

PHOTOGRAPHY

Exam board: AQA

Assessment methods: 60% coursework, 40% examination. All units are practical

Length of exams: A level – 15 hours of unaided, supervised time
The first 3 hours of the supervised time must be consecutive

Breakdown of units:

Photography students at RIC will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of photographic media, processes and techniques. They will produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study, for example portraiture, landscape photography, still life photography, documentary photography, photojournalism, fashion photography, experimental imagery, multimedia, and photographic installation. Students will use workbooks/journals to underpin their work where appropriate.

A Level

Component 1 Personal Investigation

This is a practical investigation supported by written material.

Students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. This must be supported by an extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose. The personal investigation will be assessed as a whole.

Component 2 Externally set assignment

The question paper will consist of a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one. Following receipt of the paper students should consider the starting points and select one. Preparatory work should be presented in any suitable format, such as mounted sheets, design sheets, sketchbooks, workbooks, journals, models and maquettes.

Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time. In this time students must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.

Overlap with other subjects: Photography overlaps well with all arts subjects whether visual (Fine Art, Graphic Design, Textiles,), performance (Music, Drama) or written (English Literature, History, Classics). History of Art would be especially beneficial to enhance the visual analysis skills needed to comment on students' own practical artwork. Photography also overlaps very well with Media, Film Studies and Sociology.

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