

What will you need?

Starting your First Year

In the summer before you start studying with us, you will be sent a list of basic necessities for the course, with recommendations of where to buy the products at a reasonable price. These include external hard drives, SD cards, portfolio boxes, sketchbooks, stationery etc, costing a total of approximately £100-150. We have our own Art shop on campus, where you will be able to purchase many of these items.

Photography Equipment

While students are not expected to arrive with their own high-end cameras, many students do choose to buy their own DSLR by the end of their second year. A range of photography equipment is available to loan, subject to availability. Please be aware that our stocks of digital cameras are Nikon and we have a range of lenses that will fit this make.

Our equipment can be loaned for longer periods – for example over the summer vacation. However we do ask that it's insured for this purpose. Costs for this are quite reasonable.

For independent work off-campus, you will need to provide your own hardware equipment such as laptops or MacBooks and printers as well digital imaging software such as Photoshop, Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro or Adobe Creative Cloud. On campus, there are digital workstations (Mac and PC) available for you to use as well as a networked top-up card printing facility (including colour) that you would pay per print for. There is also 24-hour Mac Suite access should you need it after hours.

Film

You can choose to shoot on film (35mm, medium or large format) or other media such as polaroid. However you'll need to purchase your own film unless it is part of a first year workshop. Black and white film processing facilities are available for you to use free of charge. In your first year you will be given two rolls of 35mm b/w film and one roll of colour film for their technical workshops.

Photo-Books

Other costs may involve the production of a self-published book as part of a portfolio, project or exhibition and is usually produced and ordered through an online company.

Printing

Some projects will make use of screen-based images or projections, with no additional cost, however you will be required to print your photographs from other projects which will incur a cost. This will be dependent on scale, paper type and so on.

We have an in-house printing and mounting service, offering reasonable prices for print orders. Alternatively, you can use professional labs for high-quality exhibition prints and finishing. For exhibition-based modules (in stage two and three), there are additional costs to consider regarding the display presentation of work such as print mounting and framing.

You will be able to use our colour and black and white darkroom facilities to print film-based images, but you will need to provide your own paper, unless the printing is part of a taught workshop.