

**BA (Hons) Photography**  
**Programme Specification 2024/25**

<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of the Arts London
<b>College</b>	London College of Communication
<b>School</b>	Media
<b>Programme</b>	LCC Photography(L046)
<b>Course AOS Code</b>	LCCBAPHOF01
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	Level 6 Degree
<b>Course Credits</b>	360
<b>Mode</b>	Full Time
<b>Method</b>	Face to Face
<b>Duration of Course</b>	3 years
<b>Valid From</b>	September 1st 2024
<b>Course Entry Requirements</b>	<p>The course team welcomes applicants from a broad range of backgrounds from all over the world. The course attracts students who apply direct from A-level (or equivalent) or from Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, or other art or design courses, as well as mature students who may have previously worked in the industry.</p> <p><b>The standard entry requirements for this course are as follows:</b></p> <p>104 UCAS tariff points, which can be made up of one or a combination of the following accepted full level 3 qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Levels at grade C or above (preferred subjects include: English; History; Media; Business; Art and Design, or other subjects within Social Sciences).</li> <li>• Distinction at Foundation Diploma in Art &amp; Design (Level 3 or 4).</li> <li>• Distinction, Merit, Merit at BTEC Extended Diploma (preferred subjects: Art and Design, IT &amp; Computing, Media).</li> <li>• Merit at UAL Extended Diploma.</li> <li>• Access to Higher Education Diploma (preferred subject: Digital and Creative Media, Film and</li> </ul>

	<p>Production).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OR equivalent EU/International qualifications, such as International Baccalaureate Diploma at 24 points minimum</li> </ul> <p>And 5 GCSE passes at grade 4 or above (grade A*-C)</p> <p><b>APEL - Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning</b></p> <p>If you do not meet these entry requirements but your application demonstrates additional strengths and alternative relevant experience, you may still be considered. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Related academic or work experience;</li> <li>• The quality of the personal statement;</li> <li>• A strong academic or other professional reference;</li> <li>• A combination of these factors.</li> </ul> <p>Each application will be considered on its own merit. We cannot guarantee an offer in each case.</p> <p><b>English language requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IELTS level 6.0 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking.</li> </ul> <p>All classes are taught in English. If English isn't your first language, you will need to show evidence of your English language ability when you enrol. For further guidance, please check our <a href="#">English language requirements</a>.</p>
<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<p>The portfolio, along with the details on your UCAS application (including the academic reference and your personal statement) will be assessed against the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstration of an appreciation of photography as a specialised discipline.</li> <li>▪ Technical skills and experimentation with visual creativity, demonstrated in your own photographic work.</li> <li>▪ Evidence of research and development of ideas</li> </ul>

	<p>through practice to achieve specific outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Quality of ideas and thought processes in the production of your work.</li></ul>
<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching</b>	<p>Details of the Scheduled Learning and Teaching can be found on your student portal on SITS, the UAL student records system, at the following link:</p> <p><a href="https://sits.arts.ac.uk/urd/sits.urd/run/siw_lgn">https://sits.arts.ac.uk/urd/sits.urd/run/siw_lgn</a></p> <p>Click on the “scheduled learning and teaching” tab on the home screen when you have logged in using your UAL details.</p>

## Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

### Year 1

Awards	Credits
Certificate of Higher Education	120

### Year 2

Awards	Credits
Diploma of Higher Education	240

### Year 3

Awards	Credits
Bachelor of Arts	360

### Scheduled Learning Split by Level

Level 4	24%
Level 5	22%
Level 6	19%
<b>Total Scheduled Learning Split</b>	<b>22%</b>

## Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

<b>Aim/Outcome</b>	<b>Description</b>
Aim	Enable all students to reach their creative and intellectual potential.
Aim	Enable all students to develop an understanding of the interrelated nature of theory and practice.
Aim	Enable all students to gain technical skills relevant to a diverse range of photographic opportunities.
Aim	Enable all students to gain professional and transferable skills relevant to a diverse range of photographic opportunities.
Outcome	Produce significant photographic projects which deal with current and historical debate. (Realisation, Communication; Knowledge)
Outcome	Demonstrate a strong understanding of the variety of approaches used towards contemporary photographic practices. (Process, Enquiry)
Outcome	Use a variety of transferable skills enabling students to continue their photographic practice; to find employment in many areas of contemporary media forms and/or continue to postgraduate study. (Process)
Outcome	Demonstrate an ability to research, organise and evaluate a sophisticated range of source material. (Enquiry)

