



City&Guilds
of London
Art School



**Welcome
to a Real
Art School**





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Welcome to a Real Art School

When visiting City & Guilds of London Art School, you cannot help but feel inspired: students and staff alike exude enthusiasm for what they do here and the community we share across our range of subjects in Art, Design and Craft subjects is unique and welcoming.

With a rich heritage and a reputation for excellence, our Art School offers a unique learning experience rooted in material exploration, studio culture, and critical enquiry. Whether you're drawn to Fine Art, Illustration, Wood or Stone Carving, Conservation, or our dynamic Foundation course in Art & Design, you'll be supported by expert tutors and immersed in an environment that nurtures both skill and imagination. We also have a Graduate School for applicants looking to study at Masters level.

We're proud to prepare students not just for careers, but for meaningful contributions to contemporary and material culture. Our graduates go on to shape the creative industries in diverse and exciting ways—proof of the transformative power of our teaching and the way it prepares students for their professional futures.

As a School, we believe that creative education should never be held back by circumstance. That's why we offer means-tested support and transformational bursaries to help make our education more accessible. I am proud to be the Principal of a school that has this as a central priority, and we are very grateful to all who help us to make this happen.

A website can only offer a glimpse. To truly experience the spirit of our School, we invite you to visit our beautiful studios and meet the people who make this place so special. Join us at one of our Open Events—we'd love to welcome you.



Dr Lois Rowe, Principal

Foundation



Foundation Diploma in Art and Design

1 year, full time

Level 4 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design
validated by the University of the Arts London (UAL) Awarding Body

Kickstart your creative journey with our one-year Foundation Diploma in Art and Design. This intensive and dynamic course gives you the chance to explore a wide range of disciplines, experiment boldly and discover your own creative direction. You'll build confidence, develop your skills and create a portfolio that will set you apart for further study or a future in the creative industries.

WHY STUDY FOUNDATION AT THE ART SCHOOL?

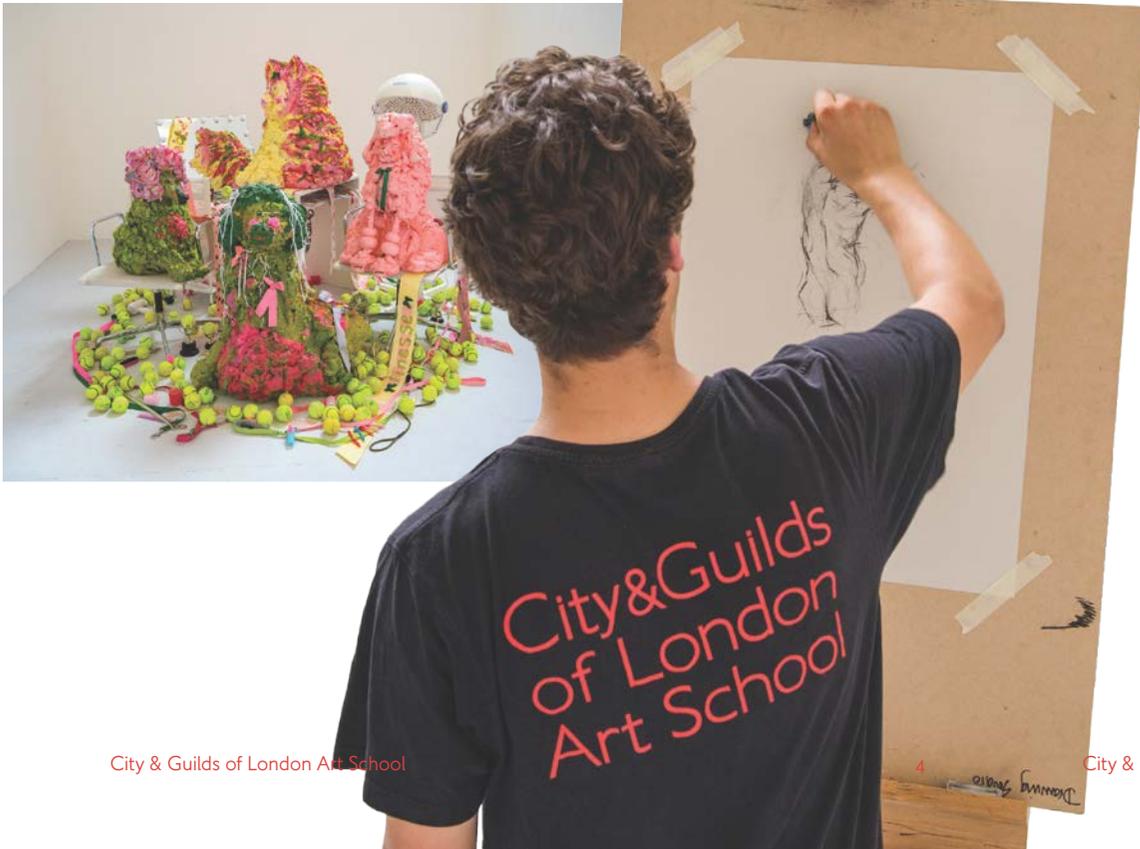
- Your own dedicated studio space throughout the year
- Exceptional tutor contact time and one-to-one support
- Taught by practising, exhibiting artists and designers
- Hands-on access to specialist facilities: wood workshop, metal foundry, glass workshop, print studio, darkroom and drawing studio, all within our historic Kennington campus
- A small, supportive and close-knit community where you'll be known and encouraged as an individual

