Programme specification

1. Overview/ factual information

Programme/award title(s)	BA (Hons) Photography
Teaching Institution	Leeds City College
Awarding Institution	The Open University (OU)
Date of latest OU validation	November 2016
Next revalidation	November 2021
Credit points for the award	120
UCAS Code	W641
Programme start date	
Underpinning QAA subject benchmark(s)	Art and Design 2008
Other external and internal reference points used to inform programme outcomes	Art and Design 2008
Professional/statutory recognition	
Duration of the programme for each mode of study (P/T, FT,DL)	Full Time – 1 year
Dual accreditation (if applicable)	
Date of production/revision of this specification	October 2016

2.1 Educational aims and objectives
• Provide a comprehensive and challenging vocational programme in Photography, including core and specialist modules, which facilitate access and progression for a wide range of students from diverse backgrounds into various photographic industry contexts.
• Offer a robust BA (Hons) programme that is relevant to current photographic practice in the Creative Industries, that will allow students to be autonomous and progress onto their chosen career trajectory
• Produce graduates who have the ability to critically reflect and learn from their practical and workplace experience in a photographic context and relate this experience to relevant theory
• Produce graduates who have both subject specific skills (expressive, creative, technical) and transferable skills (communication, teamwork, project management) which are key to being employable within the photographic industry
• Produce graduates who have an analytical and reflective understanding of photography in the context of the workplace today and in relation to the wider social and cultural environment

2.2 Relationship to other programmes and awards
(Where the award is part of a hierarchy of awards/programmes, this section describes the articulation between them, opportunities for progression upon completion of the programme, and arrangements for bridging modules or induction)
None

3. Programme outcomes

Intended learning outcomes are listed below.

3A. Knowledge and understanding	
Learning outcomes:	**Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods**
A1 Plan, undertake and evaluate a negotiated, self-managed major creative / academic project A2 Critically analyse and evaluate the impact of ethical and legal issues relevant to contemporary practice	**Learning and Teaching Strategy** ● There is an emphasis towards practical workshop learning, which underpins both context and industry relevant topics ● The lecture programme and technical photographic delivery will impart the necessary principles and concepts ● The seminars will be a mixture of student and tutor led sessions considering practical examples of the principles and concepts introduced in the lecture programme, which will support learning through an experiential approach ● Group work will allow students to develop their research, communication and teamwork skills ● Tutor and peer led reflective feedback form the basis of student learning programmes in the form of personal and professional action planning ● Tutorials will take the form of individual support and feedback for student guidance Opportunities will be provided to work within the creative industries using our strong links with working professionals and industry partners **Key Assessment Methods** ● Practical Assessments ● Photographic Portfolios ● Formal Essays ● Presentations ● Diarised Logs documenting process ● On-line (VLE) personal and professional development planning

3B. Cognitive skills	
Learning outcomes:	**Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods**
B1 Synthesise, appraise and evaluate evidence from appropriate sources to make independent judgements by critically analysing a variety of ideas, contexts and frameworks B2 Question orthodoxy using balanced, logical and supported argument	As Above

3C. Practical and professional skills	
Learning outcomes:	**Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods**
C1 Act autonomously with limited supervision or direction C2 Produce projects using a complex and developmental artistic process to produce technically excellent outcomes	As Above

3D. Key/transferable skills	
Learning outcomes:	**Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods**
D1 Reflect systematically on performance to further develop learning	As Above
D2 Use a range of specialist techniques and skills appropriate to the communication of ideas	
D3 Adopt a range of roles within a team and contribute to the effective working of the team	

4. Programme Structure

Compulsory modules	Credit points	Compensatable
Personal Photographic Project	40	No
Research Project	20	Yes
Professional Practice	20	Yes
Making a Professional Network	20	Yes
Exploratory Photographic Practice	20	Yes

Students who want to qualify for the the exit award of BA Photography must complete the Personal Photographic Project along with Exploratory Photographic Practice.

Overview of structure of the modules across the Academic Year.

Level 6	WORK RELATED		ACADEMIC	PHOTOGRAPHIC PRACTICE
Semester 1	**Professional Practice** (20 Credits)	**Making a Professional Network** (20 Credits)	**Research Project** (40 Credits)	**Exploratory Photographic Practice** (20 Credits)
Semester 2				**Personal Photographic Project** (40 Credits)

5. Distinctive features of the programme structure

- **Where applicable, this section provides details on distinctive featurs such as:**
- **where in the structure above a professional/placement year fits in and how it may affect progression**
- **any restrictions regarding the availability of elective modules**
where in the programme structure students must make a choice of pathway/route

The course offer study from a variety of previous experiences and qualifications. The college is designed to be a continuation from the Foundation Degree at Leeds City College and has a similar structure. The college does offer an intake from other HNDs and Foundation Degrees in the local area. The tutorials system in place is designed to support students to understand and employ skills to complete.

The course offers three distinct features, these are the photographic practice, the Research Project (academic) and a work related aspect. The work related aspect of the course is an element that other institutions do not focus on. Through feedback from employers they have suggested that this is key in becoming a successful photographer as a high proportion of photographers are self-employed from day one.

- We have a relationship with Adobe meaning that the Macs always have the latest version of Adobe Master Suite.

