

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

BA (HONS)
ILLUSTRATION

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, graduates, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Whilst every endeavour has been made to provide the course described in the Programme Specification, the University reserves the right to make such changes as may be appropriate for reasons of operational efficiency or due to circumstances beyond its control. Any changes are made in accordance with the University's academic standards and quality procedures.

This document is available in alternative formats on request.

ARTS UNIVERSITY AT BOURNEMOUTH

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

The Programme Specification provides a summary of the main features of the **BA (Hons) Illustration** course, and the learning outcomes that a 'typical' student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she passes the course.

Further detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching and learning methods of each unit may be found within this Handbook and the online Unit Information, which is available on your course blog.

<u>Key Course Information</u>	
Final Award	BA (Hons)
Course Title	Illustration
Award Titles	BA (Hons) Illustration BA (Hons) Illustration (Animation) BA (Hons) Illustration (Printmaking)
Teaching institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Awarding Institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Offered in the Faculty of:	Art, Design and Architecture
<i>Contact details:</i> Telephone number	01202 363354
Email	foada@aub.ac.uk
Professional accreditation	None
Length of course / mode of study	3 years full-time
Level of final award (in FHEQ)	Level 6
Subject benchmark statement	Art and Design
UCAS code	W220
Language of study	English
External Examiner for course	Mark Manning Manchester Metropolitan University, MMU
<i>*Please note that it is not appropriate for students to contact external examiners directly.</i>	
Date of Validation	2000
Date of most recent review	2013
Date programme specification written/revised	Revised September 2013

Course Philosophy

This course promotes an expansive notion of illustration, recognising and embracing the potential for it to be seen as a wild frontier. It is positioned perfectly to explore the synergy of the contemporary blurring of boundaries across disciplines. It challenges and interrogates preconceptions and defines illustration as a way of seeing and understanding the world, connecting and communicating with the emotional, psychological, cultural, socio-political and historical. This course believes that illustration is a subject without conceptual boundaries and it places itself at the forefront of the debate and discussion engendered by the question 'what is Illustration?'

Introduction to the Course Experience

The course proposes a dynamic learning experience based upon critical discourse within a vibrant creative studio environment. Individual development is supported and nurtured through experimentation, exploration, innovation, and risk-taking. The progressive structure of the course promotes the development of visual thinking and autonomous individual learning. The course offers the opportunity for you to explore diverse outcomes, based upon a reflective and critical understanding of the historical and contemporary contexts in which illustration continues to evolve. The broad based ethos of the course does not prohibit specialism however, and you are encouraged to understand and locate your practice within a range of contexts. This breadth of practice is essential for an exciting dialogue that emerges from the more traditional ideas of illustration through to the newer emergence of challenging and exciting hybrid forms.

Individual units are designed to be adaptive to the changing nature of contemporary practice and developing theoretical positions. You are supported in the development of a broad and diverse response to a range of strategies, processes and techniques. You will build an appropriate portfolio of skills for the development of your individual practice, potentially including drawing, printmaking, photography, animation, utilising both digital and analogue approaches. The curriculum acknowledges that the creative process is informed and nourished by your development as an independent, critically self-reflective learner. The Course Team consists of a range of active practitioners and this enhances the currency of the learning experience. Visiting lecturers and industry liaison members also place considerable emphasis on the realities of working within the professional environment and the wider creative community.

You will graduate with the knowledge, professional skills and creative agility necessary to develop your individual practice. You will also be equipped with the necessary skills, knowledge and differentiated modes of learning that will enable you to pursue postgraduate study or related forms of employment within the creative industries. The course recognises that in order to remain alert to the ever changing demands of a dynamic subject area, you are required to be flexible, inclusive, proactive, reflexive and progressive practitioner, graduating from the course fully equipped to be a pioneer within your chosen field.