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Discover your strengths and passions with guidance from expert tutors across a range of disciplines
- Grow your creative confidence through structured projects that lead to increasing independence in your work
- Build a stand-out portfolio for degree applications or entry into the creative industries, supported by dedicated one-to-one tutorials
- Immerse yourself in full-time study, five days a week, with a rich mix of seminars, technical workshops, tutorials and group discussions



Fine Art



BA(Hons) Fine Art

3 years, full time

Our BA (Hons) Fine Art is a creatively expansive degree that supports you to develop your own artistic voice through engagement with contemporary Fine Art practices. You'll explore a wide range of materials, methods and ideas, from traditional techniques to experimental approaches, while grounding your work in visual and contextual research and professional development.

WHY STUDY FINE ART AT THE ART SCHOOL?

- Your own dedicated studio space throughout your degree
- Access to specialist facilities: wood workshop, metal foundry, glass workshop, print studio, darkroom and drawing studio, all within our historic Kennington campus
- A unique learning environment within a small, close-knit student community
- Taught by practising, exhibiting artists who bring current professional insights into the studio, led by Dr Marita Fraser, an internationally recognised interdisciplinary artist

MA Fine Art

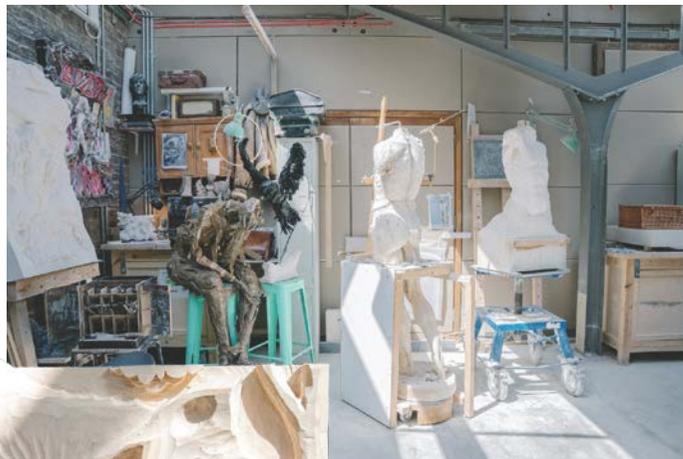
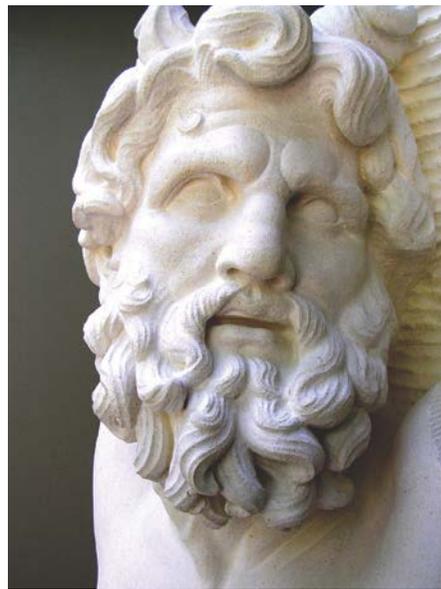
1 year, full-time or 2 years, part-time

The MA Fine Art is a dynamic, critically engaged course that supports the advanced development of your individual artistic practice. You will explore processes, research territories and theoretical frameworks that underpin your work, whether progressing from an undergraduate degree or returning as a practising artist. The course challenges, supports, and pushes your practice beyond its current boundaries.

