

Programme specification

1. Overview/ factual information

Programme/award title(s)	Fd 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	240
UCAS Code	W640
Programme start date	
Underpinning QAA subject benchmark(s)	Art and Design 2016
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 2 Years
Dual accreditation (if applicable)	
Date of production/revision of this specification	October 2016

2.1 Educational aims and objectives

Educational Aims of the Programme

The course aims to equip graduate with the skills needed to work in the creative industry. The program is designed to have a focus on photographic practice with an underpinning of contextual knowledge and business acumen. The course does not define the genre or style of photography, but it does offer and suggest career trajectories. The ethos of the course is to support and help to develop students to achieve a career in whatever aspect they choose.

The overarching aim for the course is that students have a good understanding of producing photography, but that they have a good underpinning of contextual and historical knowledge and that they are able to sell themselves.

The overall aims of the programme are to:

- Provide a challenging high quality vocational programme in Photography, including core and specialist modules, which facilitate access and progression for a wide range of students from diverse backgrounds.
- Offer a robust and vocationally relevant foundation degree that will allow students to develop their interests personally and professionally.

- Develop graduates who have the ability to reflect and learn from their workplace experience in the photographic industry and relate this experience to progress into work or progress onto the top-up.
- Develop graduates who have a balance between subject specific skills (expressive, creative, technical) and transferable skills (communication, teamwork, project management) which are key to being employable in the photographic industry
- Develop 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
<p>A1 Critically review and select from wider research methods to inform decision-making and then apply to photographic work or concepts</p> <p>A2 Demonstrate a detailed understanding of aspects of photography by critically analysing a variety of ideas, contexts and frameworks. Apply knowledge to a range of photographic situations</p>	<p>Key Learning & Teaching Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an emphasis towards practical demonstrations and workshop learning, which underpinned by both contextual 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 <p>Key Assessment Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical Assessments • Photographic Portfolios • Formal Essays • Presentations • Workbooks documenting process (could be electronic) • On-line (VLE) personal and professional development planning <p>Negotiated reflections (personalised learning)</p>

3B. Cognitive skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>B1 Analyse, apply and interpret evidence from a variety of sources</p> <p>B2 Employ balanced, logical and supported argument to critically explore facets of the photographic industry in a range of contexts</p>	<p>As above</p>

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3C. Practical and professional skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>C1 Operate ethically and safely in situations of varying complexity and predictability requiring the application of a wide range of photographic techniques</p> <p>C2 Act with increasing autonomy, with reduced need for supervision and direction, within defined guidelines</p> <p>C3 Evidence a considered and creative developmental approach to photographic briefs</p>	As above

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

3. Level 4 Stage Outcomes

Intended learning outcomes are listed below.

3A. Knowledge and understanding	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>A1 Identify and explain selected research methods used in photography and apply them in defined and limited contexts</p> <p>A2 Describe, explain and use key elements of the foundation knowledge and key concepts of photographic practice</p>	<p>Key Learning & Teaching Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an emphasis towards practical demonstrations and workshop learning, which underpinned by both contextual 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 with professionals and industry partners <p>Key Assessment Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical Assessments • Photographic Portfolios • Formal Essays • Presentations • Workbooks documenting process (could be electronic) • On-line (VLE) personal and professional development planning <p>Negotiated reflections (personalised learning)</p>

3B. Cognitive skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>B1 Justify conclusions that explore facets of the photographic industry in defined and limited contexts</p> <p>B2 Recognise the provisional and changing nature of knowledge within approaches to the photographic industries</p>	<p>As above</p>

3C. Practical and professional skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
C1 Operate ethically and safely within a limited range of photographic skills	As above
C2 Act with increasing autonomy, with reduced need for supervision and direction, within defined guidelines	
C3 Evidence developmental approaches to the realisation of photographic briefs	

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

Level 4		
Compulsory modules	Credit points	Compensatable
Photographic Production Skills	20	Yes
Photographic Practice Portfolio	20	Yes
Photographic Practice Ideas, Processes and Concepts	20	Yes
Introduction to the Photographic Industry	20	Yes
Photographic Discourse	20	Yes
Professional Development	20	Yes

Level 5		
Compulsory modules	Credit points	Compensatable
Contextualising Your Photographic Practice	20	Yes
Extended Photographic Practice	40	No
Working in the Photographic Industry	20	Yes
Collaborative Project	20	Yes
Contextualising Photography	20	Yes

Programme Structure

Overview of structure of the modules across the Academic Year.

Full-time route:

Level 4:

Solid foundations of technical photographic skills are laid through a twenty credit semester one module that focuses on photographic skills in *Photographic Production Skills* this leads students to undertake the *Photographic Practice Portfolio and Photographic Practice Ideas, Processes and Concepts* Modules that focuses on ideas, processes and concepts. Introduces the principles and practices of working as a photographer within the *Introduction to the Photographic Industry* module. This is a part theory and part practical module, student focus on the theoretical aspect of industry topics then are asked to put these skills and understanding into a work based context (practical photography). Parallel to the practical skills is the development of the students' contextual knowledge within *Photographic Discourse* Module which underpins and informs the other modules. Teaching and learning comprises of a wide variety of lectures, seminars, practical sessions and written work. This is further supported by tutorials and online resources / activities.

