

# A-LEVEL ART

## INTRODUCTION

A-level Art will be studied under the EDEXCEL Board. The course falls into two halves, AS level in Year 12, and A-level in Year 13.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The best foundation for success at AS or A-level is a good grade at GCSE Art. However this isn't a requirement. If you have an aptitude for the subject, if you are creative or 'good at drawing', you may have the basic skills to succeed. However, A/AS Art is not an easy option and you must be prepared to work hard at developing your abilities. You should have an understanding of the basic elements of art - colour, tone, form, etc., and some understanding of the place of art, craft and design in the world - its history and its purpose. Above all you should have an interest in creating and understanding art and the determination to develop that interest.

## THE COURSE

The main purpose of the course is to develop your ability to appreciate the visual world, respond in a personal and creative way and perhaps contribute for the benefit of everyone. The skills you will develop will be varied. Among them you will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within art. You will develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using art, craft and design. You will develop your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills. You will also develop a specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and contemporary society.

**The course consists of four units:**

### **6031 - Unit 1: 60% of the AS, 30% of Advanced GCE – Art & Design Coursework**

The Shell – You will cover the formal elements of art while developing the theme of the shell as a metaphor for the human, externally, internally and within the world.

### **6032 - Unit 2: 40% of AS, 20% of Advanced GCE**

Art and Design externally set, including 8 hours unaided work, internally marked, externally moderated. This paper will be given in February and represents the culmination of the AS course.

### **6033 – Unit 3: 30% of the Advanced GCE**

This unit incorporates two linked elements:

- Practical Study
- Personal Study

Practical work aims to provide opportunities for students to pursue their own creative, visual ideas in a chosen area of Art and Design. Personal study – work for this element requires students to produce an illustrated dissertation on a selected aspect of others' art, craft and design.

### **6034 – Unit 4: 20% of Advanced GCE**

The Paper will be available to students in February. Students are given an extensive time to respond to the externally set paper working towards an unaided conclusive piece produced over 3 days in the summer term.

## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

### **AO1**

Develop their ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

25%

### **AO2**

Experiment with and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining their ideas as their work develops.

25%

### **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.

25%

### **AO4**

Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, oral or other elements.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Students who wish to undertake further study on art and design, usually at art college or further education college
- Students who are looking to take up careers for which an art background is relevant e.g. advertising, publishing, architecture, etc.
- The Fine Arts, sculpture and painting do have a less formulated career structure. However, many employers do regard a foundation training within art as a good grounding to employ someone within more commercial fields, such as graphical illustration or studio ceramics.

Some Basic Materials are free to use, though we ask students to provide their own brushes, sketchbooks, sketching materials and paints to work with at home and in free periods. These materials are available from the Art department at cost prices, currently about £25.00. Students also need to pay for their printing of work. Which is currently 10p per A4 Sheet.

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Pupils must have achieved a Grade C or above in GCSE Art.

**For further information see Mr P Phillips**