## Distinctive Features

- 1 RESEARCH INFORMED AND PRACTICE-BASED BA (Hons) Photography is part of the highly regarded Media School, which has a strong tradition in photographic education and a proven record of delivering photography course content at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The London College of Communication is in the heart of London and plays host to one of the largest photography hubs in the world. The teaching encourages students to synthesise theory, practice, and professional practice. Ideas are constantly interrogated and tested through practice-based responses to problems identified as urgent and necessary to address. Central to developing work on the course is using creative practice to critically explore your subject. This involves experimentation, the development of technical skills, and expanded ideas of research. This necessitates bringing both academic engagement and your own embodied knowledge, interests, and experiences to your working practice.
- 2 EMPLOYABILITY AND ENTERPRISE BA (Hons) Photography graduates from the University of the Arts London will have a diverse set of transferable skills and career opportunities. This is supported by the course's strong relationship with contemporary photographic cultures and industries. Students' employability is supported through an exploration of their own professional interests, their conceptual explorations, the development of a substantial and diverse portfolio of work, and the ability to map their creative skillsets to a specific industry.
- 3 DIVERSITY BA (Hons) Photography is a diverse community of students and scholars aligned with the values that embody equality, diversity, and inclusivity. The material that students are presented with is from a diverse range of backgrounds, which reflects the student cohort. The staff are committed to looking at the kinds of knowledge that are used to explore ideas and are critically engaged with questioning historic and ongoing injustices in terms of whom and for whom photographic work is designed to serve and represent.
- 4 COLLABORATION AND GLOBAL OUTLOOK Collaboration is a substantial part of becoming a professional practitioner, so several units are collaboratively assessed and necessitate working with peers, external industry partners, and defined communities. Each week, BA (hons) Photography students will be introduced to and work with an inspiring range of industry experts and leaders from the international world of professional photography who visit to conduct talks, workshops, and tutorials. Our students collaborate with and have opportunities to study at our global university partners. These include opportunities for exchange at ArtEZ Institute of the Arts, Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences, the Royal Academy of Arts in The Hague, the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in New York, and Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU).

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5 FUTURE FACING AND INNOVATION BA (Hons) Photography takes a future-facing approach, blending a creative and strategic understanding of how the photographic medium is developing in a technological, theoretical, and industry context. We explore the photographic in a diverse range of forms, with a focus on both traditional analogue and new digital practices. Central to the course is the diversity of approaches to photographic mediums, which is considered broad and expanding.



## Course Detail

BA (Hons) Photography is an ideas-driven, multi-genre photography course which combines practice, theory, professionalism and technical expertise. You'll graduate as a critically engaged creative who is conceptually driven and professionally focused.

### What to expect

Each year of study is divided into two 15-week blocks with individual units focused on Practice, Contextual Studies and Professional Practice to support and develop your knowledge and understanding.

Professional practice and business skills are provided both within the course and by the award-winning UAL Student Enterprise and Employability service.

Together these enable you to develop a distinctive and original voice as a photographer, and provide you with the conceptual, technical, and professional skills to underpin the highest level of practice and prepare you for your future career.

Technical workshops covering a huge variety of techniques are delivered throughout the course, introducing you to many areas of photographic practice.

Exposure to professional environments through visits, lectures and input from guest speakers' broadens your vision on the possible career outcomes of a photography degree.

We also encourage exploration of the wider resources at LCC such as the UAL archives and special collections, including the library's Zine collection and the Stanley Kubrick archive, where possible.

You are directed to resources that will assist you in utilising central London, which allows ready access to museums and galleries.

The achievements of the staff team and the contacts they have with the larger world of photography help create a stimulating environment in which to work and learn.

### Work experience and opportunities

We are committed to enhancing your employability, and entrepreneurship. Success within the arts and media is about the integration of practice, skills and mindset that enable you to develop and sustain a rewarding working life. Our curriculum is designed to expand the possibilities of your own creativity by developing your unique subjectivity, career aspirations and professional awareness, whether for the creative and cultural sector or

beyond.

In Block 1 of Year 2 – Study Abroad

Additionally, you'll have the opportunity to undertake the [Diploma in Professional Studies](#) or the [UAL Diploma in Creative Computing](#) between Years 2 and 3 to enhance your learning experience and employability skills.