- Strong teaching team with links to the photographic industry that brings opportunity to students

- The provision of real experience of working within the industry

- Strong relationships with local photography galleries, White Cloth and Impressions

- Strong relationships with photographers, both locally and nationally

- A Student Photography Festival in Leeds

- A regular programme of visiting lecturers

- Strong links with the college enterprise team that creates entrepreneurial opportunities for students

6. Support for students and their learning

The award adopts the approach to student learning support as identified in the Scheme programme specification.

- Tailored induction support begins before students arrive with the admissions team, and is reinforced at the detailed induction programme

- A robust communications system functions to give students access to lecturers and management; this includes e-mail, the VLE and notice boards in studios.

- All necessary information about the programme is provided by means of the student handbook, module handbooks and the VLE.

- Each student is allocated a tutor for regular tutorials and personal development planning. This is implemented in the first term and continued throughout the two years of study

- There is an extensive range of learning resources in the Library, supported by specialist staff who provide bespoke study skills sessions for students.

- The University provides an extensive range of services for students, including support for those with special needs

- There is a range of student services such as welfare, counselling, financial and careers advice

7. Criteria for admission

A typical offer is likely to be 40% pass at Foundation Degree or a pass profile in a relevant HND, together with 5 GCSEs at grade C or above including English (Maths isn't required).

International qualifications will be assessed against these criteria. Speakers of other languages need to have an IELTS score of at least 6.0 or a recognised level 2 English qualification.

All students must be able to demonstrate either by qualifications or testing that they have the required literacy skills to complete the course.

All students are to present a portfolio and supporting academic text. This is undertaken during an interview or correspondence for distance applicants.

8. Language of study

English

9. Information about assessment regulations

Personal Photographic Project – non-compensatable

10. Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning.

In addition to the Annual Programme Monitoring process the following mechanisms are in operation:

- Peer Review
- Annual Planning
- Peer Observation
- Student module reviews
- Tutor module reviews
- Enrolment and induction reviews
- Course Committee meetings
- Pathway Committee meetings
- Student Pathway meetings

Annexe 1: Curriculum map

Annexe 2: Map of Teaching and Learning Methods

Annexe 3: Map of Assessment Methods

Annexe 4: Assessment Chart

Annexe 1 - Curriculum map

This table indicates which study units assume responsibility for delivering (shaded) and assessing (✓) particular programme learning outcomes.

Level	Study module/unit	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2	D1	D2	D3
6	Personal Photographic Practice	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓
	Research Project	✓			✓	✓			✓	
	Professional Practice		✓	✓				✓	✓	
	Exploratory Photographic Practice			✓			✓			✓
	Making a Professional Network		✓	✓		✓		✓		

Annexe 2

Map of Teaching and Learning Methods

Level 6   **Year: 2017 / 2018**

Examples – put in your own specific forms	Lectures	Critiques	Tutorials	Practical	Demonst rations	Portfolio reviews	Guest speakers	Peer assessm ent
Personal Photographic Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Research Project	✓		✓				✓	
Professional Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Exploratory Photographic Practice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Making a Professional Network	✓		✓			✓	✓	

Annexe 3

Map of Assessment Methods

Level 6   **Year:2017/2018**

	Exhibition	Annotated Contact Sheets	Diarised Log	Negotiated Project	Blog	Photographs for Exhibition	Supporting Documentation/Business Plan	Negotiated Reflection
Personal Photographic Practice	60%		40%					
Research Project				100%				
Professional Practice							40%	60%
Exploratory Photographic Practice		60%				40%		
Making a Professional Network					40%			60%

Annexe 4 – Assessment Chart

Module Name	Formative Assessment Type and Week of Completion	Summative Assessment Type and Week of Submission
Personal Photographic Practice	Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. Formative feedback will take the form of individual supervisor sessions, action planning and written commentary. ● Formative submission: week 18 / week 22	1. Exhibition - 60% (=word count 7,200) Submission: week 29 2. Diarised Log - 40% (=word count 4,800) Submission: week 30
Research Project	Formative feedback and assessment will take the form of individual supervisor sessions, review of a proposal and draft submissions. ● Formative submission: week 8 / week 18 / week 22	1. Negotiated Project - 100% (=word count 6,000) Submission: week 26
Professional Practice	Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. Formative assessment will take the form of ongoing classroom discussions with tutor and peer feedback and one-to-one tutorials outlining action plans and tracking. ● Formative submission: week 8 / week 18 / week 22	1. Supporting Documentation/Business Plan (Proposal) - 60% (=word count 3,000) Submission: week 25 2. Negotiated Reflection - 60% (=word count 3,000) Submission: week 27
Exploratory Photographic Practice	Formative feedback and assessment will take the form of practice portfolio review, written commentary and discussions of progress with the practical element of the module, this will take the form of tutorials and critiques. ● Formative submission: week 8	1. 60% Annotated Contact Sheets (=word count 3,800) Submission: week 12 2. 40% Photographs for Exhibition - 40% (=word count 2,400) Submission: week 15
Making a Professional Network	Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. Formative assessment will take the form of ongoing classroom discussions with tutor and peer feedback and one-to-one tutorials outlining action plans and tracking. ● Formative submission: week 8 / week 18 / week 22	1. Blog 60% (=word count 3,000) Submission: week 23 2. Portfolio Review 40% (=word count 2,000) Submission: week 26