Course Aims

The Course Aims to develop creative individuals who embrace the breadth and diversity of the discipline. You will be equipped to engage with practice, some of which will be at the forefront of your chosen field, and you will be able to interrogate and challenge the nature of illustration. You will be critically reflective and able to learn independently in preparation for professional environments or postgraduate study. You will be confident in working within the creative industries, able to utilise a broad range of creative processes, and realise outcomes that effectively communicate in specified contexts.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course you will be able to:

1. Relate the specialist knowledge and skills that you have developed to contemporary practice.
2. Make coherent visual statements integrating observation, analysis, interpretation, and speculation.
3. Develop and refine arguments through a continuing engagement with cultural, social, environmental, theoretical and historical contexts.
4. Use research skills with an understanding of relevant protocols. Provide reasoned solutions, recognising the uncertainty and limits of knowledge.
5. Critically evaluate discourses and practices, making informed judgments using an appropriate range of sources from both within and beyond the field of illustration.
6. Apply transferable skills, exercise initiative and personal responsibility.
7. Extend your academic learning as an independent, self-reflective and creative practitioner, fully prepared for professional environments or postgraduate study.

Reference Points

UK Quality Code for higher education, including:

- Subject Benchmark Statement: *Art and Design*
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

AUB Regulatory Framework and Undergraduate Assessment Regulations

AUB Creative Learning Plan

AUB Strategic Plan

AUB Employability Framework

Employability Skills

The BA (Hons) Illustration course supports you in developing excellent presentation skills, in terms of visual, verbal and written articulation. This ability to present allows you to confidently embrace a whole range of employment opportunities within the creative industries and beyond. Possible employment may include working as a

freelance illustrator, art director, animator, studio assistant, teacher, curator, graphic designer, web designer, etc. It is the course's aim to enable you to develop strong organisational skills, the facility to work to deadlines and be a professional practitioner able to work in collaboration with others as well as independently. On concluding the course you will have constructed a professional and relevant portfolio in preparation for the next stage in your career development.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Learning is through intellectual enquiry, research and practice. The course outcomes are met by deploying a wide variety of teaching and learning methods supervised by members of the team, visiting support staff, practitioners and consultants from industry. In consultation with the Course Leader, Level Leaders are responsible for co-ordinating individual units of study, and for selecting appropriate methods of delivery according to subject matter and the student experience.

Importance is placed upon you acquiring the skills to be able to learn independently and to develop a critical awareness. This is facilitated through a variety of learning and teaching methods such as tutorials, group critiques, discussion groups, peer learning activity, projects, lectures, workshops, seminars, study visits, demonstrations, skills based workshops, educational visits, on-site learning, 'live projects', learning agreements, exhibition and group presentation.

The study time allocated to each unit in the course incorporates a balance of formal teaching, tutorial support and independent learning. The course is structured progressively to provide increased opportunities for independent learning as you reach the later stages of the course. The promotion of independent learning reflects your anticipated maturity as a student and allows you to direct your learning towards individual goals.

Theoretical, contextual, studio and professional practices are embedded within all units. This integration dissolves the artificial barriers between these forms of engagement, such as recognising theory in making, allowing you to fully realise your potential and truly understand the rich relationship between these elements of practice.

An outline of learning and teaching strategies

- **Demonstrations** offer practical experience and you will be introduced to new and relevant skills that will enhance your practice.
- **Individual tutorials** provide an opportunity to discuss your individual progress within a unit and the course generally. They are used to air specific issues raised through the work, provide critical observation and recommend new direction and research strategies.
- **Group tutorials** offer the opportunity for you to discuss your work, approach and ideas regarding the unit that you are involved with tutors and your fellow students.
- **Workshops** include you in activities that develop creative strategies and outcomes through short one or two day projects.

- **Group critiques** involve all students and form a distinctive learning and teaching point within the unit. You are encouraged to discuss your work and respond to feedback within a group of students and tutors.
- **Individual and group presentations** offer you the opportunity to prepare and present to a group of peers. It enables you to develop and improve your presentation skills.
- **Lectures** are used as oral and visual presentations intended to present information in a formal context to a large group of students.
- **Seminars** are important opportunities for generating discussion. They explore issues related to practice in context, give an opportunity for you to test and develop your ideas
- **Independent study** encourages you to become a self-directed autonomous learner able to manage your time in relation to the unit of study. Each level has regular independent study days so that you can plan your working week.

