Art, Craft & Design (OSA)

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Who should take the course?

Before Undertaking the A Level Art you should have met the entrance criteria in GCSE Art, one of its related subjects, or be able to provide a high quality portfolio of evidence of your skill.

What will I learn?

The course covers a range of activities and in-depth assignments that enable students to explore a range of approaches in producing art. You will have the opportunity to experiment with different media in order to explore your strengths and preferences in communicating ideas, concepts and opinions. It will be essential that you will show evidence of trying to extend your own and others' way of seeing the world. Work produced for this qualification will demonstrate the use of formal elements and creative skills in producing art and in creative problem solving.

You can work in variety of materials, processes and or approaches in a variety of disciplines in Component 1 and Component 2 which is the externally set Assignment.

How is it assessed?

All students are required to:

- Record observations, experiences, ideas, information and insights appropriate to intentions
- Analyse and critically evaluate art and design practices demonstrating an understanding of purposes, meanings and contexts
- Use art and design practise to develop ideas through sustained investigations and exploration, selecting and using materials, processes and resources, identifying and interpreting relationships and analysing methods and outcomes
- Identify issues relevant to art and design
- Use a variety of materials and techniques appropriately
- Illustrate the value of a cross-disciplinary approach
- Write clearly in an analytical and critical manner

The portfolio equates for 60% of the A level, with a personal study comprises 12% of this portfolio. The additional 40% of the A level comes from an externally set assignment culminating in a period of controlled assessment. The externally set assignment is teacher led for approximately 10 plus weeks culminating in a 15 hour period of controlled assessment.

Where will it take me?

On completion of your Art course, you might progress to further or higher education. These may include:

- A extended diploma in art foundation course
- A creative degree course of your choice at University
- An arts apprentice
- Or the qualification may accompany other career paths but demonstrating your approach to creative problem solving

There are many careers in with in the creative industry. Most of these do require further study at an art school, further education college or university. If you are unsure about whether to make a career of the subject, the best thing to do is to speak to your teacher who will know about the courses on offer in your area or elsewhere.

At present most students wishing to take Art go on to do a one year 'Foundation' course at college of further education or university before applying to degree courses in more specialist areas of art and design e.g. Art foundation to specialise in Graphic design at university level.