- **Photographic Production Skills**, 20 credits
- **Photographic Practice Portfolio**, 20 credits
- **Photographic Ideas, Processes and Concepts**, 20 credits
- **Introduction to the Photographic Industry**, 20 credits
- **Photographic Discourse**, 20 credits
- **Professional Development**, 20 credits

Level 5:

Level 5 builds upon the skills and knowledge gained during Level 4. Photographic skills are built upon on in the *Contextualising Your Photographic Practice* in which students start to focus their studies on their own career trajectory and to stretch students conceptual understanding in the *Extended Photographic Project* Module allowing increased autonomy to define their specialised area of photographic practice. Academic and creative skills are developed through, firstly, *Contextualising Your Photographic Practice* module where the students are encouraged to consider their photography in connection with external ideas. Secondly within the *Extended Photographic Project* Module which provides the opportunity to conduct independent research. At Level 5 there is also a focus on real industry application through *Working in the Photographic Industry*. This module provides the student with real experience of working within the Photographic Industry through a focus on self-promotion and work experience, the *Collaborative Project module* is designed to develop their communication, interpersonal and creative skills. As with Level 4, teaching and learning comprises of a wide variety of lectures, seminars, practical sessions and written work, but here we have more emphasis on large-scale student-led projects. Again, all learning is further supported by tutorials and online resources / activities.

- **Contextualising Your Photographic Practice**, 20 credits
- **Extended Photographic Project**, 40 credits
- **Working in the Photographic Industry**, 20 credits
- **Contextualising Photography**, 20 credits
- **Collaborative Project**, 20 credits

Timetable for Full Time Course

FdA Photo L4

WRL

SKILLS

ACADEMIC

Semester 1	Introduction to the Photographic Industry (20 Credits)	Photographic Production Skills (20 Credits)		Professional Development (20 Credits)
Semester 2		Photographic Practice Portfolio (20 credits)	Photographic Practice Ideas, Processes and Concepts (20 credits)	Photographic Discourse (20 Credits)
FdA Photo L5	WRL	SKILLS		ACADEMIC
Semester 1	Working in the Photographic Industry (20 Credits)	Collaborative Project (20 Credits)		Contextualising Your Photographic Practice (20 Credits)
Semester 2		Extended Photographic Project (40 Credits)		Contextualising Photography (20 Credits)

Students exiting after completing one year of study, having gained 120 credits, may be eligible for a Certificate in Higher Education.

5. Distinctive features of the programme structure

- **Where applicable, this section provides details on distinctive features 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 is designed to allow students to find their own career trajectory. The course does not adopt a house style, and instead of this the course is to offer different genres and styles of photography; allowing student to discover the area of photography they wish to enter. The course is very much geared towards practical photography, covering a range of foundation skills and discussing ideas in level 4. Level 5 allows more autonomy with a supportive pastoral role by tutors to allow career and skill development.

The course has three distinct facets. To support the photographic practice elements, students will undertake modules in academic studies (Photographic Discourse level 4 and Contextualising Photographic, level 5). Within these modules students will discuss issues related to ethics and current theories within photography. In the industry modules (Introduction to the Photographic Industry, level 4 and Working in the Photographic Industries, level 5) students will be exposed to the working of the creative industry in terms of both the mechanics and theory, then underpinned by work experience.

To keep abreast of industry we have a deal with Adobe meaning that the Macs always have the latest version of Adobe Master Suite.

Strong teaching team in terms of industry experience and academic qualifications, who undertake both commercial and contemporary art settings which supports student progress and access to the industry.

Strong relationships with local art/photography galleries, Studio 24, Leeds Gallery and Impressions

Strong culture of student photography in Leeds

The course encourages and exhibits work throughout the year, both in house and out in the city.

6. Support for students and their learning

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 would normally be 120 tariff points where this is made up of appropriate level 3 qualifications, such as full A levels or BTEC L3 Diploma. This could be translated as 2 x D at A level, or a Merit profile in a relevant BTEC L3 Diploma (MM) or BTEC L3 Extended Diploma (MMP), together with 5 of GCSE grades at C or above including English (Maths isn't required). However, factors such as previous experience and performance at interview can support the application.

Non Standard Entry

We welcome applications from mature candidates who may not have met the academic criteria, but can demonstrate a wealth of experience in their chosen field. Candidates in this category and otherwise are likely to be interviewed to assess their suitability for the course and asked to provide a portfolio of evidence to support their application.

In the absence of formal learning qualifications applications are welcomed from persons who can demonstrate relevant work experience, including work in a voluntary capacity.

The course structure actively supports claims for Accreditation of Prior Certified Learning (APCL) and Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL).

International qualifications will be assessed against these criteria. Speakers of other languages will need to possess an IELTS band score of 6.0 (with no-less than 5.5 in any one element) or a recognised English Level 2 qualification.

Students on the course will be expected to go on work placement as part of the programme of study.

