

Photography

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We also offer Photography courses at ATRium, Cardiff Campus - please see page 253 for details.

Icon key

- FT** Full-time
- PT** Part-time
- PC** Course offered at one or more of our partner centres
- SA** Study abroad opportunities may be available
- U** This course is also available via UHOVI – please see page 230 for further details
- WP** A work placement may be offered as part of the course or the course may require you to secure a relevant work placement
- DL** Distance Learning

BA (Hons)

Documentary Photography

FT SA

The course draws upon the traditions of documentary practice and moves forward to engage with the most significant developments within contemporary photographic practice. Documentary Photography students benefit from regular lectures with high profile guests, engage with symposia and masterclasses led by photographers, historians and curators through its association with the European Centre for Photographic Research – a world leading research community based within the University.

Students are invited to exhibit in key international surveys of contemporary photography in Europe, America and Asia. They are invited to work on live briefs for industry partners and students benefit from close professional associations with major institutions including Magnum Photos, Canon and many galleries and publishing houses central to the world they will become part of. Students are encouraged to participate in project-led field trips, study abroad with our partner institutions and work with staff on live research projects.

Students in Documentary Photography benefit from the sustained professional relationships that course staff have developed over many years, through their contributions as respected practicing photographers at the highest level. Unique course collaborations with European partners engage students at the heart of contemporary European practice, encouraging new professional networks

through bespoke field projects and wider initiatives that position them at the forefront of some of the most innovative and refined documentary practice being produced today.

What you study

Your first year lays the groundwork for you to be able to work independently as a documentary photographer. You will learn to photograph confidently around subjects that really interest you and develop the research skills to complete picture essays on a wide range of contemporary subjects. Workshops cover the technical expertise you need including medium format cameras, lighting, portraiture, picture editing and digital workflow and printing are consolidated as central to your working practice.

As you progress into the second year you will initiate projects developed from your own interests and research, while reappraising documentary practice in all its contemporary contexts. Subjects are photographed over extended periods and you are expected to produce work to professional standards. Practical workshops continue throughout the year and explore printing for exhibition, large format photography, digital output for print and book publication. Live projects include collaboration with renowned photobook designers and internationally active visiting photographers. Lectures consider contemporary developments in the subject alongside essential topics centred on professional practice.

Course Fact

We celebrated 100 Years of Photography education at our Newport Campuses in 2012.

The final year is seen as a professional year in which you will produce a sustained and ambitious body of work. You are also asked to respond to a live professional brief. Your projects are drawn from your own inspirations and ambitions and you will be encouraged to make work that will prepare you for engagement with the photographic industry. This is supported by individual tutorials, seminars and workshops around business practice and professional skills.

Where next?

Opportunities exist in all areas of photographic practice. Our students go on to be professionally immersed in photography and publishing and many graduates now work at the highest levels of the industry that they are passionate about. Documentary Photography opens the door to rich and diverse aspects of contemporary creative practice. Whilst some secure positions with picture agencies and organisations like VII, Panos and Reuters, others develop careers within galleries, picture agencies or magazines, where they curate, commission or distribute photography to international audiences.

Application information

How to apply

Apply through UCAS using course code: W640 and campus code: C. See page 238 for details on how to apply.

Duration

Full-time: 3 years. Typically, the course is taught on Monday-Thursday, with occasional events throughout the year held on a Friday. Students are expected to attend scheduled named sessions and build a production schedule for making new work outside of those teaching events.

Entry requirements

Applicants are viewed individually on their merits and portfolios (where appropriate) are an important part of the selection process. A typical offer is 280 UCAS points, with 180 points from 2 A levels (or equivalent) which must include an arts based subject (see page 236).

Campus

City Campus, Newport

Fees

Please see page 28 for details

Interview

All applicants will attend a friendly and informal interview. This is your opportunity to demonstrate your passion for the subject area and discuss your creative portfolio.

Assessment

Throughout the course you will be assessed on practice-based modules, supplemented by self-reflective and context-based analysis. You will receive clear and detailed feedback that will help you reflect on and develop your skills.

BA (Hons)

Photographic Art

FT SA WP

Rooted in contemporary art practice, this innovative course is at the cutting edge of contemporary photographic education in the UK. By combining the discipline of traditional photography with the versatility of fine art practices, the course offers a unique blend that reflects the reality of photography, art and the creative industries today.

Whether you choose to work with the still or moving image, use traditional film techniques or new technologies, we encourage you to develop your own individual visual voice. We work closely with you to encourage you to be innovative, resourceful, critical, thorough and confident and to equip you with essential skills for a broad range of related professions. The permanent teaching team comprises high profile photographers, artists and writers, all of which are members of the respected research group, European Centre for Photographic Research (eCPR), based here at the University. Our course is able to draw on its strong connections with many leading international contemporary photographers, artists, writers, editors, agents, publishers, educators and curators, who participate in our renowned guest lecture programme, as well as run seminars and workshops tailored specifically for you.

This course encourages a total immersion into the culture of art and the reality of the professional world, benefiting greatly from excellent relationships with several major contemporary galleries and art organisations, both in the immediate vicinity (Cardiff, Newport

and Bristol), as well as further afield. Course trips to cultural capitals such as London, Berlin and Paris add to the student experience and you take part in live briefs and commissions supported by external industry partners and benefit from links with professional specialists such as Epson, Spectrum and Hello Blue. Some students also opt to study abroad via exchanges with partner institutions in Europe or further afield.

