

Why choose Art and Design? *"Creative work is a gift to the world and every being in it. Don't cheat us of your contribution. Give us all you've got."* ~Steven Pressfield

At Hackney New School, we offer a hands-on creative course, which allows students to develop as practising artists, encouraging personal and imaginative responses. In Year 1, students will have opportunities to generate practical work, building their creative portfolios using ideas and research from primary and contextual sources. They will experiment with media and processes, and develop and refine their ideas, presenting their outcomes. All art students build a substantial portfolio of work, which will be presented at the end of the academic year. As well as working independently on practical projects, students will develop and build upon their portfolios through direct teaching, peer learning, presentations, trips, reflective reading and writing and workshops conducted by a range of industry professionals and practitioners. Experimentation and thinking outside of the box are greatly encouraged and, moreover, expected from all AS and A2 Level Art and Design students at HNS, in order to fully prepare them for careers in the creative industry. Students will have access to a vast range of materials and resources including ceramics, sculpture, printmaking and photographic tools, amongst many others, with which to experiment, record ideas and refine their creative choices within the context of their chosen theme or idea for a particular project. Students are encouraged to record all creative endeavours and thoughts in sketchbooks on a daily basis, to maintain momentum and nurture a steady flow of ideas. A creative vision of the world and an avid interest in the variety of ways in which this can be interpreted remain integral to each project, which will be studied within the context of art history and a critical framework, giving students great insight into a range of artists' practices and ways of working.

As a result of studying Art and Design at AS/A2 Level at Hackney New School, students can gain entry onto highly selective Undergraduate Degree programmes in Fine Art, Architecture, Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Surface/Interior Design, Textiles, Sculpture, Game Design and many other routes, leading to a wealth of prestigious careers in the creative sector. In addition, many choose to progress to an Art Foundation Course, exposing students to a breadth of creative media and practices, in order to choose a specific area in which to specialise at undergraduate level, thereafter. Studying Art and Design not only enables the student to master creative skills, it provides numerous opportunities to develop analytical and research skills, to become curious enquirers and develop a highly critical mind, all of which are transferrable and essential life skills which will prove invaluable in a wealth of future careers. You will develop a portfolio of work that demonstrates and evidences your creativity and understanding of Art and Design skills. The course is divided up into four units that provide you with choices about your area of study. You may explore a range of different subjects within a project, and your sketchbook work and depth of your supporting studies will be assessed as well as the practical outcome.

In the second year of studying Art and Design at HNS, students at A2 level are given a theme or subject area to research, experiment with and develop over a series of weeks. Your supporting studies for this unit will inform a set, 8-hour timed assessment, conducted under controlled conditions. During this period you will produce your final piece of work. The second year of the course follows the same format as the previous year of study, with a personally directed piece of coursework

(Unit 3). In this final year the supporting study is also submitted with a 1000-3000 word Personal Study as well as the practical outcome. The final unit (unit 4) mirrors the structure of unit 2. The controlled time element for the unit is completed over 12 hours.

Our Facilities

Our Art and Design department is extremely well equipped with two purpose built art studios with specialist printing and drawing resources, a kiln and ceramics room, a dark room**, a dedicated library with an array art reference titles and a computer suite equipped with a variety of digital image manipulation software and printers. Our teaching team comprises two highly experienced Art A Level specialist teachers (Fine Art and Graphic Design backgrounds and decades of industry experience between us) and a qualified art technician

**tbc so not sure if we can add this yet!

Course Specification

Linear New A Level

Awarding Body - Edexcel

Minimum Requirements B at GCSE Art and Design