A proportion of assessment takes place during group critiques of work whereby a small group of students and two members of the staff team critically engage the students during an open discussion. The staff write up their notes and agree upon a mark following this session. The use of the group critique as a means of assessment allows you to develop your ability to verbally articulate your individual practice. It also offers an opportunity for you to see fellow students work and discuss it. This assessment approach is transparent and promotes assessment as part of the learning within the unit of study for the full range of learners. You will learn not only from the assessment and discussion relating to your own work but also from that of your peers. This approach will enable you to understand how your work is assessed.

Educational Trips

Educational visits are organised to occur throughout the academic year. At least one trip to London or other UK cultural centre is offered per term. These are subsidised to ensure maximum participation. Bournemouth's proximity to London enables you to easily arrange visits to galleries and museums in the capital to support your studies. Primary research is fundamental to your development as practitioners.

Trips empower you and encourage independence and can offer possibilities for your future career and personal development. Any added costs are notified in advance of the visit.

Learning Agreements

Learning Agreements are introduced at Level 5 as a mechanism to support you in defining your individual learning in the context of the course. Within the Learning Agreement you will indicate why and how you are going to fulfil the unit aims and outcomes. This allows you to vary the work you produce according to your own personal and professional aspirations whilst meeting the specified aims and learning outcomes of the unit.

Assessment

Each unit is assessed separately, and the assessment forms part of the unit. Assessment both provides a measure of your achievement, and also gives you regular feedback on how your learning is developing.

For every unit of your course, we will inform you of what you are expected to learn; what you have to submit; how your work will be assessed; and the deadline for presenting your work for assessment. This is made available through Unit Information, which is on your course blog.

You will receive a final mark for each unit in the form of a percentage, which will be recorded on your formal record of achievement (transcript). Each component of assessment is graded using a notched marking scale, whereby only certain marks are used within each grade. The only marks available within any ten-point band are *2, *5 and *8 (eg 62, 65, 68). These marks correspond to a low, mid, and high level of achievement within each grade band.

All learning outcomes must be passed to successfully complete the unit.

On successful completion of your Honours degree course, you will be awarded a degree classification based on your unit marks. The final classification is determined using all unit marks at Levels 5 and 6 using two different algorithms, which are detailed in the HE Student Regulations. If the two algorithms produce different results, you will be awarded the higher class of degree.

If you have joined Level 6 through either the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route or having completed a Foundation Degree (FdA), the final classification is determined using only your unit marks at Level 6.

For further information on assessment, progression, awards and classifications, please visit <https://viewpoint.aub.ac.uk>

Course Structure

You are registered for the award of BA (Hons); however exit awards are available if you leave the course early, having successfully completed one or two levels. If you successfully complete a level of the course, you will automatically be entitled to progress to the next level.

For the award of a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE), you must have achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 4. This qualification may be awarded if you leave the University following successful completion of the first year of your course.

For the award of a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), you must have achieved a minimum of 240 credits of which a minimum of 120 must be at Level 5. This qualification may be awarded if you leave the University following successful completion of the second year of your course.

For the award of a BA (Hons) you must have achieved a minimum of 360 credits of which a minimum of 240 must be at Level 5 or above, of which a minimum of 120 credits must be at Level 6. This qualification will be awarded upon successful completion of your course.

A BA without Honours may be awarded if you have achieved 300 credits, at least 180 of which are at Level 5 or above, and at least 60 of which are at Level 6.

Course Content

The curriculum is informed by a student centred approach. The progressive structure of the course promotes the development of individual learning. The course structure provides the opportunity for you to develop expertise in a particular area of illustration, or a broader approach that may combine a number of disciplines. You are encouraged throughout the course to work collaboratively, across courses and externally on an informal basis, and more formally at Level 6. The course is structured in a way that builds systematically, with the content of the individual units relating not only to others within the level but also linked with units in the later levels of the course.

The Illustration course supports the integration of theory and practice through the unitary structure by allowing you to understand how theory underpins, frames and informs practice. Theory is not presented as an abstract set of ideas or practices set apart from studio based work. You will engage with theory through practice.

