



Longley Park

SIXTH FORM ACADEMY

Creating Excellence Together,
through a culture of care

Get Ready For...

A Level Photography

LONGLEY PARK SIXTH FORM



What will I study?

The first year of this course introduces a variety of experiences that explore a range of photographic techniques, processes, and contexts. This is delivered through a range of formative projects that will run through to the second semester where students will initiate a personal project.

The techniques and processes students explore include portraiture, landscape photography still life photography, documentary photography, photojournalism, fashion photography, and photographic installation.

The second year of Photography A Level covers two units, Component one (60% of final grade) and component two (40% of final grade with exam.) Both projects consist of students creating a personal project that explores relevant materials, processes, technologies and resources.

What can I do next?

Students studying this course are challenged to aspire and make progression to relevant higher education courses or careers, some of which include:

Editorial/fashion photography, Fine art photography, Advertising art director, Film/video editor, Graphic designer, Magazine features editor, Press photographer, Television camera operator, Multimedia specialist, Museum/gallery curator, Web content manager, VFX artist and Independent photographer.

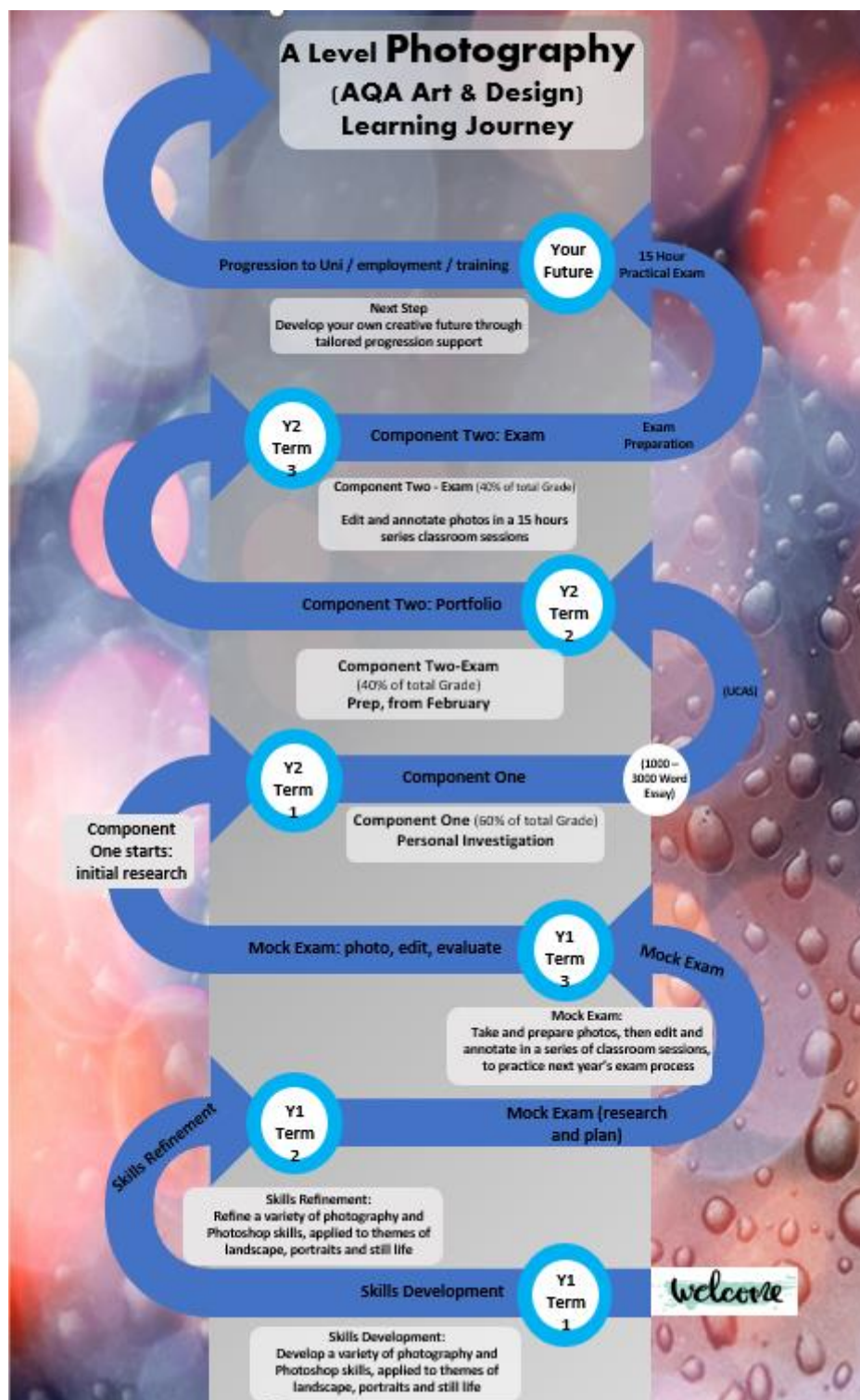
What additional opportunities will I have on my course?

