

Foundation Diploma in Art and Design

Diploma overview

- A year-long course to explore your creative practice and support your progression onto undergraduate studies
- Attracts UCAS points: Distinction 112 Merit 96 Pass 80.
- Fully funded if under 19 at the start of the course
- Applications are made directly to the college or university
- You can apply to multiple institutions
- A Portfolio of your work is usually required
- School deadline for applications is November 22

What will I study?

Art Foundation is an intensive one-year course that aims to challenge preconceptions and stretch your art and design practices through problem-solving, idea generation, and critical thinking. The course will push you outside your comfort zone and encourage you to take creative risks. You will learn through experimentation and develop lateral-thinking strategies to approach problems from new perspectives.

Different pathways

Courses usually start with an initial period where all students follow an initial introduction and explore a wide range of media. You will develop your technical knowledge across a range of processes.

Students usually then follow a more specific pathway which may include Graphic Communication, Fine Art, Fashion & Textiles or 3D Design. You will be encouraged to use a range of media and engage in one-to-one tutorials and group critiques.

Where can I study?

There are a number of colleges and universities offering Art Foundation Courses. Below are examples of institutions recent students have applied to:

[Harrogate College- Art Foundation](#)

[Leeds Arts University- Art Foundation](#)

[York College- Art Foundation](#)

[University of the Arts, London- Art Foundation](#)

This list is subject to change and is not intended to be exhaustive. Please check college and university websites for the most up to date information.

The Application Process

Each college and university have their own entry requirements and application process. Some may require a personal statement.

Leeds Arts University offer the following advice:

What to include in your personal statement?

Tell us little bit about yourself. Describe projects/pieces of work you are proud of. What do you like making creatively? What are your hobbies? Tell us about your favourite artists/designers and how they influence you. What are your future aspirations? Why have you applied to this university/college?

Your Portfolio

The college or university may request up to six examples of work that show your interest and ability in art, design and/or technology.

They are interested in seeing a few examples of your best work. These should represent what you have been working on at school or in your personal time. They love to see drawings and your ideas but are most interested in what you want to show them which may be photography, art, textiles, graphic design, or fashion.

What can an Art Foundation Course lead to?

Students will often go on to study creative courses at degree level and then on to careers across a wide range of disciplines. The course enables students to make an informed decision regarding what area they want to apply to within Art and Design at undergraduate level, prepare and refine their portfolio or if they are seeking employment within the creative industries.

Further Reading

[150+ Art Careers - The Ultimate List \(studentartguide.com\)](https://www.studentartguide.com/)

[Creative jobs | Prospects.ac.uk](https://prospect.ac.uk/creative-jobs/)

[Art Careers | The Art Career Project](https://www.theartcareerproject.com/)

[Artistic jobs list – get inspired about art careers | TARGETcareers](https://www.targetcareers.com/artistic-jobs-list/)

[Careerpilot : Jobs by subject](https://careerpilot.com/jobs-by-subject/)

Please contact the Careers Department at careersstaff@staidans.co.uk if you would like individual information, advice and guidance on Foundation Diploma in Art and Design applications – we are happy to help.

**Careers Department
St. Aidan's and St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form**