Cross course activities including life drawing, open access to printmaking, locational visits and drawing workshops are available. There is also an exciting and lively Guest Lecture program open to all students. Diverse and often early career practitioners are invited in to talk about their work and discuss their experiences of the creative industries.

Illustration specific professional information – pricings, copyright, agency practice, etc is embedded within the units. The Course Team have suitable experience within industry to support and provide you with a range of business and entrepreneurial skills. You are encouraged to join the Association of Illustrators and utilise staff advice, particularly in relation to live projects and collaborations. You will be supported and encouraged to engage with work experience opportunities such as commissions, internships, competitions, art events and exhibitions.

Each level operates within three terms over a period of thirty weeks. Each unit has its, own aims, learning outcomes, assessment components and assessment criteria. The positive nature of progressive assessment is made clear throughout the experience. Units are self-contained, but build upon previously acquired knowledge and skills. The assessment process summarises what has been achieved previously within the unit and identifies developmental strategies, enabling you to build a portfolio of knowledge, an ability to articulate your practice verbally and specific skills appropriate to the subject and your practice.

Level 4

At Level 4 the emphasis is on creative experimentation and risk taking. Units at this level provide you with a sound intellectual and practical base for your academic study of Illustration. Emphasis is placed on learning through practical experience and critical reflection in order to establish your own particular visual vocabulary.

Workshops are delivered by a dynamic group of tutors from the Course Team as well as visiting lecturers selected for their specialist expertise in particular areas. An appropriate amount of independent learning is timetabled to enable you to develop ideas and outcomes through a personal and on-going studio practice. Ideas are tested and discussed through tutorials and group critiques, with formative feedback

provided at regular intervals throughout the level.

Unit introductions in the form of briefings are used to outline the flavour of each unit, clearly defining aims and learning outcomes and explaining the assessment components. You are encouraged to undertake independent research and are equipped with the necessary skills to evaluate and analyse findings in relation to your Illustration practice.

Level 5

At Level 5 the emphasis is on exploration, context and the development of an increasingly independent and critically reflective practice. The ability to apply diverse outcomes to a wider range of contexts is also fostered through the development of critical understanding of key concepts and principles. You will be required to identify and define your study proposal through a prepared presentation (Pecha Kucha).

Level 5 units will provide an opportunity to extend the eclectic nature of image-making and explore the synergy between traditional and digital modes. You are encouraged to define and challenge the parameters of your Illustration practice through the attainment of wider contextual knowledge and an engagement with the world.

You will be involved in considering the nature of your practice and have the option of articulating your ideas through animation or printmaking with the possibility of graduating with a specialist named award at the end of Level 6. Your decision to select a named award will be arrived at by the demonstration of your subject specialism within the 'Narrative' or 'Convergence/Divergence' units and through discussion with your Level Leader and Course Leader.

Units explore specific evolving contexts for Illustration, and the acquisition of professional skills and knowledge provide a foundation for the development of independent, entrepreneurial practitioners prepared for Level 6 study.

Level 6

At Level 6 the emphasis is on professionalism, ambition and innovation. You will be increasingly encouraged to manage your own practice and you will have a mature appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity, and limits of knowledge. Some of this will be at, or informed by practice and research considered to be at the forefront of the discipline.

Through the 'Pre- Major Project' and the 'Investigative Study' you will identify your concerns, subject matter and selected context/s that informs and positions your practice. These findings will then be developed, tested and refined within the 'Major Project and Professional Practice' units. You will have decided at Level 5, which named award is most suited to your practice and future career plans and will therefore produce outcomes to support this decision.

Your research and learning is related to the professional context of Illustration and you are encouraged to consider your professional potential beyond graduation. You will build a portfolio of work appropriate and relevant to your aspirations that will prepare you for career opportunities within the creative industries.

Named Awards

The BA (Hons) Illustration course offers you the opportunity to gain a named award in your chosen specialist pathway. The specialist awards, which are available are:

BA (Hons) Illustration (Animation) BA (Hons) Illustration (Printmaking)

You can opt to take a named award in either Animation or Printmaking by demonstrating your practice in either of these disciplines at Level 5 through the 'Narrative' or 'Convergence/ Divergence' units. You will choose to undertake a named award if this is appropriate to your practice and future career aspirations. This will then prepare you for the 'Pre-Major', 'Major Project' and 'Professional Practice' units at Level 6. It will be through demonstration and conversation that you decide to select either named award. Most students will decide to select the BA (Hons) Illustration route.

