

International University Foundation Course Art and Design

OVERVIEW

The University Foundation Course in Art and Design for international students is a one-year course starting in September each year. It provides a combination of art and design studies alongside English language support, relevant to your area of study.

The course is one of an elite number of Foundation Diplomas validated by the exam board of the University of the Arts London. It prepares you for the IELTS exam and results in a diploma which will help you to progress to a university degree, or one of **ncn**'s design-related Foundation Degree programmes.

The language classes are with international students only. All of your art and design sessions will be with UK and other international students.

COURSE AIMS

- Introduction to new ideas in art and design
- Exploration of your creative and visual skills whilst improving artistic ability
- Creation of a portfolio of work to the standard required by universities
- English language tuition and preparation for IELTS
- Developing study skills in preparation for higher education
- Support for your UCAS application
- Develop an awareness of eventual employment opportunities

ENTRY CRITERIA

To apply for this course you must:

- have successfully completed secondary school or equivalent where art was a selected study option
- provide a portfolio demonstrating a range of your current artwork
- have a minimum English level of IELTS 5.0 (with no component less than 4.5) – equivalent qualifications will be accepted

COURSE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

This course provides 25 hours each week of directed study time, two hours being English language and 23 hours in the art workshop. Tutorials for UCAS guidance are provided until the spring mid-term break. There are, on average, 12 students in each international class group, but all of the art workshop sessions and external visits and trips are integrated with UK students. This adds a global dimension to the artwork produced and also supports language development.

The course covers the following areas:

Information and Research of Art and Design

To examine what is meant by art, looking at a range of art forms.

Recording and Responding to Art and Design

This will include using your own drawing skills and taking your own photographs as well as explaining the thoughts and feelings behind your practical work.

Media Experimentation

Exploring all forms of art and design, including sculpture, print making and computer graphics.

Identifying your Selected Field of Art

To produce a quality portfolio of work that demonstrates your skills in a selected field of study, for example, graphics, fashion, interior design.

Educational and Cultural Visits

This will include an international cultural centre, usually based in Europe, a 2–3 day visit to London as well as visiting local exhibitions and galleries. Please talk to the International Office regarding visas two months before the travel date.

English Support

The English programme has two main aims, firstly to achieve the required IELTS level for university and secondly to help you to develop the study skills you will require for higher education.

ASSESSMENT

Students are assessed at three critical stages throughout the year, but the fourth and final assessment, based on a show of work deriving from a final major project of your choice, is the most important. The first three assessment stages do not contribute to your final grade; they are progression assessments to define your specialist option. However, the fourth assessment is assessed both by your tutors and an external examiner, the final grade being pass, merit or distinction. English is assessed through the IELTS exam.

PROGRESSION

Once you have successfully completed this course, you can progress to a range of Foundation Degree or degree courses. The most popular options being:

- Fashion Design
- Fine Art
- Graphic Design
- Product/Furniture Design

However, you can also consider any of the following: Textile Design, Theatre Design, TV Production, Film, Advertising, Photography, Architecture and Interior Design.

Last year, our students progressed to a number of local and national universities and colleges including Nottingham Trent University, the University of Nottingham, Central Saint Martin's College London and the London College of Fashion. Students can also apply for Foundation Degrees at **ncn**.

STUDENT PROFILES

"To begin with, I studied as a full-time EFL student, but then transferred to the foundation course as this allowed me to study English alongside another interest. I am taking this course for my own personal development as it is a great opportunity to explore different aspects of art and a great chance to meet people from other countries and cultures."

Nathalie Frennet, Belgium

"I came to **ncn** to improve my English and to learn more about art. I am very interested in art and always feel very happy when I am drawing. After completing the foundation course, I progressed to HND Graphic Design and hope to complete a top-up degree at university."

Ming Sum Chan, Hong Kong



HOW TO APPLY

- Contact the International Office to obtain your application form, also available online at www.ncn.ac.uk/international
- Complete the **ncn** application form
- Provide evidence of your English skills, eg. IELTS/TOEFL
- Provide evidence of your academic qualifications
- Provide a reference, ideally from your last place of study
- Provide a portfolio of your work
- Send this to the International Office
- You will also need to read the information on the Home Office UK Border Agency website, www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk on how to apply under the points based system

If you require further information or an application form, please contact us at the address below:

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New College Nottingham
The Adams Building
Stoney Street
The Lace Market
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