

Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative Practice: Art, Design and Communication

Location	Altrincham Campus
Course Type	College 16-18
Department	Art & Design
Start Date	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Course Code	AFP-AR3D-1200

Course Overview

Our UAL approved course is aimed at artists, designers and photographers of the future, who want to develop their creative skills and experiment with a range of techniques to make them a better creative. You will learn how to research, plan, produce and reflect on your work. As well as developing other key skills to support your progression. You will chose between the specialisms of Art & Design, Graphic Design and Photography.

Course Requirements

4 GCSE's at Grade 4 or above (including maths and/or English Language).

What You Will Learn

The programme is delivered in three key stages: Stage 1: Diagnostic: Students will experience all practical areas of the course through organised activities and workshops. Through this experience they will extend skills and become more informed about potential career pathways within Art & Design and creative industries more broadly. Stage 2: Pathway: Students elect to specialise in one area, choosing from Fine art, 3D Design, Visual Communication or Fibre arts. Students will embark on theme-based projects aimed at extending skills and knowledge within that area. Students will be supported closely by experienced specialist staff. Stage 3: Confirmatory: Students will undertake a self-led Final Major project culminating with an exhibition of selected work.

Assessment

Units 1, 2,4 and 5 will be internally assessed and internally moderated against the assessment criteria for those units.

Units 3 and 6 will be internally assessed, internally and externally moderated against the assessment and grading criteria for those units.

Progression

The Diploma in Art and Design offers an accredited and certificated 'jumping off point' at the end of year one, should students choose not to progress onto our Extended Diploma qualification.

If you choose to continue onto the second year of study, you will complete the full Extended Diploma qualification, which is equivalent to 3 full A levels.

Career Options

Artist, Studio Manager, Animator, Illustrator, Camera Operator

Mandatory Units

On this specialist Extended Diploma qualification, you will complete 6 units over the course of two academic years. Which will introduce you to the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to explore creative development through a wide range of subjects and projects. You will chose between the specialisms of Art & Design, Graphic Design and Photography.

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.