

# PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

BA (HONS)

PHOTOGRAPHY

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 BOURNEMOUTH

### PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

The Programme Specification provides a summary of the main features of the **BA (Hons) Photography** 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.

<b><u>Key Course Information</u></b>	
Final Award	BA (Hons)
Course Title	Photography
Award Title	BA (Hons) Photography
Teaching institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Awarding Institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Offered in the Faculty of:	Media and Performance
<i>Contact details:</i> Telephone number	01202 363138
Email	<a href="mailto:fomp@aub.ac.uk">fomp@aub.ac.uk</a>
Professional accreditation	Skillset
Length of course / mode of study	3 years full-time
Level of final award (in FHEQ)	Level 6
Subject benchmark statement	Art and Design and Media
UCAS code	W640
Language of study	English
External Examiners for course	David Bellingham Glasgow School of Art
<i>Please note that it is not appropriate for students to contact external examiners directly</i>	
Date of Validation	1999
Date of most recent review	May 2017
Date programme specification written/revised	Revised May 2017

## **Contact hours**

Contact hours include all scheduled teaching sessions, but also supervised time in the workshop or studio. In line with national guidance, we include in our calculation of contact hours all the time which is scheduled in the studio for independent study which is also supported by staff (either academic staff, or technicians).

<i>Contact hours</i>	
Year 1 (% time)	66
Year 2 (% time)	60
Year 3 (% time)	65

The information provided below gives the proportion of your study time which constitutes contact hours. Where there are optional routes through the course, we have used the figures for the most popular option.

## **Assessment**

The figures below set out the proportion of your assessment which will be coursework or written exams and, where appropriate, practical assessment (such as a performance) or placement. Where there are optional routes through the course, we have used the figures for the most popular option.

% coursework assessment	94
% written exams	6

## **Course Description**

Recognising the individual and their aspirations, and celebrating ideas and creative risk-taking, our approach and experience of encouraging photographic practice lies with the provision of a meaningful journey for our students. It is a journey beyond the obvious, as students meet the new, often unpredictable and certainly challenging possibilities that are offered as they test, develop, progress, interrogate, make and confidently reflect on their outcomes. Our guiding principle is to inspire and offer distinctive and exciting opportunities for students to engage in photographic culture in order to discover and define their individual practice and position employability within their chosen external creative economic and cultural environment. Crucial to the course and its inherent multifaceted creative artistic outcomes, is that each student develops a visual curiosity through experiential learning and demonstrates a committed passion for their practice and the medium.

### ***About the course***

The course is conceptually driven and responds to the expanded field of contemporary photography and the growing number of opportunities afforded by technological advances in the medium. We value the creative individual and encourage an exploration of the medium in an experimental and risk-taking way. We believe that students should learn how to contextualise their practice in a wider cultural context using historical and contemporary models, rigorous research methods and theoretical discourses. Our students are free to gradually define their practice throughout the course and are encouraged and supported to become confident and autonomous practitioners, embracing inclusivity and cultural diversity.

Craft is a distinctive and important part of the student experience and this aspect features in all practical units that includes bookmaking and frame production. The course is distinguished by an expansive approach to the medium and the integration of theory and practice. Although units of study are themed, each student can respond to these in any way they wish, creating rich and diverse outcomes.

Students graduate from the course with a strong sense of self with a high level of research, analytical and technical skills and can communicate well in both oral and written form. They possess excellent professional documentation. Their skills are enhanced by their awareness of the medium, a good knowledge of the creative industries/audiences, and how to position their practice. The primary currency our graduates own is their creativity, evidenced by their entry into a wide variety of their professional careers and progression to postgraduate study.

### **Course Aims**

1. To inspire and support the exploration of your creativity in an experimental and risk taking way.
2. To enable you to develop and apply a range of specialist technical and professional skills.
3. To develop your awareness of the medium of photography in relation to historical and contemporary photographic practice.
4. To enable you to develop critical skills, awareness and judgment.
5. To enable you to engage in your practice with autonomy and professionalism.
6. To enable you to engage in opportunities to apply new knowledge and advanced problem solving.
7. To raise your awareness of ethical, sustainable, social and cultural issues appropriate to your practice.
8. To instil ambition and prepare you for professional practice and postgraduate study.

### **Course Outcomes**

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

1. Demonstrate that you have explored your creativity in an experimental and risk taking way.
2. Demonstrate that you have developed and applied a range of specialist technical and professional skills.
3. Demonstrate that you have developed your awareness of the medium of photography in relation to historical and contemporary photographic practice.
4. Demonstrate that you have developed critical skills, awareness and judgment.

5. Demonstrate that you have engaged in your practice with autonomy and professionalism.
6. Demonstrate that you have engaged in the application of new knowledge and advanced problem solving.
7. Demonstrate your awareness of ethical, sustainable, social and cultural issues appropriate to your practice.
8. Demonstrate ambition and preparation for your professional career.

### **Reference Points**

UK Quality Code for higher education, including:

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

AUB Regulatory Framework and Undergraduate Assessment Regulations

AUB Creative Learning Plan

AUB Strategic Plan

AUB Employability Framework

### **Learning and Teaching Strategies**

Honours study combines independent learning and taught sessions.