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

Extended 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	A 1	A 2	A 3	B 1	B 2	C 1	C 2	C 3	D 1	D 2	D 3
4	Introduction to the Photographic Industry											
	Photographic Production Skills											
	Photographic Discourse											
	Photographic Practice Portfolio											
	Photographic Practice Ideas, Processes and Concepts											
	Professional Development											

Level	Study module/unit	A 1	A 2	A 3	B 1	B 2	C 1	C 2	C 3	D 1	D 2	D 3
5	Working in the Photographic Industry											
	Contextualising Your Photographic Practice											
	Extended Photographic Project											
	Contextualising Photography											
	Collaborative Project											

Annexe 2

Map of Teaching and Learning Methods

Level 4

Year: 2017/18

	Lecture s	Critique s	Tutorial s	Practica l	Demon stration s	Case studies	Group activitie s	Guest speaker s
Introduction to the Photographic Industry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Photographic Practice Portfolio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Photographic Practice Ideas, Processes and Concepts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Photographic Discourse	✓		✓			✓	✓	
Photographic Production Skills	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Professional Development	✓		✓					✓

Level 5

Year : 2018/19

	Lecture s	Semina rs	Tutorial s	Practica l	Demon stration s	Case studies	Group activitie s	Guest speaker s
Working in the Photographic Industry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Contextualising Photography	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Extended Photographic Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Contextualising Photography	✓		✓				✓	
Collaborative Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Annexe 3

Map of Assessment Methods

Level 4 2017/18	Photographic Manual	Negotiated Reflection	Photographic Journal	Diarised log	Portfolio of images	Presentation	Essay	Interview	Reflective Research Folder
Introduction to the Photographic Industry								50%	50%
Photographic Production Skills	60%				40%				
Photographic Practice Portfolio					100%				
Photographic Practice Ideas, Processes and Concepts				100%					
Photographic Discourse						40%	60%		
Professional Development		40%	60%						

Level 5 2018/19	Case Study	Photographic Project	Diarised log	Presentation	Essay	Reflective Folder	Exhibition of images	Blog	Professional Interview
Working in the Photographic Industry				50%		50%			
Contextualising Your Photographic Practice	50%	50%							
Final Major Photographic Project			50%				50%		

Contextualising Photographic Theory				40%	60%				
Collaborative Project								50%	50%

Annexe 4

Module Name	Formative Assessment Type and Week of Completion	Summative Assessment Type and Week of Submission
Module Name – LEVEL 4		
Introduction to the Photographic Industry	Formative assessment will take the form of tutor / peer assessment in group critiques and one-to-one tutorials to assess progress Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative submission: week 8 / week 18 / week 22 	1. Interview - 50% Submission: week 18 2. Reflective Folder of Evidence - 50% Submission: week 28
Photographic Practice Portfolio	Formative assessment will take the form of tutor and peer group critiques and one-to-one tutorials with target setting. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative submission: week 18 / week 22 	1. Portfolio of Images - 100% Submission: week 29
Photographic Practice Ideas, Concepts and Processes	Formative assessment will take the form of tutor and peer group critiques and one-to-one tutorials with target setting. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative submission: week 18 / week 22 	1. Diarised log - 100% Submission: week 31
Photographic Discourse	Formative assessment will take the form of a practice presentation, classroom based discussion and draft report submission and feedback. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative submission: week 8 	1. Presentation - 40% Submission: week 7 2. Essay - 60% Submission: week 15
Photographic Production Skills	Formative assessment will take the form of tutor and peer group critiques and one-to-one tutorials with target setting. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative submission: week 8 	1. Photographic Manual - 60% Submission: week 14 2. Portfolio of images - 40% Submission: week 12
Professional Development	Formative assessment will take the form of one-to-one tutorials to create personal learning goals Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formative submission: week 8 	1. Photographic Journal 40% Submission: week 27 2. Negotiated Reflection 60% Submission: week 27

Module Name – LEVEL 5		
Working in the Photographic Industry	Formative assessment will take the form of feedback from nominated industry link and tutors, peer evaluation through presentation to group. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formative submission: week 8 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report - 50% Submission: week 13 2. Negotiated Reflection - 50% Submission: week 16
Contextualising Your Photographic Practice	Formative assessment will take the form of weekly peer evaluation on group tasks and presentation of practical work. This will be accompanied by written feedback on draft statement submission. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formative submission: week 8 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report - 50% Submission: week 9 2. Presentation - 50% Submission: week 15
Extended Photographic Project	Formative assessment will take the form of tutor and peer group critiques, input from external industry representatives and one-to-one tutorials with target setting. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formative submission: week 8 / week 18 / week 22 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Portfolio of Images - 50% Submission: week 29 2. Diarised log - 50% Submission: week 31
Contextualising Photography	Formative assessment will take the form of written feedback on a proposal and draft essay, alongside one-to-one tutorial support. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formative submission: week 18 / week 22 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Portfolio - 50% Submission: week 23 2. Essay - 50% Submission: week 27
Collaborative Project	Formative assessment will take the form of written feedback on a proposal and draft essay, alongside one-to-one tutorial support. Formative feedback is given at key stages to inform learning development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formative submission: week 8 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professional Interview - 50% Submission: week 12 2. Blog - 50% Submission: week 14