

Photography & Moving Image

Pre-A level summer tasks

A level Photography & Moving Image

- Within the same classroom, we have students who are working in still image form (Photography) and video form (Moving Image).
- The qualification, deadlines etc are the same for both forms/routes.
- The final qualification is an AS/A level in Art and Design (Photography), no matter which route you take.
- The set projects and fundamental skills are similar for the two routes, but obviously have key differences.
- You can switch from one route to the other at any point, although most people don't switch once they've made their mind up.
- You don't have to decide which one you're taking before the start of the course.

A level Photography & Moving Image

Year 12

- The AS is 100% coursework
- The first term is spent on basic skills: using the darkroom (Photography), animation (Moving Image), using the camera, composition, lighting, using Lightroom and Photoshop (Photography), using Final Cut Pro (Moving Image)
- The second term is your AS project: Identity. You will complete this by the start of May
- You will then carry out 'transition tasks' focusing on the theme of Near & Far to enhance your skills before the A level coursework.

A level Photography & Moving Image

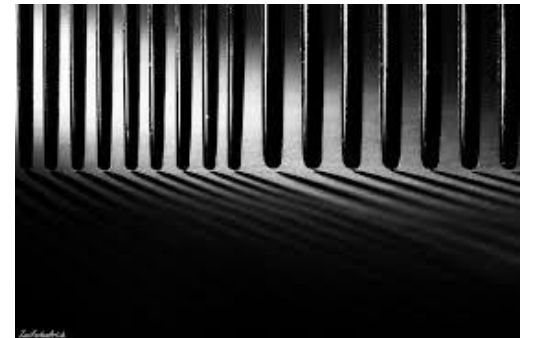
Year 13

- The A level is 60% 'personal portfolio', 40% 'externally set assignment'
- Sept-Jan, personal portfolio – you will negotiate a question with us that you will answer through your own work and through looking at the work of other photographers and film-makers. You will submit a physical or digital sketchbook, a final piece and 3 500-word presentations about your work as it progresses. Your question will focus on an area of content, an aspect of the subject or a style of work that fascinates you.
- Feb-May, externally set assignment – you will be given an 'exam paper' that will contain 15 starting points for a project. You will work from one of these, to create a second project, with the final piece being completed under exam conditions over 15 hours (5 x 3-hour sessions).

Summer activities

Choose at least two of the tasks given on these slides

- **Observing:** Go for the same walk each day. Take photographs ONLY on the first and the tenth day, and see what more you have noticed between walk one and walk ten. **TIF:** Select the best of the images from day ten, and next time you walk that way take ten different images just of this subject.
- **Lighting 1:** Set up a portrait studio in your home. Use the light from a window, seating or standing your subject facing sideways across the window, so the light from the window falls onto one side of their face. Try to 'unclutter' the background – take stuff off the walls, hang up a sheet, whatever you can manage. Experiment with different times of day, different weather conditions and different positions for your subject. Take at least five portraits that you're really proud of. **TIF:** use window blinds to cast different shadows, or use white paper to reflect light back onto the shaded side of the face.
- **Abstraction:** Photograph or video close-up details in your home, concentrating on geometric shapes, lines, curves and colours. Try to take shots that would be hard for someone else to recognise. **TIF:** Use an app to change the colours of your shots, so no one can tell what they are.
- **Composition:** Select a range of boring objects (a tin can, a plastic bag etc), and explore them photographically. Place your camera at different distances from them. Position the objects in different places, next to / behind different objects. Light them in different ways. Include more or less of them in the frame of the image. Your task is to make them look interesting. The interpretation of 'interesting' is up to you. **TIF:** Do the same, but you can only produce black and white images.



Summer activities

Choose at least two of the activities given on these slides

- **Editing:** Make a continuous action video, using footage sent to you by friends and family. Get each one to pass or throw an object, and the next person to receive it. Good editing is what will make this work, selecting the order of the shots and the precise point to cut them together. **TIF:** Now use the same person in every shot, and make it look like they're passing or throwing something to themselves.
- **Lighting 2:** Film at night, and use a torch or a moveable lamp to cast pools of light. Create either a music video or a short, dramatic scene, in which faces are partially hidden in the dark. **TIF:** Research 'film noir', and experiment with casting shadows, filming the shadows rather than the people.
- **Documentary:** Either through photography or moving image, document this summer – you can only photograph or film things that are happening anyway, you can't set anything up specifically to shoot it. Aim to have a two-minute film or 20 images that sum up the reality of summer 2020. **TIF:** Do this from someone else's point of view, in contrast to your own. What would be important to them?
- **Diptych / Two-frame films:** A diptych is a pair of images that are always displayed together. Each one should add meaning to the other. In moving image or photography, deliberately shoot two images so that you can combine them to add meaning to each other. **TIF:** Use only two or three shot to tell a story.