Course Units

Unit Code	Unit Title	Credit Weighting
Level 4		
ILL456	Introductory Studies	40
ILL457	Visual Thinking	40
ILL458	Locating Practice	40
Level 5		
ILL550	Interpretation of Text	40
ILL551	Narrative	40
ILL552	Convergence/Divergence	40
Level 6		
ILL650	Investigative Study	20
ILL651	Pre-Major Project	20
ILL652	Major Project	60
ILL653	Professional Practice	20

Course Diagram

This diagram shows the proposed start/end dates for each unit and shows teaching weeks only; holiday periods are not included. Further information on the structure of each unit will be included in the online Unit Information which is available on your course blog.

Level 4																															
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Autumn Term												Spring Term												Summer Term						
Induction week	ILL456 Introductory Studies (weeks 1-12) (40 credits)												ILL457 Visual Thinking (weeks 11-22) (40 credits)												ILL458 Locating Practice (weeks 21-30) (40 credits)						

Level 5																															
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Autumn Term												Spring Term												Summer Term						
	ILL550 Interpretation of Text (weeks 1-12) (40 credits)												ILL551 Narrative (weeks 11-22) (40 credits)												ILL552 Convergence/Divergence (weeks 21-30) (40 credits)						

Level 6																														
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Autumn Term												Spring Term												Summer Term						
ILL650 Investigative Study (weeks 1-12) (20 credits)												ILL652 Major Project (weeks 11-30) (60 credits)																		
ILL651 Pre-Major Project (weeks 1-12) (20 credits)												ILL653 Professional Practice (weeks 11-30) (20 credits)																		

Resources

University Resources:

Library

The course is supported by a Subject Librarian who liaises closely with the team to ensure that the Library resources are relevant and meet student and staff research needs. As part of the AUB's Information Literacy Framework, the Subject Librarian provides sessions on researching and using information, as well as individual support for students in the use of Library resources.

The Library holds an excellent range of specialist learning materials including books, journals, CDs, DVDs, and newspapers. It has subscriptions to a wide range of specialist electronic resources focusing on art, design, media and performance, including e-books and e-journals. The Library's facilities include computers, a viewing room, and a silent reading room.

The Library consistently receives high scores in both the in-house and national student surveys which are carried out annually.

Digital Learning Resources

The University provides a range of computing hardware and software applications for use in general purpose locations such as the library and computer studios, as well as high quality and specialist resources linked to subject specialisation. You will be able to use Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Suite on the majority of computers in the University and have access to industry standard digital resources and computing appropriate for your subject in course areas.

We have a comprehensive wireless network and our new virtual learning environment (VLE) can be used on desktop, laptop and mobile devices. The VLE, called MyAUB, provides a customisable portal to a variety of course and university related information including timetables, email, course handbooks, resource booking and online learning materials.

Support for digital learning resources is provided by a network of University staff. Course related equipment is cared for by Technician Demonstrators and library information resources is supported by library staff. General computing support and advice on your own equipment is provided by our Digital Campus Services Team who provide a servicedesk facility. The Service Desk is located in the Library, and their email address is: servicedesk@aub.ac.uk.

Museum of Design in Plastic (MoDiP)

MoDiP is a registered museum of 20th and 21st century design and popular culture with a focus on plastics. Its collection is unique within the UK and has been developed to support teaching and learning at Arts University Bournemouth.

There are many ways in which MoDiP can play a part in your studies:

- as a source of inspiration – large numbers of items may be viewed, handled and explored in depth, drawn, photographed and filmed
- as the focus of a brief for products and projects relating to course work
- as an exhibition venue – your work can be displayed in relation to the collections and exhibitions and events may be mounted in the museum space

The Museum is in a purpose built space within the Library, designed with wheelchair access in mind, and has the same opening hours as the rest of the University for the viewing of exhibitions. Objects not on display can be borrowed and taken to the studio. To see what is available, go to the [MoDiP website \(www.modip.ac.uk\)](http://www.modip.ac.uk).

