



UAL Level 4 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design - VA401

This course is accredited by University of the Arts London (UAL). The course is designed to enable you to learn through discovery and exploration; this is primarily achieved through your engagement with projects and lectures. The course is essentially a transitional experience in Art, Design and Communication preparing you for either a place in higher education or employment.

COURSE DETAILS

The course is concerned with the analysis and development of ideas and their realisation in two and three dimensions. From initially being organised around specific themes and projects, it evolves into one in which emphasis is placed on the development of personalised solutions related to work programmes devised by each student in consultation with relevant tutors. This demands considerable personal initiative and will require the continuation of studies outside of College hours. You will be encouraged to develop practical and intellectual skills relevant to the visualisation and realisation of your ideas. Your potential will be continually assessed through the use of group and individual tutorials and formal assessments at key points throughout the year. This, together with a programme of visits made by the students to degree centres, enables a realistic and informed choice to be made regarding your individual future course of study.

The course is divided into 3 Units.

- Unit 1: Diagnostic Investigation into Creative Practice
- Unit 3: Developing Specialist Practice (Level 4)
- Unit 4: Consolidating Practice

Please note that Unit 2 is only completed at Level 3. This course is Level 4.

Units are the basic building blocks of the course and can be described as a self-contained package of learning defined in terms of learning time. This includes taught time, independent study, access to resources and assessment. There are specified learning outcomes and assessment criteria for each unit.

- Part 1 - Learning Skills and Context (40 Level 3 credits)

- Part 2 - Development and Progression (40 Level 3 credits)
- Part 3 - Proposal and Realisation (40 Level 4 credits) Unit 7

There is a comprehensive programme of contextual studies including the History of Art, Design and related areas. Use is made of local Art Galleries and Museums and we have a study visit to London.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

This course is for prospective students who have a minimum of 18 years of age.

A portfolio of art work will be required at interview.

5 GCSEs grade A*-C (grade 4 or above), 3 of which should be academic subjects (including English) or equivalent and at least 1 full A level or equivalent.

(These are minimum requirements and in practice the majority of students possess more).

Satisfactory interview and assessment

If English is not your first language, you may need an assessment before enrolling on this course. To discuss further, please contact the ESOL department on 0151 551 7144.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

To learn effectively on your course you will need to use certain items of equipment and undertake particular activities as part of your studies. To further enhance your learning experience the following will be required: Art & Design Materials £50 Art & Design Portfolio £40 Supplementary Prints £20 Equipment £40 If you need support with these costs, don't worry, click on the link below and complete a bursary application form. <https://www.wmc.ac.uk/student-support/financial-support/bursaries-loans> Equipment purchased will be yours to keep and you will be able to use them for practice at home and in your future career. N.B. prices correct as of 23/06/2021

ASSESSMENT METHOD

Continuous assessment through project/assignment work.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Some additional costs might occur if you wish to explore more unconventional materials in your work or for some educational visits (long distance/duration).

Awarding Body

Our Awarding Body is owned by, and based within, the University of the Arts London which consists of six internationally renowned colleges; Camberwell College of Arts, Central St Martins College of Art and Design, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London College of Communication, London College of Fashion and Wimbledon College of Art.

Are you aged 16-18?

Study programmes are full-time courses for 16-18 year olds which include:

- A qualification such as BTEC Extended Diploma
- Meaningful work experience or preparation for work
- English and maths, if you don't already have GCSE grade A* - C (grade 4 or above) in English and maths
- Non-study activities such as tutorials, voluntary work, fund-raising/charity work, sport or trips

WHERE CAN I PROGRESS TO?

BA (Hons), University or College or employment in the art and design industry.

WHEN DOES THIS COURSE RUN?

CAMPUS	ATTENDANCE	COURSE CODE	PLANNED TIME TABLE
	Full Time	VA401-25	

If you are aged 19 or over:

Fee : £5421.00

Please note, there are no discounts for this course. If you are aged 19+, you may be able to apply for a 19+ Advanced Learner Loan (which is available for this course).

For advice and guidance, please contact Student Services via our [online enquiry form](#)

This information was current on 30th September, 2025 and may be subject to change.