

Digital Imaging and Photography - Foundation Degree (FdA)

Approved by University of Central Lancashire (UCLan)



Course Summary Information Sheet

Our Digital Imaging and Photography Foundation Degree (FdA) and BA (Hons) Top up Degree 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 FdA and BA 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 and external competitions.

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 UCLan's 'Fieldwork' 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 public spaces and/or regional festivals.

Course Outline

The Foundation Degree in Digital Imaging and Photography has been designed to provide specialist skills using photographic and digital imaging (including moving image) processes and technology relevant to contemporary creative and commercial practice. The aims of the programme are to:

- Equip students with the skills, knowledge and understanding for versatility and confidence, relevant to the needs of clients and employment in the photography / digital imaging sector
- Provide students with an effective balance between education and training by promoting self-development and creative expression, intellectual enquiry and the visual communication of ideas underpinned by the acquisition of transferable, technical and practical skills and knowledge.
- Give students a progression route to advance, where appropriate, towards other qualifications, for example, the one year BA Honours Degree (top up) in Digital Imaging and Photography or future employment within photography and digital imaging industry.

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. Techniques of traditional and digital photography will be explored, within practical work-related projects. Core modules include:

Year 1

PH1300 - Introduction to Photographic Practice

This module will engage the students through a series of hands-on workshops and short assignments exploring a range of genres and technical / creative issues such as location, studio still life, fashion/portraiture, photojournalism and film and produce practical examples of these themes. Both traditional photographic materials (chemical based) and digital, lens-based production equipment will be used to produce practical outcomes.



PH1200 - Visualising Ideas

Exploring the role of ideas in the creation of visual imagery, students will be asked to reflect on contemporary photography and debate how we make sense of the visual material we produce and encounter in the world around us. Throughout the module, students will gain an idea of what a critically grounded practice is and how to develop one.

PH1302 - Digital Imaging

This module is designed to provide a structured development of digital photography and image manipulation.



Utilising a range of photographic and digital post production techniques, students will develop high quality images through manipulation and enhancement, and open up a range of creative possibilities in producing 'hyper-real', 'painterly' or enhanced artificial outcomes.

PH1301 - Live Projects I

Live Projects I provides an opportunity to undertake a range of internal live and/or competition briefs. It will start to develop the necessary communication skills to effectively interact with clients, audiences and/or collaborators and to start to investigate the skills needed to identify and address relevant client issues and needs.

PH1020 - Experimental Practice

This module consists of a series of daylong and weeklong exercises to explore a range of techniques, approaches and ideas about image generation and display. Group briefings, lectures and exploratory crits to assess visual methodologies with the aim of encouraging experimentation. Day trips and gallery visits to encourage students to critically reflect on issues around the display and distribution of imagery.

Year 2

PH2300 - Advanced Photographic Practice

This module will build on PH1300 in year one and will offer the students a combination of optional advanced hands-on workshops and assignments which will further explore a selection of genres and technical / creative agenda on the subjects of location, studio still life, fashion/portraiture and photojournalism. Students will select a combination of options that suit their developing directions and produce practical assignment work on these themes with consideration for a specific audience.



PH2010 - Professional Practice

In this module, students will be expected to undertake extensive independent study and set themselves a major practical based research project to develop an in depth understanding of the photographic industry with outcomes agreed between the student and course tutor and a presentation investigating an area of the photographic industry relevant to the students' own work.

PH2003 - Critical Practice

This module aims to build on the work undertaken in year one by further exploring how critical theory can aid photographers to develop an informed appreciation of their practice. By thematically exploring the contemporary photographic arena the module asks students to reflect on their work within current issues and debates. It will analyse the relationship between theories, practices and professionally resolved outcomes by examining contemporary practitioners.



PH2302 - Advanced Digital Imaging

This module aims to inspire exploration of contemporary digital imaging practices and examine their application in professional photography and moving image. Building on the skills established in year one 'Digital Imaging' module, students are encouraged to further explore and develop the creative and technical applications of contemporary digital image making. Students will develop specific skills and understanding with photography and digital media, combined with the ability to work with both still and moving image with related software and hardware.

PH2301 - Live Project II

This module provides an opportunity to undertake a range of live, competition and/or community-focused briefs. It will develop the necessary independent communication skills to effectively interact with clients, audiences and or /collaborators and to explore the conceptual and analytical skills needed to identify and address relevant project/client issues and needs.

PH2020 - Open Project

Through this module students will devise, develop and execute an in depth, critically informed and largely resolved photographic project. Students set themselves a major practical brief in the photographic medium with outcomes agreed between the student and course tutor. There will be a series of group briefing and crits to aid the development of these projects. This module involves extensive independent study and students will be expected to show evidence of the planning and management of their projects.



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>

Primary Contact - David Lockwood

Program Manager - Foundation / BA Hons Degree in Digital Imaging and Photography

e-mail david.lockwood@hughbaird.ac.uk

Telephone 0151 353 4444 Ext 5522

Other Contact - Tadhg Devlin

Lecturer - Foundation / BA Hons Degree in Digital Imaging and Photography

e-mail tadhg.devlin@hughbaird.ac.uk

Telephone 0151 353 4444 Ext 5544

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

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

