

Art and Design

GCE Student Guide

This GCE qualification is available as a general qualification in Art and Design Combined studies, or as a specialism in Photography and Lens Based Media, Three-Dimensional Design, or Textiles.

Students can take the AS course as a final qualification or the AS units plus the A2 units for the full GCE A level qualification.

It is designed to:

- continue to build on the knowledge, understanding and skills developed in GCSE Art and Design and at Key Stage 3; and
- provide a sound basis for progression to higher education courses in Art and Design or study related to other areas of the creative and cultural industries.



Why study Art and Design?

The study of GCE Art and Design creates a pathway to a future career in a creative or cultural field. It builds on the knowledge and skills developed at GCSE and Key Stage 3 and prepares students for further study in Art and Design or related study in a creative field.

Art and Design is unique in its inherent requirement to develop key transferable skills such as:

- creativity, personal motivation;
- project management and organisational skills; and
- innovation, higher level thinking skills and problem-solving.

This qualification is designed to broaden and deepen knowledge, skills and contextual understanding of a range of art and design disciplines.

Opportunities are available to develop key skills needed for the world of work:

- Application of number;
- Information technology;
- Improving own learning and performance;
- Communication development; and
- Problem-solving and working with others.

It encourages students to find alternative approaches and to take risks in their work. It develops independent approaches to learning, aesthetic awareness and intellectual capabilities.

Art and Design allows for personal responses and therefore is key in helping students explore their identity and their philosophical and spiritual relationships to the society in which they live.

Student guidance material is also available on the CCEA website www.ccea.org.uk

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What will I study?

Unit	Areas of Study
AS 1: Experimental Portfolio	Theme based: students will have the opportunity to develop, explore and record ideas.
AS 2: Personal Outcome	Theme based: students will have the opportunity to produce a final outcome/outcomes.
A2 1: Personal and Critical Investigation	Theme based: students have the opportunity to produce both a written (1000–2000-word) investigation and a practical response.
A2 2: Thematic Outcome	Theme based: students will have an opportunity to produce a final outcome/outcomes.

How will I be assessed?

Unit	Assessment Description	Weighting
AS 1	Teacher assessment of work with external moderation Assessment Objectives 1, 2, 3 only	50% of AS 20% of A level
AS 2	Teacher assessment of controlled task with external moderation Assessment Objective 4 more heavily weighted than 1, 2, 3	50% of AS 20% of A level
A2 1	Written investigation (1000–2000 words) externally assessed Teacher assessment of practical element with external moderation Assessment Objectives 1, 2, 3 only	20% of A2 12% of A level 40% of A2 24% of A level
A2 2	Teacher assessment with external moderation Assessment Objective 4 more heavily weighted than 1, 2, 3	40% of A2 24% of A level

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What can I do with a qualification in Art and Design?

The creative and cultural industries are a fast growing area of the economy and are key to economic success. Northern Ireland and the UK have an established reputation in these industries.

This qualification provides students with opportunities to develop key skills needed for the world of work and further and higher education. It creates a pathway to a future career in a creative field.

Possible careers include advertising, architecture, art, curation, craft, jewellery, fashion design, car design, film, costume design, special effects, make-up, photography, graphic design, set design, furniture design, interior design, music, animation, performing arts, publishing, software design, toys and games design, TV, radio and video games design. A wide range of STEM careers such as engineering now also require creative, artistic and design skills.

The study of GCE Art and Design nurtures a range of qualities which are highly sought after by employers. These include creativity, problem-solving, resourcefulness, resilience, imagination, empathy and innovation. Higher order thinking skills such as researching, analysing and reflecting are embedded throughout this qualification.

To find out more, visit the **CCEA Website** for the latest support and updates for this subject.