Students will have opportunities to engage with contemporary photographic exhibitions and live industry briefs. Furthermore, they will be exposed to the wide array of potential digital image making careers that could evolve from studying photography.

Units covered will allow for a complete comprehension of students' area of photographic practice and to build an industry standard portfolio of work.

Projects will explore broader academic theory and use this as underpinning concepts when initiating photographic investigations.

Your Learning Journey



Introduction to Composition

Composition is an important first step when we approach photography. Following a few simple rules can vastly improve your images and introduce symmetry and interesting aesthetic qualities to your shots. The more you practice these compositional techniques the sooner your 'photographers' eye' will develop, and you'll find that composition becomes second nature to you. You do not need any special equipment to complete these challenges, any camera or mobile phone will be fine.

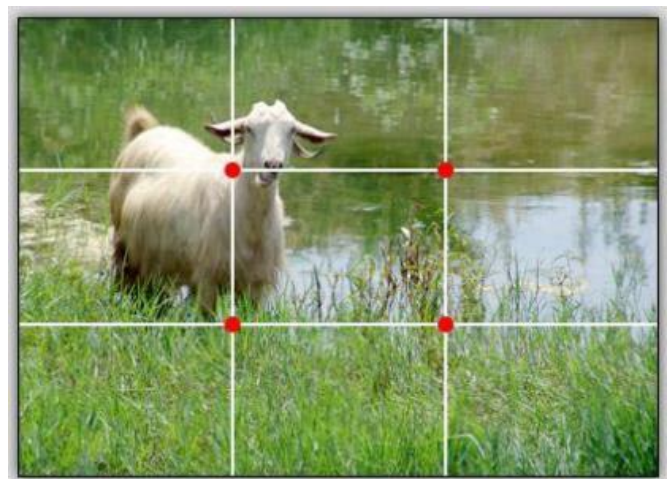
Instructions

- Provide 3-5 examples of your own version of each compositional style that follows.
- Move around and use different locations for each task.
- You don't need to travel far but try to go somewhere a little different to take your pictures. In Photography a little effort can pay off.
- Finally take care and pride in your work. Attention to detail is very important in this subject.
- Bring this work to class with you on a memory stick at the start of the year, as we will build on it in the first few lessons.

Composition : Rule of Thirds - Part 1

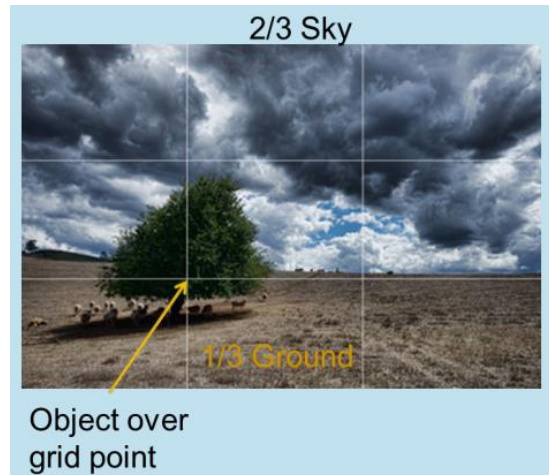
The first compositional rule most people learn is the Rule of Thirds, where the subject is placed at the intersection of lines that divide the frame into thirds from bottom to top and from left to right. This is a useful aid for establishing compositional structure in an image.

