



LADY  
ELIZABETH  
SCHOOL

PART OF  ISP SCHOOLS

## LADY ELIZABETH SCHOOL GCE A LEVEL ART & DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY



### INTRODUCTION

Photography has been used by practitioners to record, document and present examples of everyday life, in ordinary and extraordinary circumstances. It is a wonderful form of communication which can create a narrative and evoke emotion. It is used to convey personal identity more widely than any other art form, is applied in the creative process across art and design and is widely used in social, commercial and scientific contexts.

At The Lady Elizabeth School we teach the two year, linear A level course in Photography as we believe that completing the two year course, and being assessed at the end, will both enhance our students chance of success and improve their understanding of the subject. Students who choose to study GCE A Level Photography from September 2022 will be entered for examination in May/ June 2024. In addition to the Externally Set Assignment students will also be assessed and marked on their practical and written work for Component 1. At The Lady Elizabeth School we follow the Edexcel GCE A Level Syllabus for Photography and we offer the following two disciplines:

- Digital Photography
- Film and Video.

By working across disciplines, they will extend their understanding of the scope of photography; by focusing on one discipline, they will gain a deeper understanding of specific processes within photography.

## DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Students will develop integrated knowledge, skills and understanding of the following:

- the principles of digital photography, including the pixel and digital processing
- viewpoint, white balance, composition, focus, aperture, shutter speed, exposure, shooting modes
- the use and qualities of image acquisition hardware and software, image manipulation and analogies between digital and other forms of photography
- the relationships between colour and tone for screen and print-based media, screen calibration, colour gamut, file formats such as raw, jpeg, tiff, png
- the use of a range of source material, software and hardware in the generation and development of ideas



## FILM AND VIDEO

Students will develop integrated knowledge, skills and understanding of the following:

- synopsis, storyboards, scripting, camera angles, viewpoints, length of shot, cutting, composition, cropping and pacing, which may include computer-generated ideas and developments
- animation processes, such as stop-frame and associated hardware and software
- qualities and functions of various film and video formats, such as, digital video, HD, 4K, .flv, .mov, .wmv, animated gif
- the use of sound, narration and storyline and their relation to moving images
- editing, including knowledge of the variety of ways in which images might be juxtaposed to create appropriate effects, such as in-camera editing, non-linear, offline edits etc.



## AIMS OF THE COURSE

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic media, genres, techniques and processes. They will be made aware of both traditional and new technologies and will explore relevant images and resources relating to Photography and a wider range of art and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples.



## QUALIFICATION AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

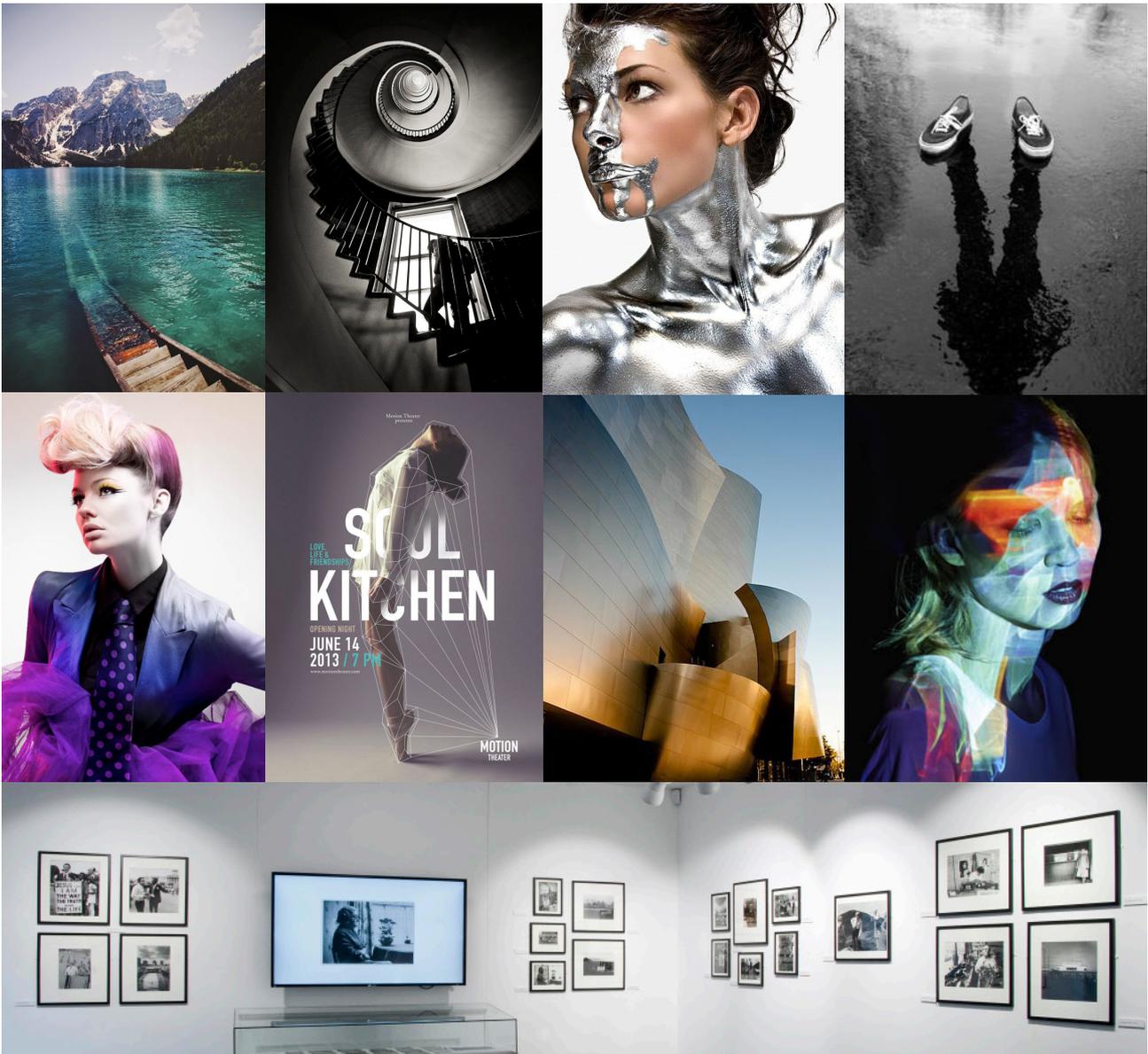
The aims and objectives of this A Level qualification are to enable students to develop:

- intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive capabilities
- investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgement
- independence of mind in developing, refining and communicating their own ideas, their own intentions and their own personal outcomes
- an interest in, enthusiasm for and enjoyment of the medium of photography and video
- their experience of working with a broad range of media
- an understanding of the interrelationships between art and design processes and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate
- knowledge and experience of real-world contexts and, where appropriate, links to the creative industries
- knowledge and understanding of design and media and technologies in contemporary and past societies and cultures
- an awareness of different roles, functions, audiences and consumers

## AREAS OF STUDY

Students will be required to work in one or more area(s) of photography, such as those listed below. They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas or identify their own particular area:

- portraiture
- landscape photography (working from the urban, rural and/or coastal environment)
- still life photography (working from objects or from the natural world)
- documentary photography, photojournalism
- fashion photography
- experimental imagery
- multimedia
- photographic installation
- moving image (video, film, animation)



## STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

The course is structured to provide a “Foundation” type course that covers all areas of the syllabus for the first six months. It is designed to give students practical experience in digital photography and film and video from which they will be able to make an informed decision about the area they wish to specialise in for their Personal Investigation.

Students will also be given a wide range of assignments which are designed to familiarise them with the content and assessment objectives of the A Level Course. These assignments not only include different photographic techniques and genres but the students are required to research the topic extensively and to provide written critical analysis of their work and processes.

Throughout the course students will also:

- develop a personal digital portfolio which is designed to showcase their coursework and will form part of their final presentation.
- produce a physical Photographic Sketchbook (work journal) in which they record ideas and thought processes, photographic shoot planning, locations, camera angles, trial shots etc. This will also be presented to the Examination Board at the end of the course as an indication of the student’s progress and development.

## FACILITIES

At The Lady Elizabeth School we have a well-equipped Photography Room with studio facilities, photographic lighting, 6 DSLR Canon cameras, Smart board, and computer fitted with the full Adobe Creative Cloud Suite allowing student access to the most up to date programmes such as Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Illustrator, InDesign, etc..



## CONTACT

If you would like more information about the course or have any questions please contact Miss Stefi Ash, Head of Photography, by email to [s.ash@laudeladyelizabeth.com](mailto:s.ash@laudeladyelizabeth.com)

# EDEXCEL GCE A LEVEL COURSE OUTLINE



## COMPONENT 1

### Title: Personal Investigation

60% of the total qualification

#### Overview of content

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

Component 1 incorporates three major elements: **supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.**

## COMPONENT 2

### Title: Externally Set Assignment

40% of the total qualification

#### Overview of content

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an **externally set theme.**

Component 2 incorporates two major elements: **preparatory studies and the 15-hour period of sustained focus (supervised exam).**

In addition students will also keep a visual journal in Sketchbooks and Digital Portfolios to document their work.

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

Both Components require students to address each of the Assessment Objectives.

**AO1:** Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

**AO2:** Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.

**AO3:** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.

**AO4:** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, make connections between visual and other elements.