What you study

The first year is structured around set projects, encouraging you to experiment and use photography as a means of expression. You receive workshops in the use of film and digital camera techniques, lighting skills, printing and the development of a studio-based practice. You learn to articulate your ideas, and develop your own unique visual language, helped by a growing appreciation of the history of photography and its place within contemporary society.

In year 2 you continue to develop your own identity as a visual thinker, expressing your ideas with increasing confidence and independence. You will choose specialist pathways in advanced skills such as video editing, advanced lighting and large format photography. Greater emphasis is given to experimentation, studio presence and the physical resolution of projects underpinned by your ideas. You will participate in live briefs and public exhibitions outside of the University.

Course Fact

Photographic Art graduate, Josephine Sowden, named as one of the top 40 artists to watch out for in 2013 by The Catlin Guide.

Your final year is self-directed. Based on your own areas of interest and guided by a considered support structure, you plan, research and undertake the production of a major body of work. To further support the development of your visual work is this dissertation. Professional immersion is realised through work placements, student publications and other initiatives and is enhanced by specialist professional practice lectures and workshops.

Where next?

Our alumni have gone on to find numerous roles within the creative industries including successful careers as artists and freelance photographers in both the fine art and commercial sectors. Some have picked up significant awards along the way, such as, the Steidl book award and the prestigious Catlin Guide. Others have pursued opportunities in arts administration, project management, art direction, picture research within photographic libraries and archives, or in education and community based work. Some progress onto leading MA/MFA postgraduate courses here at Newport or at other institutions in the UK or abroad.

Thanks to our in depth, hands on but versatile approach our graduates are truly prepared for the reality of today's photographic world.

Application information

How to apply

Apply through UCAS using course code: W641 and campus code: C. See page 238 for details on how to apply.

Duration

Full-time: 3 years

Entry requirements

Applicants are viewed individually on their merits and their portfolio is an important element of the selection process.

A typical offer is 280 UCAS points and must include 2 A levels (or equivalent) which must include an arts based subject (see page 236).

Campus

City Campus, Newport

Fees

Please see page 28 for details

Interview

All applicants will attend a friendly and informal interview. This is your opportunity to demonstrate your passion for the subject area and discuss your creative portfolio, along with completing an interview task.

Assessment

Throughout this course you will be assessed through a combination of written assignments and practical work. You will receive clear and detailed feedback that will help you reflect on and develop your skills.

BA (Hons)

Photography for Fashion and Advertising

FT SA WP

The course aims to teach you the essential analogue and digital skills for a career in commercial photography. To supplement these skills you are grounded in social, historical, political and theoretical issues affecting photography, fashion, advertising and visual culture.

You are encouraged to think for yourself, to express your creative impulses and develop your own aesthetic responses to industry style briefs. Your emerging skills are contextualised in realistic projects where an emphasis is placed on experimentation and teamwork as well as written and verbal communication skills.

Problem solving and lateral thinking are key to a successful freelance career and the course explores the power of limits as an essential developmental tool.

Our team comprises experienced tutors and leading industry figures who contribute to the teaching of the programme. Your studies benefit from a range of practitioners drawn from a broad commercial background including photographers, stylists, agents, art directors, editors and art buyers.

What you study

In your first year you will be introduced to a wide range of photographic techniques and styles in line with the profession today. Practical studio and location photography will be supported by lectures, seminars and workshops covering a wide range of ideas around advertising, fashion and visual culture.

Your second year will allow you to understand how your work might be placed in a variety of contexts including the magazine and advertising industries. More advanced skills in photography and image manipulation will be supported by tuition in design and art direction to complement your photographic work. Professional practice is a key element of this stage, when aspects of business, marketing and professional networking will be introduced, including self-initiated work placements and live industry briefs.

During your third year you will concentrate on a major independent project to advance your work to a high professional standard producing a resolved body of work, with a view to launching yourself into the workplace. Involvement with the industry is seen as important at this stage and you will be supported in liaising with industry professionals to understand and produce work that will fit within a contemporary context according to your chosen career path.

Course Fact

Photography for Fashion and Advertising graduate Ryan Welch has been named as the University's Graduate Entrepreneur of the year 2012 for his wedding photography business.

Where next?

You will be equipped with a wide range of transferable skills to enable you to work across a number of areas within the broad context of professional photography, advertising, fashion and the media.

Application information

How to apply

Apply through UCAS using course code: W642 and campus code: C. See page 238 for details on how to apply.

Duration

Full-time: 3 years
Contact hours: 50 hours per 20 credit module

Entry requirements

Applicants are viewed individually on their merits and portfolios are an important part of the selection process. A typical offer is 280 UCAS points, with 180 points from 2 A levels (or equivalent) which must include an arts based subject (see page 236).

Campus

City Campus, Newport

Fees

Please see page 28 for details

Interview

Interviews are friendly, informal and your opportunity to demonstrate your passion for the subject area, discuss your creative portfolio along with a completed interview task. Please edit your work carefully to demonstrate your strengths and present it professionally.

Assessment

Throughout the course you will be assessed on practice-based modules, supplemented by self-reflective and context-based analysis. You will receive clear and detailed feedback that will help you reflect on and develop your skills.