

Welcome to the Year 12 A-Level Photography Course

A-Level photography is an art and design-based A-level specialising in a range of lens-based media including printing, processing, black and white film, location work, studio work, Photoshop, digital media and creative experimental work.

This exciting hands-on course offers you the knowledge and skills to become highly inventive in the creation and production of eye catching, thought provoking imagery. The course follows both traditional and digital techniques where much emphasis is based upon the research and study of both historical and contemporary photographers.

This bridging unit is an opportunity for you to explore some of the core skills needed in Photography as well as showing us just how creative you can be.

During the first unit of work that we study after the summer will be a Foundation programme of work teaching camera skills, digital editing and visual awareness.

In order to prepare for this work and future assignments, it is important to develop your basic picture-taking skills using either a digital camera or camera-phone.

Your bridging work has three assignments. You must complete all three.

Assignment 1:

Visit at least one museum or gallery to see a range of photographic work. This could be the Photographers Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery or the photography galleries of The V&A. However you may wish to find others through your own independent research. While you are there you should record your visit by pick up a few postcards /leaflets of the photographs you have seen, and if possible by taking photos.

If you are unable to visit a Gallery, then as an alternative visit an online photo-sharing website such as flickr.

In response to the visit you must produce a series photographs that have been influenced or shaped by your visit. Re-interpret the ideas or images you experienced in your own style using your local environment, friends and family.

In September, bring on your first day, an image that inspired you from your gallery visit and one of the photos that you took in response.



TERENCE DONOVAN: SPEED OF LIGHT at Photographers Gallery, 15 Jul – 25 Sep 2016

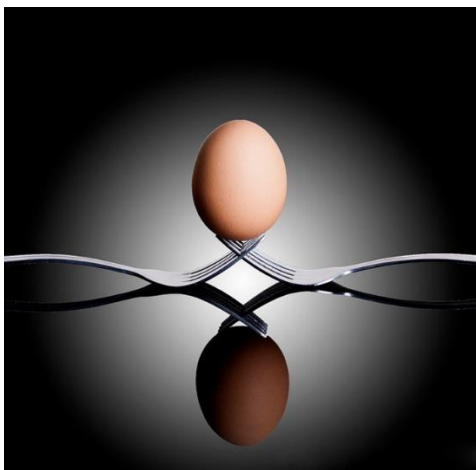
Assignment 2:

You will have a variety of Themes to select from below and must select a minimum of THREE. In each case try to be creative in the way you interpret each one, and don't go for the obvious. Do a little research to find out how others have taking photographs of similar subjects and use this to help you establish your own vision.

Themes. (5-10 photos of each)

1. Interiors; Photos of your own room or others in your house, or even a hotel room while on holiday. The objective is to explore composition ideas (crop, frame, close up, viewpoint, angle of view, and depth of focus) on an everyday subject.
2. A series of views from any window; any observed window view which, ideally includes both part of the interior and view beyond.
3. Still life; Set up an interesting collection of objects at home and create a single light source. Try shooting from unusual angles and adjusting the light to create long dramatic shadows, or to pick out the textures and details. Do not use the flash.
4. Landscape. This can include parks, gardens, wooded views etc. Pay particular attention to finding new and creative ways of photographing the familiar e.g. worms eye views, close ups, panoramas, night time shots.
5. Cityscapes/architecture; For example, take a photo-walk or journey that maps out a tour of London. Focus on the abstract aspects that can be found in buildings.

In September, bring your three series of images.



Assignment 3:

Research ONE of these following famous portrait photographers:

Annie Leibovitz, Steve McCurry, Diane Arbus, Philippe Halsman, Cindy Sherman, Mario Testino, David Bailey, Rankin, Mary Ellen Mark, Arnold Newman, Eve Arnold.

Look at a range of their portraits and print out or save three or four of your favourites.

Websites like <https://filtergrade.com/best-portrait-photographers-to-inspire-you/> are a good place to start.

Then experiment using portrait photography. This can be self-portraits or of friends and family. Consider close ups, side views, silhouettes etc. Think about locations and setting, and most importantly lighting.

In September, bring the three or four photos by this photographer and your best portrait.

In September

You will be presenting your photographs to the rest of the class. You should be prepared to talk about them and respond to questions from staff and your peers.

You don't need to buy a camera, at this point; advice will be given when we start the course in September. If you have any further queries regarding this work you can email

Mr Taylor TR@kingsburyhigh.org.uk

Or Mr Fordyce FE@kingsburyhigh.org.uk



Mary Ellen Mark