



Creative and Digital Arts
Applicant Study Pack

Description of course:

Our Art courses will give you experience in different art and design disciplines, including Fine Art, 3D visual studies, textiles, printmaking and photography. You will learn new skills and develop experience in a number of specialist techniques and approaches from experienced and dedicated tutors. These courses are designed to develop your creative potential while improving your understanding of visual communication, helping you gain the appropriate skills, knowledge to progress into further, higher education and employment in the Art and Design industry.

This is a practical, work-related course and you will learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will take part in a broad range of workshops exploring and re affirming techniques, processes around a given theme.

We aim to support each individual learner in making a personal and informed progression route in their chosen discipline.

Task One

Visual Journey of the home

For this creative challenge you will be exploring and recording different surfaces and textures from around your house hold for the purposes of creating a series of thumbnail sketches of abstract compositions. You will need to select and photograph 12 images using your phone/camera or handmade viewfinder.

What you will need (use what you have available):

Phone/camera

Paper or sketchbook

Drawing materials: pencils/pens/charcoal

Paints: watercolours/inks/acrylic paint

Coloured pencil crayons. A paper viewfinder if you don't have access to a camera or phone.

Explore the spaces in and around your home and take a minimum of 12 photographs on your phone/camera or use a view finder to record different surfaces and textures. Look at the different themes below to help guide your ideas of interesting surfaces/textures to record:

- **Food store:** These could be images from around a garden space or local natural areas/ Food items from your fridge/fruit bowl. Kitchen cupboards.
- **Natural world:** Images of flowers from the garden, shed spaces around your house.

- **Domestic spaces:** Take this opportunity to see the beauty in the overlooked around your home. A close texture and pattern of your favourite trainers/the surface of the carpet etc.
- **Form v Function:** Photograph everyday objects you use on a daily basis: Tooth brush/ cutlery/ remote control/ furniture

Tips to consider when recording your images:

- Clean your lens on your phone/camera to capture a clear image of the surfaces and textures you select.
- If you don't have access to a phone/camera then use your viewfinder to find surfaces around the home.
- Make sure you focus on the detail of your chosen composition.
- Play around with the composition you record from. Take as many photographs as you can always delete the ones that you don't like.
- Try to avoid photographing/recording the whole of a surface/object and instead zoom in on the detail to make your images more abstract.
- You could abstract your images even further by using the editing tools on your phone

Using a viewfinder or your camera on your phone, find surfaces of interest around your home.

Once you have edited and selected the twelve images you are happy with then use a viewfinder or zoom/crop tools to make a series of abstract compositions.

Use a combination of different media to draw out a minimum of six small squares (approx. 5cm x 5cm) in your sketch book using a combination of mark making skills to create abstract sketches/drawings/paintings from your chosen surfaces and textures.

Tips to consider when drawing from observation:

- Look at what you are drawing
- Add the different ranges of (light/dark) tones in your study.
- Take risks/be expressive with the marks you make.
- Use rough outlines in a light tone to help organise your composition.

Key word definitions:

Abstract: That does not attempt to represent an accurate depiction of a visual reality but instead use shapes, colours, forms and gestural marks to achieve its effect.

Composition: The placement or arrangement of the visual elements, such as figures, trees, in a work of art.

Tone: Refers to the light and dark values used to render a realistic object, or to create an abstract composition.

Task Two

The artist Mark Powel successfully combines his strong, observational drawing with old envelopes and maps. He uses a Bic Biro pen to create his portraits, often older people and sometimes birds. The lines, text, marks of the surfaces become one with the drawing.

1. Research the work of Mark Powell, make a copy of one of his artworks.
2. Find a selection of surfaces to work on e.g. envelopes, packaging, and newspapers.
3. Make a minimum of two separate portraits, using biro or a fine liner (you may draw the initial outline in pencil) using the surfaces you have found.

Think about how did you find this activity? Was it hard to work with this medium? Would you like to work again in this style? What would you do differently? Write down your thoughts alongside your artwork.

Further Reading / Links

Look at the following artists that explore different approaches to portraiture:

Alison Lambert, Prometheus 2005, charcoal on paper.

Jonathan Yeo, Cara oil on canvas, 2016, oil on canvas.

Dryden Goodwin, red studies, 2006, pencil on paper.

What next?

- Visit our website – www.clarendon.ac.uk for more information.
- Attend our New Students Day.
- Make it official, join us for enrolment in August. Letters will be sent to all applicants at the end of July with more details.