The course objectives are met by deploying a wide variety of teaching and learning methods including projects, lectures, seminars, group critiques and tutorials. In consultation with the Course Leader, staff are responsible for co-ordinating individual units of study, and for selecting appropriate methods of delivery according to subject matter and student experience.

The methods employed induct you to the disciplines required of a creative practitioner and promote the development of transferable and adaptable skills.

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 progressive promotion of independent learning reflects your anticipated maturity as a student and allows you to direct your learning towards individual goals. The teaching in Level 4 is directed at providing you with the knowledge, concepts and skills to take increasing responsibility for the management of your own learning.

Teaching is directed at supporting individual engagement in learning although there will be opportunities for you to work in teams to enable you to learn the value of peer co-operation.

The integration of theory and practice is promoted and reinforced through a team teaching approach in both written and practical units. Lectures, seminars and tutorials may be delivered by team members, as appropriate, in the creative environment of the studio and lecture theatre. You will evidence your learning in this

context in essays, research files and presentations. The integration of theory and practice is crucial in developing you as a well-rounded and informed visual practitioner.

Practical work may take the form of a range of technical workshops, assignments briefs and studio-based workshops. Group technical workshops begin when you first arrive on the course to ensure you will be able to access all the technical resources and individual and group technical support will continue throughout the course. Your technical skills will be assessed in the practical units as part of the unit assessment criteria. You will also be required to keep a record of your technical skills acquisition throughout the three levels to help tutors assess your technical progress and needs.

### **Course Content**

The course consists of three levels, each lasting one academic year of full-time study. Each level is divided into units of study. Units may vary in size. A standard unit represents 200 hours of study and is worth 20 credits. Depending on the complexity of the area being studied some units may be larger, for example, there are double units (40 credits) and at Level 6 you can study a treble unit (60 credits).

At the Level 4 stage of the course you will complete a series of technical workshops that aim to develop foundational skills in studio practice and lighting, analogue colour and black and white processing and printing and digital imaging. Fundamental concepts and issues in historical and contemporary photographic practices are also introduced in both creative and the theory units. Level 4 will also offer you the chance to work in groups as well as individually.

As the course progresses to Level 5, you are expected to engage in more complex issues through your creative work as well as in the more theoretical units. You are encouraged to begin to define an individual practice towards the end of Level 5. Professional studies are introduced at this level to encourage an awareness of the audiences and the contexts for your photographic work.

As the course enters the Level 6 you will develop and refine an independent practice that will take you beyond graduation and into a vocational or postgraduate context. The relationship between theory and practice and technical skills will be consolidated and your knowledge of professional practice deepened to enable you to make informed choices about your future.

## Course Units

<b>Unit code</b>	<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>Credit Weighting</b>
<b>Level 4</b>		
PHO461	Process and Materiality	40
PHO462	History of Photography	20
PHO463	Appropriation and Photography	20
PHO464	Narrative and Photography	40
<b>Level 5</b>		
PHO561	Realism and Representation	20
PHO562	Image and the Page	20
PHO563	Research Project	20
PHO564	Concepts in Contemporary Photography	40
PHO565	Professional Enquiry	20
<b>Level 6</b>		
PHO661	Defining Practice – Concept, Research and Production	20
PHO662	Professional Career Planning and Portfolio	20
<b>Plus:</b>		
<b>Study option 1</b>		
PHO663	Major Research Project	20
PHO664	Extended Major Project	60
<b>Or:</b>		
<b>Study option 2</b>		
PHO665	Extended Major Research Project	40
PHO666	Major Project	40

## 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	<b>PHO461 Process and Materiality</b> (weeks 1-15) (40 credits)															<b>PHO463 Appropriation and Photography</b> (weeks 16-30) (20 credits)														
	<b>PHO462 History of Photography</b> (weeks 1-15) (20 credits)															<b>PHO464 Narrative and Photography</b> (weeks 16-30) (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						
<b>PHO561 Realism and Representation</b> (weeks 1-10) (20 credits)												<b>PHO563 Research Project</b> (weeks 11-20) (20 credits)												<b>PHO565 Professional Enquiry</b> (weeks 21-30) (20 credits)						
<b>PHO562 Image and the Page</b> (weeks 1-12) (20 credits)												<b>PHO564 Concepts in Contemporary Photography</b> (weeks 13-30) (40 credits)																		

<b>Level 6 (Option 1)</b>																														
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
<b>Autumn Term</b>												<b>Spring Term</b>												<b>Summer Term</b>						
<b>PHO661 Defining Practice – Concept, Research and Production (weeks 1-10) (20 credits)</b>												<b>PHO662 Professional Career Planning and Portfolio (weeks 11-28) (20 credits)</b>																		
<b>PHO663 Major Research Project (weeks 1-11) (20 credits)</b>											<b>PHO664 Extended Major Project (weeks 12-27) (60 credits)</b>																			

<b>Level 6 (Option 2)</b>																														
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
<b>Autumn Term</b>												<b>Spring Term</b>												<b>Summer Term</b>						
<b>PHO661 Defining Practice – Concept, Research and Production (weeks 1-10) (20 credits)</b>												<b>PHO662 Professional Career Planning and Portfolio (weeks 11-28) (20 credits)</b>																		
<b>PHO665 Extended Major Research Project (weeks 1-14) (40 credits)</b>														<b>PHO666 Major Project (weeks 15-27) (40 credits)</b>																