



Gordon's Sixth Form

PHOTOGRAPHY

A LEVEL

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?

You will be taught to develop:

- Your imaginative and creative powers
- Your personal viewpoints
- Your practical skills
- Your experimental skills
- Your analytical and documenting skills

What other skills will I develop by doing this course?

As well as covering the A Level study of Art and Design, the key skills that you will develop are:

- Risk taking and making use of failure
- Rigorous self-evaluation and critical reflection
- Organising, planning and time management
- Working independently and in collaboration
- Literacy and communication through technical descriptions and a detailed essay



ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

AO1	DEVELOP ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.
AO2	EXPLORE and select appropriate resources media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining their ideas as their work develops.
AO3	RECORD in visual and/or other forms ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions, demonstrating an ability to reflect on their work and progress.
AO4	PRESENT a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, oral or other elements.

YEAR 12 COURSE DETAILS

You will begin the course working through a series of technical workshops designed to develop photographic skills. You will learn how to; capture images in a variety of lighting conditions, explore angles, composition concepts, depth of field and focusing techniques. You will then progress to editing and learn to enhance and manipulate their images using Adobe Photoshop. You will be encouraged to manipulate photographs through other means, and can create pieces combined with artistic techniques, using a range of materials. In the past, students have then been able to create 3D installations and sculptures using these techniques, encouraging further creativity.

Component 1: Coursework - Personal Investigation

You will begin your Personal Investigation in the Spring Term of Year 12. You will select your own area of focus, researched from primary and other sources and contexts. You will start to develop ideas using media and process exploration, producing a sustained practical investigation and ongoing review with a personal response, demonstrating connections to contexts.



YEAR 13 COURSE DETAILS

The Personal Investigation will continue into Year 13, where you will then begin to write your Personal Study (3000 words approx.) which will support your practical work. You will researched from a range of contextual sources related to your ongoing practical work and write in-depth analysis and evaluations.

Your practical work will continue alongside the written essay, and will be completed over the first term of Year 13. You will then create a final piece before the February deadline.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

This paper will be given approximately 10 weeks in advance of the exam. The theme is set externally.

WHAT COULD I GO ON TO DO AT THE END OF THE COURSE?

You could study a degree which could lead you into a career on the following:

- Photojournalism
- Cinematography
- Film and Media
- Film Production
- Fashion
- Media
- Film and TV Make up
- Graphic design
- Fashion branding and communication
- Films and visual effects technology
- Computer games and story development
- Marine and natural history photography

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Understanding of hardware and software, analysing, evaluating, researching, problem solving, experimenting, presenting and refining.

PHOTOGRAPHY



CONTACT DETAILS

Head of Department

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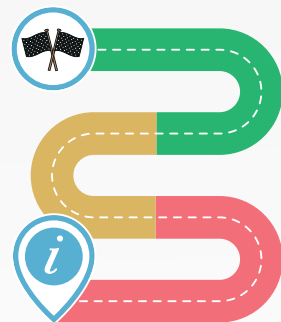
Exam Board

Edexcel

Specification

9AD01

CURRICULUM MAP



COURSE DETAILS

YEAR 12:

Component 1: Foundation skills

Students work through a series of technical workshops designed to develop photographic skills. They learn how to capture images in a variety of lighting conditions, explore angles, composition concepts, depth of field and focusing techniques. Students then progress to editing and learn to enhance and manipulate their images using Adobe Photoshop. Students are also encouraged to manipulate photographs through other means, and can create pieces combined with artistic techniques, using a range of materials. In the past, students have then been able to create 3D installations and sculptures using these techniques, encouraging further creativity. Throughout the year students work both in the studio and outside in natural light. They investigate different themes and purposes of photography looking at documentary, advertising, staging, portraiture, still life and artistic photography. The practical work will be informed by critical research and investigations into the work of professional artists and photographers from a range of times and countries. Work is refined and organised into a portfolio which will demonstrate skills in the four assessment objectives, outlined below.

YEAR 13 (A LEVEL):

Component 1: Personal Study 60% of A Level marks

Students work through a series of technical workshops designed to develop photographic skills. They are then guided through the writing of a research question based on an area of interest. They will write an essay which is also assessed as part of their A Level personal study work. They learn to interpret photographic work in a more meaningful way, investigating key periods or themes of photography. Students select their preferred techniques and refine their practice, developing their own style and ways of working. They present their practical work which is assessed against the four assessment objectives; develop, experiment and refine, record observations, and present. A supporting essay (1000-3000 words), providing a critical analysis of their work and the work of relevant artists and photographers, is also presented for assessment.

Component 2: Exam, 40% of A2 marks

Students develop a personal response to an exam question, the exam concludes with a 15 hour practical. All the work they produce is assessed against the four assessment objectives, outlined below.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

COMPONENTS	% OF GCE	DETAILS
Personal Investigation	60%	A body of work covering the Assessment Objectives with final outcomes in 2 and 3 dimensions. Assessment Objectives: Required skills and knowledge A01: Develop ideas through a sustained and focused investigation informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding. A02: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops. A03: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress. A04: Present a personal and meaningful response that realizes intentions, and where appropriate, make connections between visual and other elements. In addition, one 3,000 word essay accompanies the practical work.
Exam	40%	This paper will be given in early February, in advance of the exam. The theme is set externally.



WIDER READING

- Read This If You Want To Take Great Photographs by Henry Carroll
- The Essence of Photography: Seeing and Creativity by Bruce Barnbaum
- Bound by Rachel Hazell
- The British Journal of Photography online: <https://www.bjp-online.com>



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