West, Plymouth is well connected. Our campuses, located in the heart of Plymouth's 'Cultural Quarter', are easily accessible no matter where you're coming from.

#### Arriving by car

If you're travelling by car and using a satnav, the postcode PL4 8BA will lead you to Regent Street Public Car Park, just next door to our Tavistock Place campus.

We have limited parking at Tavistock Place, which is given as a priority to disabled visitors. For more information on parking, visit the Plymouth City Council website at plymouth.gov.uk/parking, or plymouth.gov.uk/park-and-ride

#### Arriving by train

We're just five minutes away from Plymouth train station, where direct services depart to London Paddington, Bristol, the Midlands, the North of England, Scotland and Penzance. Contact National Rail on +44 (0)3457 48 49 50, nationalrail.co.uk, or +44 (0)333 202 2222. thetrainline.com

#### Arriving by coach

The university is within walking distance of Plymouth Coach Station on Mayflower Street. National Express services run to London Victoria via Exeter and to many other UK destinations. Contact National Express on +44 (0)871 781 8181, nationalexpress. com, Megabus on +44 (0) 900 1600 900, uk.megabus.com or Stagecoach on stagecoachbus.com

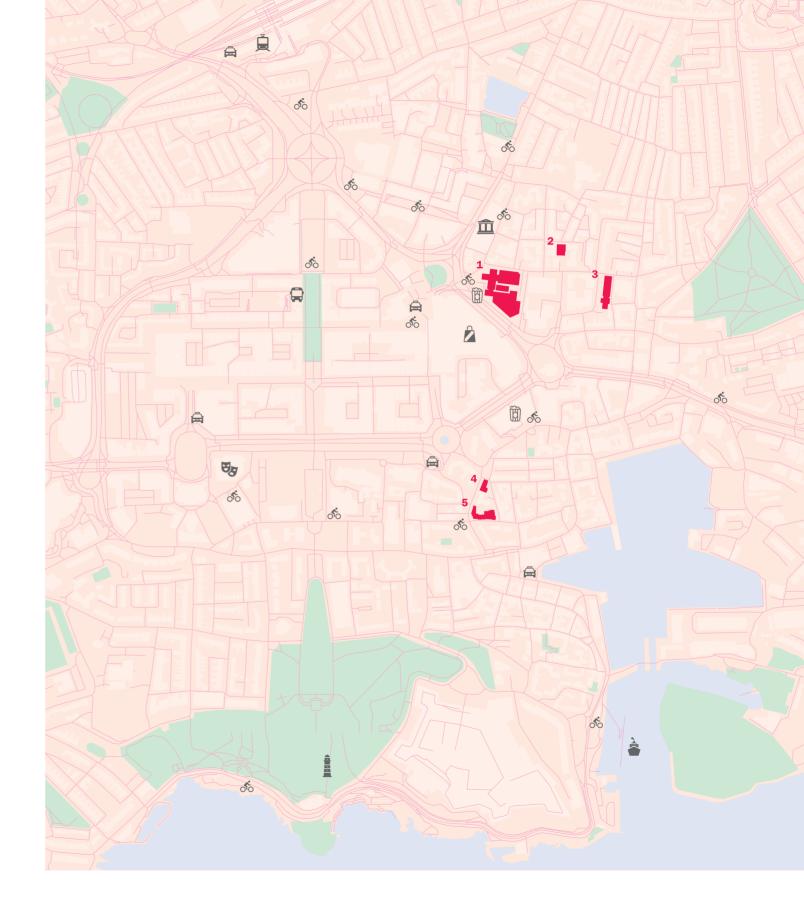
#### Need more help?

We'll do our best to schedule a visit to suit your travel plans, and are happy to recommend local places to stay or explore in and around Plymouth. Call us on +44 (0)1752 203434 or download these directions and a map at aup.ac.uk/visit/getting-here

#### Key:

- 1 Charles Cross / Tavistock Place
- 2 Studio 11
- 3 Studio 44
- 4 Palace Studio
- 5 Palace Court

- Bicycle hire
- Coach station
- Ferry terminal
- □ Taxi rank
- Train station





Undergraduate & Postgraduate Prospectus 2025/26

# **Contact us**

#### Follow us

Follow us on social media and sign up to receive updates on our artist talks, gallery openings, student exhibitions and more:

¶ ⊙ ⊘ X • @artsuniplym

#### **Contact details**

Arts University Plymouth Tavistock Place Plymouth Devon, PL4 8AT United Kingdom +44 (0)1752 203434 enquiries@aup.ac.uk

+44 (0)7722 744184

Our prospectus gives you a picture of what it is like to study at the university as well as a guide to fees and entry requirements as of its publication date in February 2024 for entry in the 2025/26 academic year.

Always refer to our website for upto-date and detailed fee and course information.

This prospectus is fully recyclable. Once you're done with it, please pass it on to another artist or designer, who may be interested in creative study, or recycle it responsibly.

#### Design

51 Studio x Thomas Donald, Senior Designer and BA (Hons) Graphic Design Graduate

#### Contributing photographers:

Dom Moore, Jay Stone, Luke Frost, Sarah Packer and Tim Gundry

Print

eltor

#### BA (Hons) courses:

Animation & Games
Commercial Photography
Costume Production
Craft & Material Practices
Fashion Media & Marketing
Fashion Design
Film & Screen Arts
Fine Art
Graphic Design
Illustration
Interior Design & Styling
Painting, Drawing & Printmaking
Photography
Textile Design

UAL Foundation Diploma in Art & Design Extended BA (Hons) Degrees MA programmes