

THREE DIMENSIONAL DESIGN



Course information

The Three Dimensional Design course provides students with experiences that explore a range of three dimensional media, processes and techniques. They will study, and respond to, work that has been produced using traditional and new media; developing their knowledge and understanding of the properties of materials and how they can be utilized in the formation of sculptures, artefacts, products or architectural forms.

The students will produce work that gives them the opportunity to work on different scales, with different technologies and within different genres and, as they progress through the course, they will be given greater freedom to interpret design briefs in directions that suit and interest them most.

The first year of the course is aimed at developing a range of analytical, conceptual and making skills in preparation for the assessed units, which are undertaken in the second year. They will address projects that develop further knowledge and understanding of materials, processes and techniques.

The first formal unit of the second year is called the 'Personal Investigation', which provides students with the opportunity to devise and organise a personal project, focusing on whichever concepts, styles and techniques they see fit. The second unit is set by the Exam Board and requires the student to respond to one of seven broad starting briefs, and will culminate in 15 hours of supervised time.

Assessment

Both units are assessed internally, and moderated by the Exam Board (AQA). The first unit is worth 60% of the marks at A level and the second unit is worth 40%.

Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and skills in all of the following:

- Appreciation of solid, void, form, shape, texture, colour, decoration, surface treatment, scale, proportion, structure, rhythm and movement
- Awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of three dimensional design
- Awareness of the relationship between three dimensional design and urban, rural or other settings
- Appreciation of the relationship of form and function and, where applicable, the ability to respond to a concept, work to a brief, theme or topic, or answer a need in the chosen area(s) of three dimensional design
- The safe use of a variety of appropriate tools and equipment
- Understanding of working methods, such as model-making, constructing and assembling.

Why study Three Dimensional Design?

Design is a crucial product of our curiosity, experimentalism and needs. We are surrounded by artefacts that have been designed and made and it is impossible to imagine functioning as we do without such items.

Whether it is sculpture, product design, architecture or interior design, understanding materials, processes, form, function and aesthetics is fundamental to every aspect of the culture that we create. The process of devising, developing and making objects and artefacts is both challenging and rewarding. From the selection of materials and the experimentation with processes and technologies to the refinement and production of final objects the skills required in problem solving, analysing and making are wide-ranging, demanding and extremely transferable in an age when our relationship with products, structures and materials and our environment is as important, and fast developing, as it has ever been.

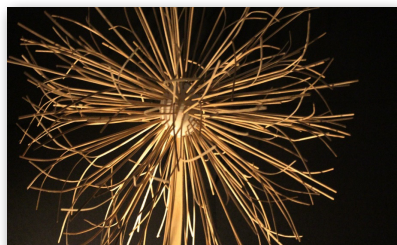


Progression Opportunities

Students who study Three Dimensional Design will typically progress to careers in areas such as: engineering, product design, architecture, environmental design, sculpture, 3D modelling & visualization and film & set design. Of course, many students will take this A level subject who go on to study less directly related subjects but where many of the skills are applicable and useful – some applicants for medicine and dentistry have fed back to us that these courses value the visual and motor skills that three-dimensional design provides.

Additional information

The first Year of the course will include trips to relevant exhibitions and workshops and manufacturing environments in order to support students in their contextual knowledge and understanding.



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