



Welcome to BA (Hons) Photography 2020/21 from the Programme Leader

On behalf of the course team I would like to warmly welcome you to the BA (Hons) Photography Programme at the University of Northampton. This welcome pack contains all the information you need to prepare, how to access the induction sessions, what you will study, what your timetable will be and what to complete for the summer preparatory work. We also look forward to meeting you physically in the week of the 21 September 2020 for a one to one personal tutorial. There will also be a Personal Tutor Group face to face session in the University on Tuesday the 22 September. Please wait for details of when and where this will be.

BUT IMPORTANTLY Prior to this there will be three induction meetings online in September. Read the BA (Hons) Photography Welcome Pack to understand how to access them.

In these you will have an opportunity to meet the team, understand how you will study (both online and in person) and have an introduction to the wider teams and opportunities around you through the University. Please read through carefully and if you have any questions we can answer these in the first of the three online sessions on the 3 September at 11am. Please add these dates and times to your diaries.

To prepare for your study we also ask you to read some of the recommended books and look at some of the magazines highlighted in this pack. In particular, it would be great if you could familiarise yourself with the history and theory of photography. You are also required to do

some preparatory work over the summer, details of which are provided in a separate document.

In this pack you will also find other relevant information about the course and the University that will allow you to familiarise yourself to the new processes and ways of working at the University of Northampton.

Above all we hope that you enjoy your experience here at the University of Northampton and that you feel free to express your creativity in a creative environment that embraces and values the individual image-maker and strongly encourages experimentation and risk taking as you develop your visual voice. You will have supportive tutors, great technical resources with an excellent level and standard of equipment - and a superb Library resource available through the Learning Hub to help sustain your studies.

Engaging fully with what is on offer both from the Photography Department and the wider University opportunities will enhance your experience and you will reap rewards.

We look forward to you studying with us.

Yours sincerely,

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Course Structure and Award Map

BA (Hons) Photography Top Up: 2020 Entry

In order to achieve the named award above, students must meet all requirements of this award map.

STAGE 3

<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Pre-Requisites</i>
PHO4001	Practice Exhibition	80	Compulsory	PHO2001 and PHO2002
PHO3003	Career Development in Photographic Practice	40	Compulsory	PHO2008

Students must take all modules.

Please note all modules are subject to change

Teaching Information

Active Blended Learning (ABL) - Each module is made up of blended learning components that includes face-to-face activities and online learning e-tivities, which can be completed on or offsite and you will be given advice on when they are best to complete. Each module has a Coordinator and they meet on a regular basis with the Programme Leader to ensure that the highest quality teaching and learning activities are being provided.

Seminars and Seminar presentations – to allow students to test ideas against those of staff and other students as well as more formal presentations and to discuss contemporary and historical photography.

Practical demonstrations and Workshops – Workshop practices are a significant part of all the production modules. In addition to the transferring of technical skills and expertise, they offer hands-on instruction to students and guidance to complete specific technical or production tasks.

Projects – The project is essential in teaching and learning in that it encourages the definition of problems and their appropriate solution and evaluation. All projects have clearly defined learning outcomes and assessment criteria, related to content, which provide the framework for exploration, experiment, research, development, presentation and communication. As students' progress through the course, they are expected to take a more active role in directing their own work and ideas and designing their own project briefs through negotiation with staff. Since studio practice is the main element of the course, staff closely monitor the implementation, management and intellectual development of all projects.

Briefing meetings/Progress critiques – to launch projects and discuss current progress and anticipated requirements.

Tutorials – Each student will be allocated a Personal Tutor (PT). The tutorial system enables exploration through pastoral issues, discussion of issues such as current work, progress, including new ideas and possibilities, providing analysis and exchange, through increasingly negotiated development to support progressively independent and student-centered learning. An open and direct approach to discussion of work and adjusting to University life is encouraged.

Study Visits – These aim to foster group dynamics, peer group learning and broadening of student experience of other cultural and contextual

perspectives. Visits to museums, galleries and other appropriate institutions are arranged to complement student awareness and understanding of contemporary commercial and cultural photographic practice.

Visiting speakers – carefully selected speakers with relevance to the course contribute through presentations on their practice and specialism.

List of Suggested Equipment

We realise that a photography course makes a number of financial demands upon you. With that in mind we have put together a list of some of the things we would see as essential items.

We have asked some of our current Level 4 (Stage 1) students to indicate the costs involved in buying materials and prints for project submission. It is hoped that this will give you a clearer idea how much you should expect to spend to complete your work. The amount is an average between £150-£200 - you may spend more or less on materials but this covers film, photographic paper, prints (digital and conventional) and mounting.

Essential Items:

- Paper – writing (lined and plain)
- 3-4 A4 ring binders for workshops/seminars/ technical folder OR a portable drive to store electronic copies
- Pens, pencils, highlighter pens
- Memory Sticks
- SD cards
- Sketchbooks - A3 or A4, minimum of one needed per practice-based module (3 modules in Year 1). You may prefer to produce electronic sketchbooks in the form of a blog/Word doc/PDF
- A smart phone that can record sound and video (networks and cost is personal but you can find good deals for cheap for unlimited calls and texts per month so shop around).

There is an Art Shop - where you will be able to purchase all the usual items.

Although you are welcome to do so, you will NOT need to purchase your own cameras immediately. It would be more sensible to explore the range of cameras available and see if they are appropriate to your needs. Someone who is interested in sports photography may need a camera that can store information quickly, whereas someone who is interested in studio work may prefer larger files sizes to attain better detail. Please be aware that our stocks of digital cameras are primarily Nikon and we have a range of lenses that will fit this make. We do have adaptors for these lenses so that they can be used on Canon cameras. There is also a stock of tripods, lighting equipment and other items that will be available on loan from the equipment store.

The following is a short list of recommended equipment you will need within your first year on the course:

Portable external hard drive for backing up all work.

Suggested makes include Iomega, Freecom, LaCie, Hitachi, Western Digital. Suggested size 1TB/2TB, ensure Mac compatible- as the computers within the department are Macs. Some suggested suppliers:

- PCWorld
- Ebuyer.com
- Amazon

Your own SD cards- we suggest 3-4 which have at least 32GB of memory. These are essential if you are borrowing our DSLRs and video equipment. Suggested makes include SanDisk, Lexar,

- 7dayshop.com
- Amazon
- Wexphotovideo.com

Archival/Portfolio Photographic Boxes - for presentation and storage of photographic prints. (These are recommended, but you can discuss this with a tutor and acquire these after you start the course. Consider getting together as a group and you may save money through a bulk order).

- Portfolio Store
- Nomad Plc
- Silverprint
- Seawhite
- Tiny Box Company

Memory sticks/USB Flash drives- 16/32GB- for transferring files and storing lecture slide presentations. Amazon are very cheap for these.

Negative Folder for black and white and colour negative storage (Wex, etc.) - paper sleeves are supplied by the University.

Please remember it is often cheaper to buy on-line- watch for deals.

Useful tips from current students

- Developing colour film, go to Skears. It's not cheap but it is better quality!
- If you want cheap colour film, go to Poundland.
- If you need any colour or BW darkroom film, look for deals on Ebay and Amazon, it's much cheaper.
- If you want your own film camera, buy from Ebay. I got one (plus a 50mm lens) for £50.
- If you need sketchbooks, go to the Works. Cheap sketchbooks and portfolio boxes.