Graduate Diploma Arts: Fine Art

A one-year full-time course for applicants with prior experience who wish to develop specific areas of practice or research before progressing to MA level.

Carving



BA (Hons) Carving

3 years, full-time

The BA (Hons) Carving is the only undergraduate degree in the UK dedicated exclusively to carving, offering specialist pathways in Woodcarving & Gilding and Architectural Stone Carving. The course provides intensive, practice-led training to prepare students for careers as highly skilled professional carvers in both contemporary and heritage contexts. Students gain real-world experience through live projects, commissions and industry connections.

WHY STUDY CARVING AT THE ART SCHOOL?

- Individual studio space in our historic Art School in Kennington.
- A close knit, collaborative community of carving students across both pathways.
- Alumni progress into leading roles in architectural heritage, restoration, or establish their own workshops.
- Extensive tutor contact with one-to-one support, led by Tom Young, a specialist letter carver with commissions for St George's Chapel, the Old Royal Naval College, the Olympic Park and Eton College.

MA Carving

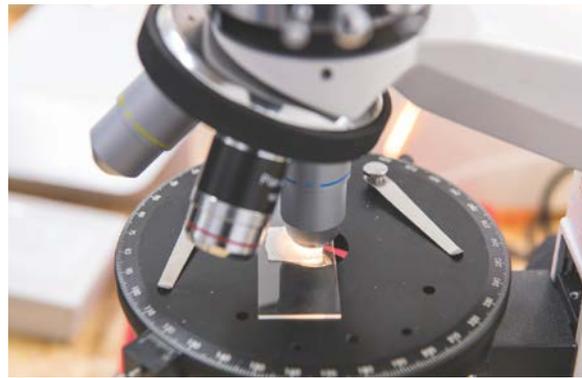
1 year, full-time or 2 years, part-time

The MA in Carving is an advanced, practice-led course that refines specialist skills and supports the development of a major carving project from research to realisation. You will deepen expertise in hand skills, critical enquiry, project planning and problem-solving, preparing you for freelance work or roles in creative, architectural or heritage sectors. Partnerships with museums and heritage organisations offer opportunities to expand your professional network while advancing your practice.

Graduate Diploma Arts: Carving

A one-year full-time course for applicants with prior experience who wish to develop specific areas of practice or research before progressing to MA level.

Conservation



BA (Hons) Conservation

3 years, full-time

The BA (Hons) Conservation is where science meets art, a fascinating mix of forensics, aesthetics and heritage practice. With specialist pathways in Stone, Wood & Decorative Surfaces and Books & Paper, this degree prepares you for a career conserving cultural objects across museums, historic collections, archives, libraries and architectural contexts.

WHY STUDY CONSERVATION AT THE ART SCHOOL?

- One of the UK's longest-established conservation schools, with roots in post-WWII restoration of London's damaged architecture and artworks
- Collaborations with leading museums, archives and historic collections
- The only UK BA conservation course to offer pioneering training in Nd:YAG Q-switch laser cleaning techniques.
- Art Histories integrated into the course, enriching your conservation practice with vital historical context
- Taught by expert practitioners, led by Dr Marina Sokhan, a conservation scientist with a PhD from Imperial College London and professional experience at the V&A, Tate and Natural History Museum

