**Welcome to A Level Photography (9PY0)**

**2020-22**

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Welcome to A Level Photography. This is now a two year A level course, with no AS level. Please find enclosed details of preparatory material to be completed in order to be ready for the start of the course in September.

The time available before the course starts in September will provide you with the opportunity to research and prepare for your course. You will need to purchase one A3 hard backed, ring-bound sketch book. Once college has reopened, you can purchase this in school (£7.00) or purchase one from elsewhere. It would also be a good idea to purchase a small (A5) book for taking notes, planning, initial ideas and some research tasks*. If this proves to be impossible in the present circumstances, just use whatever materials you have access to until you are able to obtain the necessary equipment.*

**The course will comprise:**

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| Component 1: Personal Portfolio (9PY0/01) (60% of the total mark) |
| * Preparatory work in the Sketchbook |
| * A Final Outcome * A written Personal Study |
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| Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (9PY0/02) (40% of the total mark) |
| * Preparatory work in the sketchbook over approximately 10 weeks following an Externally Set Theme. |
| * Final Outcome (15 hours) |
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| **Both Units must cover the four Assessments Objectives of:**  AO1: Develop Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding  AO2: Explore Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.  AO3: Record Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress  AO4: Realise Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements. |

**Preparatory Tasks:**

**Researching and Resourcing**

The initial part of the course will be a series of set tasks which will give you some insight into the different styles and methods of photography you will potentially use throughout the course. It will also serve to give you the technical understanding necessary to undertake independent work. For example, how to use the SLR cameras, chemical and digital processes etc.

1. Keep a “photo diary” of your day to day life leading up to the start of the course in September. These images can be portraits of people in your life, scenery, close up still life type images, interiors, documentary images – whatever you choose to record your current experience, thoughts etc. Aim to take at least one photograph every day.
2. Research six photographers from different periods of the medium’s history with different styles. In your A5 book, write the photographer’s names and dates. Print off six images of their work and write a short paragraph about their style and why you like the work. Use a double page for each photographer (images may be quite small at this stage, so they fit on to a single page).
3. Create a visual timeline (with written information) that shows the key developments of photography since its inception. You might want to include information about:  
   The Camera Obscura, Thomas Wedgewood, Nicephore Niepce, Henry Fox Talbot, Louis Daguerre, Eadweard Muybridge, The Kodak no.1 box camera, The Kodak Brownie, Leica and 35mm film, colour technology, the Polaroid Land camera, the SLR camera, the Kodak Instamatic, digital technologies, the J-Phone J-SH04…

Note: any written work must be in your own words – do not copy text from the internet, or any other source.

**Equipment**  
We would recommend for students to try to purchase their own film-based, manual SLR camera. These can generally be found very cheaply in second hand shops, car boot sales, ebay etc. The photography department does have a number of these cameras available to borrow (equipment loan details enclosed on a separate sheet), but cannot guarantee that they will always be available.

Some students may already own their own digital SLR (DSLR) cameras. If you are able to afford one of these, then we would recommend the Canon EOS 1100D or similar. This is one of the best value starter Digital SLRs available at the moment, but may well be beyond the budget of many families.   
The college has some DSLR cameras which may be borrowed from the department, but it will not be necessary to borrow DSLR cameras for the first part of the Autumn term, owing to the fact that A Level students begin the course studying film based photography.

**We look forward to seeing you in September**

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May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Students are welcome to borrow the following items of the college’s photographic equipment, but only on the basis that if it is lost, damaged or broken, any costs will be reimbursed, and late returns of items will jeopardise the student’s opportunity to borrow future equipment.  
Please sign below if you are happy with this arrangement.

Below is a list of potential replacement costs:

* Manual SLR film camera @ £158.33
* Tripod @ 42.54
* Lowepro bags for SLR cameras @ £15
* Holga medium format film camera @ £30
* USB lead @ £3.99
* Canon 1100D digital SLR camera @299.99
* Rolleiflex TLR medium format camera @(approx.)between £3 - 500

This is not an exhaustive list. The college does have some items which exceed these prices, but this is an indication of the costs of equipment that the majority of students may borrow during the course.

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I give permission for my son/daughter;

Name of student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tutor group\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

to borrow college photography equipment on the basis that it is returned on time, and if lost or damaged, costs will be covered.

Signed -------------------------------------------------Parent/Guardian

Date-------------------------------------------------

**Please return to your photography teacher first week in September**