

Art and Design



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(Technician)

Exam Board

AQA A Level Art and Design
(Fine Art)

Why study Art and Design (Fine Art)?

Art and Design is a wonderfully exciting, rewarding and enriching subject. The endorsement studied is Fine Art. The skills learnt through the course will equip you for future creative careers such as artist, architect, product designer, graphic designer, fashion designer, photographer or stage set designer to name but a few, but it also provides a sound background for other less obvious careers where the ability to think differently and creatively gives an individual the edge on the competition. Self-expression is actively encouraged through artwork, the written word and discussion. These are valuable tools for all aspects of future life.

Course Outline

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of fine art media, processes and techniques. They will be made aware of both traditional and new media. Students will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. They may use sketchbooks, workbooks and journals where appropriate. Students will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to art, craft and design from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making processes. Students' responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. They will be made aware of the four assessment objectives and this will be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented. They will be aware of the importance of process as well as product. Students will also develop an ability to identify and sustain their own lines of enquiry, evolving relevant skills through engagement in a wide range of processes and techniques.

The scope of this subject allows for much personal expression. Students explore varied topics and a wide range of media including paint, printing, drawing, sculpture, digital photography, image manipulation, assemblage, collage and installation art. Projects undertaken in the past have had strong, original themes and have included man's effect on the environment, human perception, the influence of nature on contemporary architecture, psychological issues and challenging gender stereotypes. Students are encouraged to retain ownership of their work and develop their own practice according to their ability and aptitudes, relating their work to that of recognised artists.

Where are they now?

Recent students of Art and Design at CRGS have gone on to study:

- Ancient History (*Newcastle*)
- Animation and Visual Effects (*Lincoln*)
- Art and Design Foundation (*Manchester Met; Blackburn College*)
- Built Environment (*Oxford Brookes*)
- Business Mgt. Apprenticeship (*BAE Systems*)
- Dance (*Leeds Beckett*)
- Fine Art (*Oxford*)
- Forensic Psychology (*Liverpool John Moores*)
- English Language and Literature (*Durham; Leeds*)
- Fashion Design / Buying and Merchandising (*Manchester*)
- History of Art (*UCL*)
- Marketing (*Leeds Beckett*)
- Product Design Engineering (*Thomson Loughborough*)
- Psychology (*Leeds Beckett*)

Assessment

Component One - This personal investigation consists of coursework with no time limit and is worth 60%. Students are required to produce a practical investigation based on an idea, concept, theme or issue supported by written material of between 1,000 - 3,000 words. The investigation must show clear development from initial intentions to the final outcome(s). It must include evidence of the student's ability to research and develop ideas and relate their work to relevant critical/contextual materials.

Component Two - This assignment is set by AQA and it is worth 40%. Question papers will be distributed to students at the start of February. There will be a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points and students will choose one. Students have 15 hours of supervised time following a preparatory period. Preparatory studies can be referred to during the supervised time but must not be added to or amended. Student work can be presented in any suitable format, such as design sheets, sketchbooks, models or workbooks. We then mark the work and the AQA will moderate it, with visits to schools usually taking place in June.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is any previous knowledge required to study this subject?

You should have a minimum of Grade 5 GCSE in Art and Design. Interest and enthusiasm for the subject are essential. Whilst some technical expertise is desirable, interest in wider aspects of the subject is also expected, as is a positive and committed approach. Students are required to meet the General Entry Requirement of a minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 6 with at least GCSE grade 4 in English Language and Maths.

Q. What opportunities are there for Extended Learning?

There will be gallery visit opportunities during the course.

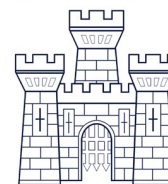
Q. What facilities are there?

There is a large, well-equipped Art Room with ample space to work on a large scale. A wide range of materials will be made available to you. You will be expected to bring with you basic equipment such as pencils and pens. You will also need a sketchbook. This can be purchased from the Art Department. It is desirable, but not essential, that you bring your own brushes and pencil crayons. It is also recommended that you bring an apron to protect your clothing.

Exam Board Specification

AQA A Level Art and Design (7202) www.aqa.org.uk

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