

# Digital Imaging and Photography - BA (Hons) Top up

Approved by University of Central Lancashire (UCLan)



## Course Summary Information Sheet

Our Digital Imaging and Photography BA (Hons) Top up Degree and Foundation Degree (FdA) are designed for those wanting to develop advanced practice and a clear understanding of how imagery can be utilised to communicate and express their vision or interpretation of the world.

Students will have full access to studio spaces and both digital and traditional photographic facilities, including Apple Mac computers, Adobe CC software, large format digital printing and traditional darkrooms, and will be taught and receive focused one to one support from tutors and facilitators with extensive industry experience and a real passion for the subject. During the course, you will be encouraged to experiment and explore your own ideas through projects which resolve both practical and critical issues.

Professional practice is a core element of our courses and developing an understanding of industry expectations, skill levels and approach further underpins them. This methodology is focused throughout as you develop an in-depth knowledge of the medium and your chosen field, so you can become a highly independent and flexible practitioner, both creatively and vocationally. Both the BA and FdA courses are designed to support you to become employable with transferable, as well as comprehensive subject specific skills. There is an emphasis on vocational practice with opportunities for client based briefs / competitions / exhibitions.



An integral part of your development are the opportunities to participate in field trips which enhance the course experience, with previous destinations such as Rome FOTOGRAFIA, Paris Photo and London

giving the potential to not only create work, but to see the best of international photography. There will also be opportunities to attend regional symposiums such as 'Fieldwork' at UCLan and the course has strong connections with the Open Eye Gallery and the Redeye network, promoting their programs.

Guest lecturers are also used to broaden your understanding of photographic practice and have included celebrated photographers, arts funding representatives, curators, picture editors and agents. You will also normally be given the opportunity to present work in regional festivals and/or public spaces and attend portfolio reviews by working practitioners.



## Course Outline

The BA (Hons) Top up Degree in Digital Imaging and Photography has been designed to build on existing photographic and digital imaging skills and support students to become confident and articulate image-makers. The aims of the programme are to:

- To allow students to build upon previous level 4 and 5 qualifications or industrial experience to further widen participation in higher education and develop their ability to produce innovative work of high quality with an awareness of professional level requirements and expectations
- To provide the framework to support students to build on their strengths and interests and to further develop these in sufficient depth to provide a sound grounding for professional and/or postgraduate work
- To guide students to acquire further knowledge and understanding, develop personal attributes and master essential technical and transferable skills so that they are able to work independently in the photography / digital imaging sector or other related areas
- To develop students' academic and research skills where appropriate, preparing them for study at Master's level and expand their experiences and outlook in relation to the world of professional creativity

You will normally study a range of practical, professional and contextual approaches to digital imaging and photography and will learn through the production of personal and commercial briefs designed to facilitate increasing levels of independence, inspiring ownership of process, product and skills. Core modules include:



### PH3010 - Portfolio Development

During this module students will be asked to reflect on the area of industry they intend on working in after graduation. They will be required to research the ideas, techniques and working practices specific to this professional arena in order to gain a realistic appraisal of what they will need in order to work in such a competitive field. Where possible, students should build links with relevant professional organisations, bodies or practitioners. In response to this research they will

then develop two bodies of photographic work and relevant promotional material that is aimed at their intended industry / client base.

### DD3000 - Design Society and Culture 3

This module further develops core themes and key concepts investigated before with relevant theoretical contexts underpinning and complementing the students' practical photography and digital imaging activities.

As the culmination of Semester One activities the students produce a visually rich report that communicates the main threads of discussion and concludes with a potential future scenario that could provide a context for further 'Final Project' work in Semester Two.



Documentary Storytelling:  
discovering a new way to work

Dave Harkin  
BA Hons Digital Imaging & Photography | November 2019



### PH3305 - Responsive Module

This module enables the course to respond flexibly to external opportunities raised by emerging events such as local partnerships, industrial links or cultural phenomena which raise opportunities for student professional development, engagement in the community or entrepreneurialism. This may involve collaboration between students, across programmes or institutions, locally, regionally or nationally or alternatively enable the programme to respond to emerging issues or events from its own sector - for example the biennial 'Look - Liverpool Photo Biennial'. It may also support specific practices that are at risk of under-representation within the programme or the defined need to address a specific cohort area of development.



### PH3011 - Professional Development

In this module students will undertake further extensive independent research into the relevant professional / business related practices that underpin their field. They will produce a report and a twelve-month business plan detailing their professional development for the final semester and after graduating or leaving the course. Students will develop their professional skills through either undertaking a relevant work placement or through undertaking work with a client. They will be encouraged throughout to consider relevant University bodies to further their professional understanding and opportunities.

### DD3992 - Final Project

This module aims to enable the student to draw together the specialist and supporting studies they have developed up until this point into a coherent integrated project based upon a significant major theme. Specific content may be determined as part of the project negotiation process.







The information on this sheet may be subject to updates and change, so please see the course website page for the latest information and more on aspects such as application process, fees and progression.

<https://www.hughbaird.ac.uk/details/university/ucd:HEPHOTO>

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Visit our Instagram account to view selections of our student work:

<https://www.instagram.com/hbucphotography>