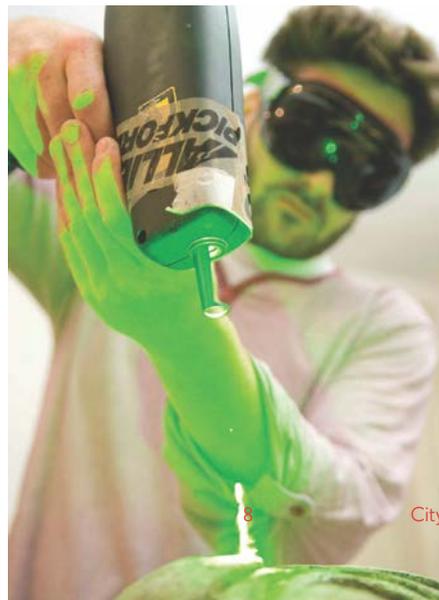
MA Conservation

1 year, full-time or 2 years, part-time

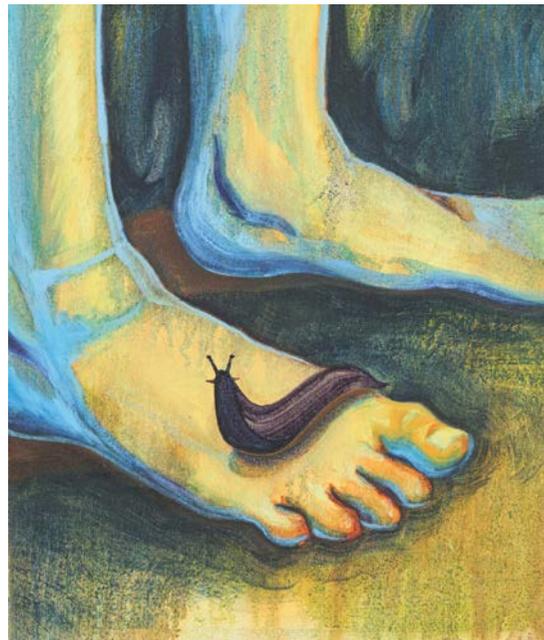
Conservation of cultural objects is a highly specialised field that draws on science, humanities, traditional craft and project management. This MA focuses on advanced, complex conservation projects and equips graduates to become leaders in the field. It is designed for those aiming to work as specialists or project leaders on ambitious, large-scale conservation initiatives, including in international contexts.

Graduate Diploma Arts: Conservation

A one-year, full-time course for students who wish to progress to the MA but need to strengthen specific practical or theoretical skills before undertaking this specialist postgraduate programme.



Illustration



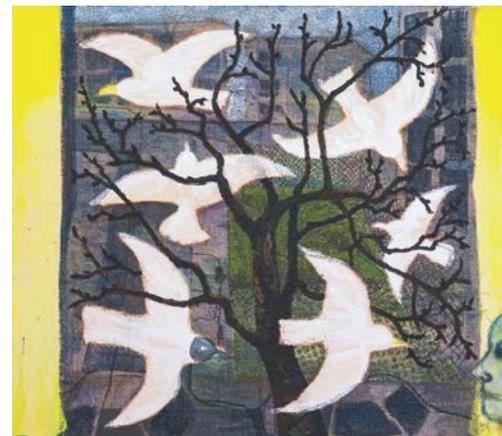
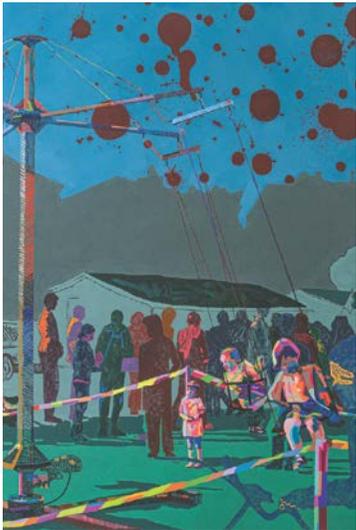
BA (Hons) Illustration

3 years, full-time

Our BA (Hons) Illustration is a dynamic course that encourages you to develop a distinctive practice through exploring both contemporary and historical methods. You'll experiment with everything from hand-drawn techniques and historic lettering to digital and emerging media. We see illustration as a versatile, adaptive discipline shaped by research, collaboration and real-world engagement, and the course cultivates individuality and critical thinking while building professional connections with clients and designers across the creative industries.

WHY STUDY ILLUSTRATION AT THE ART SCHOOL?

- A rich history of illustration teaching dating back to the 19th century.
- Alumni include Arthur Rackham, Clemence and Laurence Housman, and Lauren Child.
- One of the few UK courses combining traditional hand skills such as historic painting, book binding and lettering with contemporary methods.
- Shared studio space in our characterful Victorian and Georgian buildings.
- Art Histories embedded in the curriculum to enrich creative and critical practice.
- Hands-on material exploration combined with historical and critical study of art, design and illustration.



Hear from our students

The greatest resource is the tutors who are a very committed and highly talented group. The staff-student ratio is very good and the impact of even a few minutes discussion can be huge. I also liked the high degree of independence and autonomy that Graduate Diploma students have. This meant I could fashion my own path in consultation with the tutors. I particularly loved the annual carving competition in London Craft Week, which was just an explosion of creativity!

Judith Letchford
Alumni of Graduate Diploma: Carving

I feel that I benefitted the most from the facilities. During my time on the course, I spent a lot of time bouncing between different workshops, figuring out processes concurrently. All of the technicians are extremely knowledgeable, helpful and eager to help you make your project a success. When I started, I didn't think that at the end of my course, I would know how to weld, cast, and make almost anything out of wood.'