TheGallery

TheGallery is a major resource for contemporary visual art at Arts University Bournemouth and has received regional and national recognition. There are regular gallery events, including collections on loan from galleries and museums, as well as individual exhibitions by some of today's leading artists, photographers, designers and critical writers.

It also functions as a learning resource and is integrated into the teaching, learning, and research practice undertaken at the University.

text + work is the ethos which underpins the exhibition programme at Arts University Bournemouth. The **text + work** concept promotes and provides a forum for challenging dialogue between innovative contemporary art, design, media and performance practice and its theoretical context.

There are **text + work** gallery events, critical texts, shared and networked exhibitions and a **text + work** website.

Student Support

Academic Guidance

Academic staff are responsible for providing you with feedback on your work and your general academic progress, and for providing academic support and guidance through the course. This is provided through “critiques” and written feedback, as well as guidance on practical work and informal discussion about your concerns. These sessions may be individual or, in the case of collaborative work, in small groups.

Academic tutorials are scheduled to allow you to discuss in depth matters relating to creative or theoretical work, or the course in general. You will be entitled to at least one formal academic tutorial per term with a nominated member of the course team.

Support and advice is also provided on an informal basis throughout the course, through discussions between staff and students.

The University also has a team of Study Skills Tutors who can support you with your academic work such as essays, dissertations and presentations. This service is available to all students to access. You can book tutorials for individual or group sessions at the Student Services reception. The team also run regular lunchtime

study skills workshops and drop in sessions which can help support you in your studies.

Career Education, Information and Guidance

You will be prepared for employment, and given the opportunity to learn about the various career options available to you, through a wide range of projects which may include live briefs or external competitions. Academic staff remain very familiar with the discipline, and will often still work in the field, and are also able to advise on specific opportunities.

The Careers and Employability Service within the University offers impartial, confidential advice, support and guidance, to help you explore and develop your career ideas and manage your future career successfully. The service offers individual career guidance appointments, as well as advice on job seeking strategies, CVs and interview skills, self-employment / freelancing, and further study opportunities.

The Senior Employability Officer holds regular lunchtime lectures, which cover a range of popular careers topics, including Postgraduate study and funding, Career planning, Networking and self-marketing, and Teaching as a career. Full details and dates of forthcoming lectures are available on the Careers and Employability intranet pages (Viewpoint) and on the Student Services notice boards.

The Careers and Employability Service also offers specialist events, working in partnership with local employers, AUB alumni, and external agencies to bring together a range of art, design, media, performance and business expertise.

For more information, or to make an appointment, please contact careers@aub.ac.uk or call +44 1202 363355. You can also drop in to Student Services on campus between 8.30am and 5pm, Monday to Thursday, and between 8.30am and 4.30pm on a Friday.

Support for students with disabilities (including dyslexia)

The Arts University Bournemouth is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all students and positively welcomes applications from people with disabilities and/or additional needs. Throughout all aspects of University life, we actively encourage and support the participation of students with disabilities. We aim to support disabled students by offering needs assessments and support plans which enable you to achieve your personal goals.

The Learning Support team provides academic support for students with specific learning difficulties including dyslexia. We ask all new Home students to complete a 'Quickscan' screening programme when they join the University. This screening is designed to check your learning style (the way you learn best) and whether you might have signs of dyslexia. If appropriate, you will be referred to an educational psychologist for a full assessment.

Students with a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia are able to access individual tutorials aimed at improving your independent study skills, and are

supported in applying for the Disabled Students' Allowance, which can provide specialist equipment and, if appropriate, personal support.

The Senior Disability Officer and Wellbeing Officer provide ongoing support and advice for students with all other types of disability, including mental health difficulties, physical disabilities, medical conditions and sensory impairments. The Wellbeing service is a free and confidential service offered by the University to all students. The Senior Wellbeing Officer is based in Student Services and is able to provide specialist advice, information and practical strategies to help students manage personal concerns or concerns they may have for a friend. Accessing the wellbeing service at an early stage may prevent more serious issues developing and help students to feel more in control of their situation.

