



Art and Design – Graphics

One year AS/Two year A level.

Graphic Design is the practice of visual communication that combines images, words and ideas. Graphics is an integral part of today's society; ranging from posters, packaging and illustration to web design and animation. The course will develop your problem solving abilities and will introduce a variety of artistic materials. Art and Design Graphics combines art, printmaking, typography and computer aided design skills. Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator are software packages that are integral to skill development.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course ideally require a grade B or above in a GCSE Art and Design or a related subject or Head of Department approval of portfolio. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject.

This subject will focus on:

- research – photographic, drawing, recording observations;
- analysing - investigating and linking artists and designers;
- developing ideas and using a variety of materials; and
- creating and developing final graphic outcomes.

You can expect to:

- explore and be taught a variety of graphic and art techniques in structured group activities including Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator;
- follow a choice of design and illustration briefs from conception to realisation; and
- visit museums, galleries and research locations (choice of local and the opportunity for visits abroad) and to evaluate critically.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is by examination and coursework.

Progression:

Most students who want to follow a career in art and design will usually be required to complete an Art Foundation course before degree. After A Levels, Havering Sixth Form College offers an Art and Design Foundation Diploma which is designed for students who have completed an Art and Design A Level subject and will facilitate progression to appropriate Higher Education courses.

Other information:

A basic range of media and materials will be provided. Students will need to purchase a range of other art materials in order to do further work outside of the lesson. Trips and visits to London and abroad are arranged as a part of the course. It would be beneficial to have

access to Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. We advise all students to purchase a digital camera as it essential when recording primary sources.

Student Success at Havering Sixth Form College:

In 2009 three A Level Graphic Design students were awarded three National Digital Arts awards by Skillset and the Arts Council. In addition, two A Level Graphic Design students and two AS students achieved full marks in their units.

In 2008 the A Level Graphics course achieved a 100% pass rate.

Antonia Heslop (ex Langdon) achieved a grade A in A Level Graphics in 2008 and is now studying for a BA in Graphic Design at the prestigious Central St Martins' College.