Theo Ritzinger
Alumni MA Fine Art and Chair of Students

I have to say, it's fantastic knowing I have my own studio space. It allows me to focus fully, developing my work in a this highly charged creative environment

Amelie Peace
Alumni of BA (Hons) Fine Art

The final year of my Historic woodcarving Diploma I was approached by the Bowes museum to carve a frame for a newly discovered and restored Van Dyck portrait. This was a dream commission for me and wouldn't have been possible without the strong links between the Bowes museum and the art school.

Borys Borrough
Alumni of Graduate Diploma: Carving

I really loved the workshops. It made 'thinking through making' a lot easier! Also, because it's smaller, you get to know a lot of people and have a lot of great conversations if you are open!

Jone Esterhuysen
Alumni of Foundation Diploma in Art and Design

Facilities

LIBRARY

Over 9,000 resources including books, journals and DVDs, with quiet study spaces, periodicals and borrowing facilities.

PRINT ROOM

Designed by artist Sir Norman Ackroyd, specialising in aquatint, sugar lift, etching, screen printing, woodblock press.

GLASS AND CASTING WORKSHOP

Facilities include plaster and rubber mould-making, fired ceramics, hand-building, and glassworking for cutting, fusing, mould-making, and open-face casting.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DARKROOM

We maintain a small darkroom for traditional black and white analogue photography.

DRAWING STUDIO

At the heart of the Art School, observational drawing underpins all artistic and craft practice.

WOOD WORKSHOP

Access to a wide range of hand and power tools, supported by our technicians and artist woodworking fellows.

COMPUTER ROOM

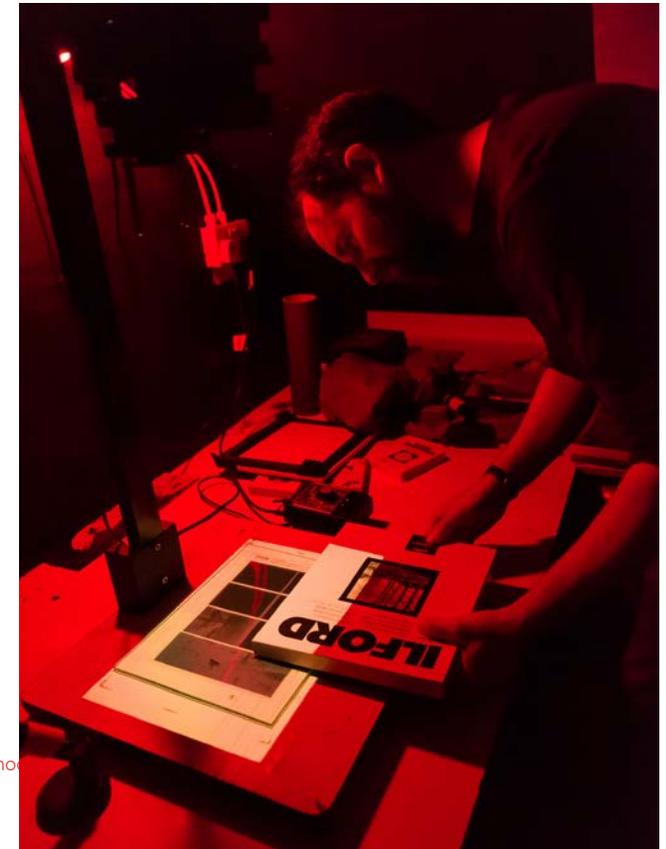
Apple Mac and Windows systems with creative software to support digital work.

FOUNDRY

A rare facility supporting bronze and aluminium casting.

GILDING WORKSHOP

Facilities for water and oil gilding techniques, including the decorative art of verre églomisé.



Short Courses

Our Short Courses offer a unique chance to step inside the Art School and develop arts, heritage and craft skills through hands-on training. Whether you're learning new techniques or refining existing ones, you'll work in our historic workshops with expert tutors drawn from our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Courses run across our core disciplines: Fine Art, Historic Carving, Conservation and Illustration. Most are open to beginners as well as those with some experience, while our Masterclasses are tailored for intermediate to advanced practitioners and professionals. Whatever your level, our tutors will support you to learn at a pace that suits you.



City & Guilds of London Art School



Student Life & Access to Learning

LIFE IN LONDON

London is a global hub for art and creativity, with over 1,500 galleries and 251 museums.