The Arts University Bournemouth has a duty to anticipate the needs of disabled students, and to make "reasonable adjustments" to ensure that these students can access education and related services. If you feel that some aspect of the learning, teaching or assessment on your course places you at a disadvantage because of your disability, please contact the Senior Disability Officer within Student Services, who will be happy to work with you and your course team to identify any appropriate reasonable adjustments. Contact wellbeing@aub.ac.uk or telephone 01202 363291.

Academic support for students for whom English is a second language

If English is not your first language, AUB has a team of specialist English for Academic Purposes (EAP) lecturers who provide personalised guidance and support with the academic aspects of your course. You can book tutorials with them for individual assistance.

At the beginning of your course you will be invited to complete an academic skills needs assessment. One of our English for Academic Purposes (EAP) team will review this with you in a follow-up tutorial. If you feel you would benefit from additional advice and support, the EAP tutor will work with you to draw up an Individual Learning Plan which will set out a structured approach to developing your use of academic language and study skills. This may, for example, include helping you to develop strategies for interpreting assignment briefs, working on the structure of your written work or developing your proof-reading skills. Your Individual Learning Plan will be reviewed periodically and shared with your course tutor, if requested, so that they are aware of the work you are doing to improve your use of language and study skills.

Throughout the academic year the EAP service also offers Study Skills Workshops. Further details can be found at:

<http://aub.ac.uk/international/english-not-first-language/international-student-support/>

Pastoral support and guidance

Support and advice on non-academic matters is provided through trained and qualified professional staff within Student Services. We have a team of professionally qualified male and female counsellors, with appointments available during weekdays. Talking to a counsellor in a safe, non-judgemental and confidential setting can enable you to work through your problems with the aim of reaching a solution. Students wanting to access the service can book by email, phone or by

coming into the Student Services reception. The AUB Counselling Service is student focused and we offer single therapeutic sessions with a counsellor for one hour. If your situation is very urgent and you are extremely emotionally distressed, we also have a crisis support service where the aim is that one of our counsellors or the Wellbeing Officer will see you as soon as possible.

Pastoral support is also available from the AUB Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy at Arts University Bournemouth is shared with Bournemouth University and is an inclusive Chaplaincy, which welcomes people of all faiths and none. The Quiet Room and the Islamic Prayer Room are in regular use by staff and students, and meetings with ministers of any faith can be arranged.

Advice and support with practical issues such as funding, accommodation or childcare is available from the Student Advice, Funds and Accommodation Office within Student Services.

Monitoring the quality of your course

The course is subject to the University's rigorous quality assurance procedures which involve subject specialist and internal peer review of the course at periodic intervals, normally of 5 years. This process ensures that the course remains up to date, and is preparing you for a career within the creative industries while also delivering a high quality student experience.

In addition all courses undertake an Annual Course Review which takes account of relevant information such as:

- External Examiners' Reports
- Key statistics including data on application, retention and achievement
- Results of the National Student Survey
- Results of the in-house Student Perception Survey
- Feedback from Student Representatives
- Feedback from relevant employer groups, including the course Industry Liaison Group

All courses develop an action plan arising out of this exercise, which is monitored by the University. Your student representatives can keep you informed about progress against the action plan.

Staff development priorities for the course team as a whole are identified through the Annual Course Review process, and for individuals through the Staff Performance Review process.

Indicators of Quality and Standards

The Arts University Bournemouth was granted taught degree awarding powers by the Privy Council in 2008; and University status was conferred in 2013. All students on taught higher education courses are enrolled on a course validated by the University.

A new Teaching Excellence Framework has been introduced to recognise excellent teaching. AUB was given a Gold award, reflecting the high quality of the academic student experience.

The University was audited by the QAA in May 2011 and received a judgement of 'Confidence' in the management of the academic standards of its awards, and its management of the quality of learning opportunities. This is the best available outcome, and confirms that our quality assurance mechanisms are robust, meaning that we can have full confidence in the standard of course outcomes, and the quality of the educational experience we deliver.

More detailed information is available in the HE Student Regulations, Viewpoint and on your course blog