Some cameras and phones have this grid facility built into them that helps you compose the image. If your camera doesn't have the grid, then just imagine where it should be. Just make sure that when composing your image, the subject/object is on the intersections of the grid (the red dots).



Composition : Rule of Thirds - Part 2

The rule of thirds is actually several different compositional rules all rolled into one. The second use of it also employs that compositional grid, but this time you don't just think about placing the subject over one of the red dots. In landscape photography you can use it to compose the image with either 2/3rds sky or 2/3rds land. See the examples below.



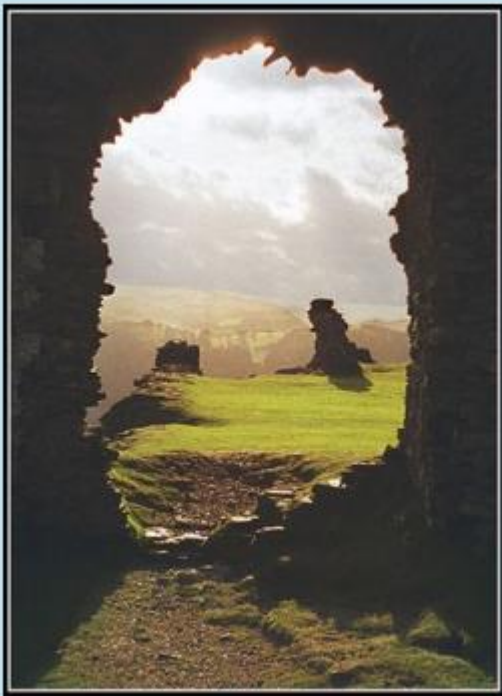
Composition: Lead-in Lines

Quite an easy and obvious rule. Use the features you find in any location to create guide-lines for the eye. Ideally the lines would lead onto something interesting, but this is a way of adding interest and depth into your compositions. Can be combined with the rule of thirds.



Composition: Natural Framing

Another easy compositional style! Again on location look out for opportunities to create frames within the frame by composing your shots looking through another object...just make sure you have an interesting subject on the other side. Use these as good examples for inspiration.



How can I go the extra mile to prepare for my course?

Additional Reading/ Useful Websites:

- [100 years of fashion photography · V&A](#)
- [The Royal Photographic Society - Home - RPS](#)
- [LensCulture - Contemporary Photography](#)
- [Homepage | The Photographers Gallery](#)
- [Home - National Portrait Gallery \(npg.org.uk\)](#)

What else can I do to prepare for starting Sixth Form? What our students say

“Get ready emotionally, it is different from school!”

“Be confident. Put yourself out of your comfort zone and meet new people; you will meet lots of new people when you get here”

“Start looking at Universities/ Careers now! It will give you a focus when you start at Sixth Form”

“You will need to be more independent and be able to manage your time differently to school. Start building those skills now!”



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Additional Opportunities

We offer a variety of different opportunities to enrich your time with us and support your next steps:

- ~A variety of Clubs and Societies through Project You
- ~Employer immersion visits & Trips to employers
- ~Work Experience & Placement
- ~Trips to Universities
- ~Guest Speakers
- ~Leadership through the Student Ambassador Programme
- ~ Independent Learning Centre with IT, books and journals, quiet and group study + Seminar Rooms
- ~Health and Fitness Activities in our onsite gym
- ~Duke of Edinburgh
- ~Career Ready internship Programme
- ~ Access to wellbeing, academic tutorial, and careers support