
Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art & Design

What is the course about?

The Extended Diploma in Art and Design is an exciting course if you are interested in or currently studying: Art and Design, Photography, Textiles, Design Technology or ICT. This course is an alternative way to progress to university; providing the vital bridge between school and university, helping students to become an independent thinker and practitioner. Students have the opportunity to work in the following subject areas, Fine Art (Painting, Drawing, Printmaking, Sculpture, Digital Media), Textiles, Ceramics, 3D Design, Fashion, Graphic Design, Photography, Jewellery, Art History and Illustration.

The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art & Design is made up of 11 mandatory units and two formally graded units. Year 1 – Units 1 to 9. Year 2 – Units 10 to 14. The units are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

In Year 2 around November time for a week, students will have the opportunity to go on an educational trip to London. The London trip is a chance to visit/explore university options in and around the London area, and visit the UCAS fair along with galleries, museums, media studios, shopping, current major exhibitions and high fashion boutiques. Approx £380. Research the universities, make sure it is relevant to your course of study. It is an educational trip, not a holiday. Around June time, there is also a day trip to Manchester to see the Art, Design and Media degree show at Manchester School of Art (Manchester Metropolitan University) and Manchester/Liverpool Art Galleries.

This is a perfect opportunity for you to see the exhibition that the Manchester students are mounting at the end of their three year degree experiences, particularly as you will have recently set up your own end of year exhibition.

What are the entry requirements?

4 GCSEs at grade C or above at least one of which should be in a media or art and design subject, or an equivalent Level 2 qualification in a relevant subject, with a Level 2 profile at merit and distinction grades. Students should be advised that some university degree courses require students to have gained a GCSE at C or above in Maths and English. Students may be advised to complete these qualifications to ensure they have the best possible chance to progress to Higher Education. A Portfolio of Digital Media, Art and Design or Design Technology work should be presented at interview, along with either a reference or school report/Record of Achievement.

What subjects will I study?

Year 1 – you will be introduced to the principles of art, design and media theory, plus technical and practical skills. You will explore and experiment in relation to design briefs, to help you choose a specialism. You will finish the year with real-life projects with external organisations and will exhibit your work in the end of year show.

Year 2 – you will be stretched and challenged as you extend your knowledge and experience of the disciplines within which you are working. You will prepare for degree level study by becoming increasingly independent. You will be fully supported by staff with your higher education application interviews and producing a portfolio. You will be working with subject specialist briefs through the year and will produce a final major project which you will exhibit in an end of year exhibition.

How will I be assessed?

The course is based on continual assessment approx. every six weeks and takes the form of an exhibition of the work completed during this period. At the end of the course you will produce a final project which demonstrates your skills and creativity in your chosen specialist discipline. This body of work is displayed in the end of year exhibition. You will also produce through the course a portfolio of work for progression onto a higher education course/university or employment.

What are my progression and career options?

Higher Education / University / Employment opportunities in art and design including but not limited to: Visual Communication, 3D Design, Fashion/Textiles, Fine Art.

Who should I contact?

Please contact the Programme Area Secretary on 648200 or email applications@ucm.ac.im