### **Mode of study**

BA (Hons) Photography is offered in full-time mode. It is divided into 3 stages over 3 academic years. Each stage consists of 31 teaching weeks. You will be expected to commit an average of 40 hours per week to your course, including teaching hours and independent study.

### **Course Units**

We are committed to ensuring that your skills are set within an ethical framework and are embedding UAL's Principles for Climate, Social and Racial Justice into this course.

In common with all courses at the University of the Arts London, this course is credit rated. The course is three years, levels 4-6. Each year requires you to achieve 120 credits. To be awarded the BA (Hons) Photography qualification, you need to accumulate a total of 360 credits.

### **Year 1**

During the first year, through a series of specially designed theory and practice sessions, you will learn about historical and contemporary photography practices, and the key theoretical frameworks used to situate them.

You'll be introduced to specialist photographic skills and creative methodologies in a supportive environment, to develop your curiosity and creativity.

Throughout the course, there will be a guest lectures from industry professionals, including professional photographers, artists, filmmakers, picture editors, curators, commissioners and more, giving insight into a range of photographic practices and providing a space to meet other photography students from across the programme at BA and MA levels.

In your first year you will be introduced the wider resources of the university, including the Digital space where you can sign up to short courses offering Adobe accreditation in Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere, or other software course.

You'll be supported through tutorials to develop and research your own photographic ideas in relation to project briefs and experiment with the technical skills to develop your personal position as a photographer.

### **Introduction to Photography (20 Credits)**

This unit acts as an introduction to the course and to your subject specialism. Topics covered include effective learning and studentship at undergraduate level as well as introducing basic technical skills.

### **Remix, Remake (20 Credits)**

This unit is designed to familiarise you with making practice-based work that is informed by experimentation, the development of critical, practical skills and peer-to-peer learning. Designed to assist in your exploration of the medium, the unit asks you to consider photography as a current visual practice and how it is used in wider visual culture.

### **Histories in Context (20 Credits)**

This unit addresses some of the key debates concerning photographic representation today. Using appropriate cultural and critical methods, the unit encourages you to develop an awareness of how these debates have emerged.

### **Photographic Fictions (40 Credits)**

Photographic Fictions is an opportunity for you to identify and develop photographic work with a particular focus on the book form. The unit specifically considers how work might address the potential of photographic mediations, formulating an expanded understanding of narrative which explores contemporary (as well as historic) concerns.

### **Ideas in Practice (20 Credits)**

This unit works in conjunction with the Practice-Research unit Photographic fictions in addressing some of the key contemporary questions concerning photographic representation. However, in this unit you will be focused on how your work can be circulated to an audience Through collaborative working, and in discussion with your tutors, you will engage in the production of audio-visual material that deals with ideas considered to be important by your group.

## **Year 2**

As you move into Year 2, you will expand on your skills and start to develop a more specific understanding of your work. You will be encouraged to question the contexts in which

your work may be encountered and how your work is placed in relation to wider visual cultures. Year 2 builds on the foundations established in Year 1, introducing themes of practice, contextual studies, and professional development.

Students work through considerations of the medium, usage, and institutional setting, to focus on two key themes of contemporary photography: society and culture.

Towards the end of the year, the emphasis in contextual studies shifts towards preparation for your selection of a research topic that you will continue to explore in the third year.

### **Expanded Practice (20 Credits)**

This unit encourages you to consider the photographic medium in an expanded sense. It will examine the production of work with a clearly identified context in mind, but also consider the conceptual underpinning and positionality of any visual artefact. The focus of the unit will be on how photography is expanding into and being accompanied by other forms of making, such as moving images, sculpture, and computation.

### **Thinking Ecologies (20 Credits)**

This unit places emphasis on contemporary photographic issues and practices and builds on your developing understanding of historical and theoretical photographic knowledge. This unit develops essential skills in independent research and critical thinking, and provides critical insight into photographic practice.

### **The Live Brief (Industry, Community and Collaboration) (20 Credits)**

The Professional Collaborations (Elective) Unit provides you with the opportunity to choose from a number of available collaborative options. Through this process you will share skills and expertise with others and gain insight from working on projects that may fall outside of the usual opportunities provided within the course.

### **Situating Practices (40 Credits)**

Situating Practices considers how visual work is created in relation to theories of site and location. The unit asks you to consider questions regarding how the meaning of your practical work may change depending on the context in which it is placed. You will be asked to consider the extent to which your work can be used to transform, subvert, enhance, or otherwise work in relation to a site or space of inquiry. This practice-based unit encourages you to think of yourself as a fieldworker and consider how image makers engage in a specific public sphere. To this end, documentation of the project will be presented on a website. The production and skills required to undertake this medium will

be delivered in specific sessions to be included in the schedule.