ACCOMMODATION

Most students live in Kennington or nearby South London, with support available for finding flats, houses, or student residences.

STUDENT VOICE

The elected Chair of Students represents the student body, working with staff to improve the student experience.

SKILL SHARE WORKSHOPS

Students can learn new skills or lead workshops, promoting collaboration across disciplines.

ACCESS TO LEARNING

Support is available for students facing neurodivergence, mental health challenges, personal crises, or other barriers to study.

Fees and Bursaries

FUNDING OPTIONS

UK students starting their first Honours degree may be eligible for support from the Student Loan Company (SLC). Postgraduate loans are available for full-time or part-time Master's courses if you do not already hold a Master's or higher qualification. Career-focused learning can also be supported through Professional and Career Development Loans. As an independent provider, undergraduate loans may not cover full tuition, so additional financial support may be required. Detailed information on applying and repaying loans is available on our website.

ART SCHOOL GRANTS AND BURSARIES

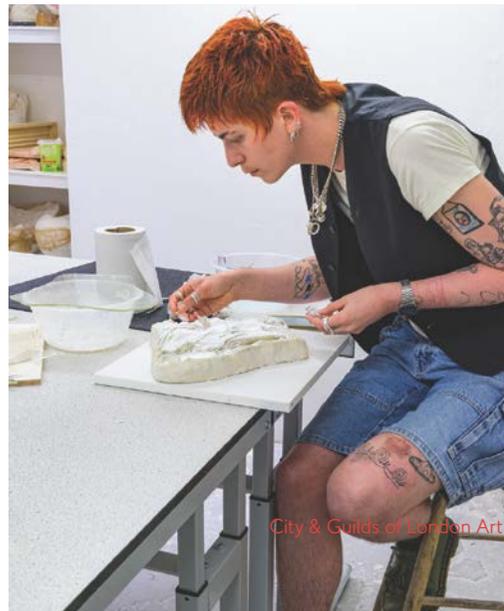
Thanks to our sponsors and partnering companies, the Art School awards around 60 grants each year, supporting roughly 40% of students. Awards typically cover 33-50% of tuition fees, with some covering a larger proportion. A Hardship Fund is also available for students facing unexpected financial difficulties.

APPLYING FOR SUPPORT

Offer holders can apply for bursaries and grants, including limited support for international and EU students demonstrating need. Applications are assessed based on financial need and suitability.



City & Guilds of London Art School



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Apply to Study with Us

To apply to one of our courses, please submit an application form directly to our website, including a digital portfolio where relevant. As an independent higher education provider, we operate outside of the UCAS system.

OPEN DAYS AND WEBINARS

We host regular Open Days to give prospective students the chance to visit the Art School, meet tutors and current students, and experience our creative community first-hand. For those unable to attend in person, we offer webinars and online resources including downloadable course handbooks and video content.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

We are committed to widening participation in higher education and offering the opportunity our specialist courses provide based on merit and potential. Our Equality & Diversity and Inclusive Learning & Participation policies describe how we set out to support access to learning.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We welcome international students to apply for full-time BA, PGDip/MA, and Foundation courses. We offer advice on applications, visa requirements, funding options and English language proficiency.

Staff Profiles



Dr Charley Peters
Head of Graduate School



Clementine Mitchell,
Head of Foundation



Dr Marita Fraser
Head of Fine Art



Dr Marina Sokhan,
Head of Conservation



Tom Young
Head of Carving



Georgina Rowlands
Admissions Tutor



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Student Satisfaction

BA Fine Art

- 95% of students say teaching staff have supported their learning well.
- 100% The course has the right balance of directed and independent study.
- 100% My course is well organised.

BA Carving

- 100% The library resources (e.g. books, online services and learning spaces) have supported my learning well.
- 85% The course often challenges me to achieve my best work.
- 85% were positive about the teaching on the course.
- 92% It has been easy to access subject-specific resources (e.g. equipment, facilities, software, collections) when I needed to.

BA Conservation

- 100% were positive about the teaching on the course.
- 100% The course has developed the knowledge and skills I think I will need for my future.
- 100% Teaching staff have supported my learning well.
- 1 to 1: we are committed to small group and 1-1 teaching
- 67 sessional tutors teaching on our specialist courses each year
- ×2 tutor to student ratio, roughly twice that of any Art & Design University or Faculty in the UK
- 5 days a week of learning in full-time study mode
- 68 industry collaborators and partners, including the UK's most important museums such as V&A and British Museum



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