

Frequently Asked Questions

PHOTOGRAPHY A LEVEL

Question: What are some of the key topics I would cover?

Answer: At the beginning of Year 1 we cover photography concepts and skills such as the formal elements, shutter speeds, aperture, ISO and white balance. Students then investigate an environment of their choosing, and we look at composition, abstraction, mixed media and revisit shutter speeds. Students are also inducted into the darkroom and produce photograms. We also manipulate images using Photoshop, and students use the studios and experiment with different lighting techniques. The Personal Investigation unit theme in Year 2 is chosen by the individual student so ideas and topics are wide ranging.

Question: How many other subjects can I choose alongside this one?

Answer: You may choose two other single A Levels or BTEC courses alongside A Level Photography. Photography A level compliments many subjects such as Film, Media, Art, English, Sociology, Geography, History and Politics as well as science courses. Students should consider how much coursework they are taking on with their choice of courses.

Question: What is the learning style like within this subject?

Answer: Lessons are varied- image analysis, group discussions, sharing of ideas, practical work, editing of images, research tasks, practical photography sessions on campus, in the darkroom and studios.

Question: How will I be assessed?

Answer: Assessment is made via written assignments, practical tasks and project work. Student work is presented in sketchbooks (currently we are working with digital sketchbooks) and submitted via Teams assignments.

Question: What support can I access if I am struggling?

Answer: We run subject workshops each week which any student can come to, these provide students with extra study time, extra time to use our facilities, or get help from their teacher. Also extra support can be accessed via the college's study support team for learning or wellbeing needs.

Question: Are there any subject specific entry requirements?

collyers.ac.uk/admissions

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Answer: Yes, please refer to the prospectus [here](#) for general and subject specific entry requirements. Students are required to have their own digital SLR camera to start the course.

Question: Are there normally any trips that I can go on?

Answer: We run day trips to galleries and exhibitions, or places of interest such as Farnham Sculpture Park, Kew Gardens, Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth or National Trust properties.

Question: What do students who have studied this area normally do after Collyer's?

Answer: Students can go on to study a Photography or Art foundation course, or study a Photography or Arts related degree at university. A wide range of degrees are offered at fantastic institutions such as Falmouth, Portsmouth, Southampton Solent, Bournemouth, Bath Spa, Nottingham Trent and Derby. Courses include Fashion Photography, Press & Editorial Photography, Commercial Photography, Photography & Moving Image, Marine & Natural History Photography.