### **Culture Machines (20 Credits)**

This unit explores models of production and their consequence for meaning, identity and value. Culture Machines will contribute to your developing skills in independent research.

### **Year 3**

Year 3, the final stage of your degree, consolidates and develops your ability to direct and plan your own work. All final year units are designed to enable you to think about how you may be able to sustain your practice after graduation and find exciting career opportunities.

### **Research Project (40 Credits)**

The Research Project is developed on a self-selected topic, chosen to complement your practice interests and provides you with the opportunity to develop a larger set of questions and ideas using skills, knowledge, and understanding acquired over the course.

### **Major Project 1 (20 Credits)**

In this unit you will begin the exploratory process of researching and making visual work towards your final major project. You will begin to develop a written proposal, complete a risk assessment and begin to make work that will be further developed in the Major Project 2 unit.

### **Major Project 2 (40 Credits)**

Major Project 2 builds on your interests and knowledge acquired from previous units to produce a significant body of practice based work. You will be supported in conducting in-depth research and technical / methodological experimentation, which will on completion will demonstrate sophisticated understanding and articulation of your own practice.

### **Creative Futures (20 Credits)**

Creative Futures explores the future possibilities of photographic practice and scholarship open to graduates.

The unit considers the ways that your practice can be situated in contemporary culture and focuses on personal professional planning, considering your career development

outside of the undergraduate environment.

### **Optional Diploma between Years 2 and 3**

Between Years 2 and 3 of your course, you'll also have the opportunity to undertake one of the following qualifications:

#### **Diploma in Professional Studies (DPS) (Optional)**

This optional diploma can be taken between years' 2 and 3. With support from your tutors, you'll undertake an industry placement for a minimum of 100 days/20 weeks. As well as developing industry skills, you'll gain an additional qualification upon successful completion.

#### **Diploma in Creative Computing (Optional)**

Between years' 2 and 3, you can undertake the year-long Diploma in Creative Computing. This will develop your skills in creative computing alongside your degree. After successfully completing the diploma and your undergraduate course, you'll graduate with an enhanced degree: BA (Hons) Photography (with Creative Computing).

## **Learning and Teaching Methods**

- Interactive lectures
- Seminars
- Guest talks
- Group project work
- Individual projects
- Workshops
- Individual tutorials
- Group tutorials
- Study visits
- Written and verbal feedback on work in progress

## **Assessment Methods**

Throughout the Course there are a variety of assessment methods used, these include:

- Practical projects
- Formative assessment
- Peer-to-peer feedback
- Essays

- Research projects
- Website design
- Book production
- Collaborative projects
- Audio/Visual outputs
- Artists films
- Portfolio creation
- Presentations
- Proposals
- Research and Development folders

## **Reference Points**

The following reference points were considered when designing the course

- The College Learning and Teaching Strategy
- The College Assessment Strategy
- The College approach to Personal and Professional Development
- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London
- University of the Arts London Level Descriptors
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Art and Design Benchmark Statement
- Course forums where students had direct input into course design and structure
- Technical developments in the medium

# Course Diagram

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14	Week 15		Week 16	Week 17	Week 18	Week 19	Week 20	Week 21	Week 22	Week 23	Week 24	Week 25	Week 26	Week 27	Week 28	Week 29	Week 30	Week 31																				
Level 4 – Year 1																																																			
Block 1															End of Block	Block 2																																			
Introduction to Photography (20 credits)								S												Photographic Fictions (40 credits)										S																					
			Remix, Remake (20 credits)											S																																					
			Histories in Context (20 credits)											S																																					
Level 5 – Year 2																																																			
Block 1																Activities Week	Block 2																																		
Expanded Practice (20 credits)														S																																					
The Live Brief (Industry, Community and Collaboration) (20 credits)												S																																							
Thinking Ecologies (20 credits)												S																																							
Level 6 – Year 3																																																			
Block 1																	Activities Week	Block 2																																	
Major Project 1 (20 credits)												S																																							
Research Project (40 credits)														S																																					
Major Project 2 (40 credits)																		S																																	
Creative Futures (20 credits)																		S																																	

S = Summative Assessment



*The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable*

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