

Set Design for Film and TV

Higher National Cert Level 4 (Year 1)

Higher National Dip Level 5 (Year 2)

Love film? Excited by the creative process? Do you have artistic flair and an eye for design? If so, have you ever considered designing for film and working as a production designer or art director? This course will equip you for a career in the art department within film, television and related industries.

You will gain a solid grounding in film production design and art direction, learning how to take your ideas from script to production and bring your work to life in the Brighton Film School studio and on location.

Set Design for Film and TV will nurture your specialist skills through studio based work and collaborations with other filmmaking students, as well as a main personal project. This will be undertaken alongside workshops and seminars, incorporating drawing classes, theory, research and practical skills.

Guest lectures and visits are an integral part of the course and ensure that you receive a relevant and industry based programme. Recent guests include production designers' Jason Carlin (*Ways to Live Forever, New Tricks*), Madelaine Leech (*Shirley, Vera*), Malcolm Thornton (*Spooks, Larkrise to Candleford, Fingersmith, Tipping the Velvet, Oliver Twist*) and standby art director Jo Ridler (*Legend, The Danish Girl*). Recent student visits include trips to Leavesden and Pinewood Film Studios and scenic construction company Craftwork Projects. Industry contacts also provide students with opportunities to work on professional productions and recent work placements have included *Cuffs* (BBC) and *The Unthinkable* (Swedish feature film).

By course completion you will have a portfolio and the skills to progress into a wide range of careers including art direction, installation work, theatre, exhibition and interior design, as well as project management, postgraduate study or further training.

Brighton is a cosmopolitan city - a unique place to study and make films due to its fantastic light, history of film production and thriving creative scene. Based in the heart of this city, Brighton Film School is an industry respected institution, offering courses taught across two specialist sites by practicing filmmakers, artists and technicians. The school provides an exciting, supportive environment in which to nurture talent and exchange ideas, giving students the opportunity to create high quality work, build professional relationships and develop contacts.

Brighton
film
school

Head of Department
Anna Deamer

Start Date
September

End Date
June

Time
9.30am - 4.15pm

Day
2 full days

Course Fee
£6,165 per year
(subject to review)
Student loans
are available

UCAS
Course code: H083
Institution code: C57
Campus code: F

Photo credit:
Anna Deamer



Set Design for Film and TV

Higher National Cert Level 4 (Year 1)

Entry requirements

The HNC (National Higher Certificate) is the equivalent to the first year of a degree. You will need two A levels at Grade C or above, or a Level 3 Extended Diploma to apply. Applicants who do not meet these requirements may be considered on the strength of their portfolio, this will be assessed at interview.

What will you study?

This is both a practical and theory based course led by industry professionals through workshops, seminars, one to one tutorials and class-based research and delivery.

Term 1 - Introduction to art direction and production design; core skills and techniques; references and research for design and studio based projects as well as drawing techniques and processes.

Term 2 - Professional practice, studio and/or location design for major live project collaborating with filmmaking students; implementing skills in art direction and production design; contextual studies; drawing techniques, digital media, sketchbook work and portfolio development.

Term 3 - Personal theoretical studio based project; building on specialized art direction and production design skills; idea development - from script, through research, to drafting and scale model; completed portfolio, sketchbook work and design presentation.

Tuition is enhanced through a comprehensive range of weekly classes covering specialist art department skills, including:

- Art department requirements
- Script analysis and breakdown
- Surveying
- Technical drawing
- Model making
- Idea development, design and implementation
- Action props and graphics
- Digital media

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Set Design for Film and TV

Higher National Dip Level 5 (Year 2)

Entry requirements

The HND (Higher National Diploma) Level 5 is equivalent to the second year of a degree. To progress to this course, you will need to achieve a Merit for the HNC, together with a strong reference from a tutor and close to 100% attendance. Successful completion of the HND is a route to entering the third year of the BA (Hons) Film Production degree.

What will you study?

Seminars, group work and one-to-ones, as well as practical projects and hands-on workshops based in the film school and on location cover a wide range of skills and deepen understanding of design processes. You will also undertake one key studio based theoretical project and a minimum of one live film project.

Term 1 - Studio based project focussed on improving design methodology, management and specialist skills. Drawing workshops, developing communication of ideas through visuals, model making and design presentation.

Term 2 - Major live project undertaking project design, management and implementation, collaborating with the filmmaking students. Design methods, research study and design presentation.

Term 3 - Key in-depth studio theoretical project consolidating learning and production design skills. Drawing workshops continued alongside professional development, model making, portfolio building and final exhibition of work.

What our students say...

"From the first day to the last, we have been submerged in all areas of work that a professional Art Department cover. We've learnt about set building, technical drawing, model making, storyboarding and loads more. We were also able to work on live projects."

Skye Brackpool, Set Design

"You leave this course with a really good and relevant portfolio...I would definitely recommend this course to anyone who is interested in art direction or production design."

Jonna Nordenhed, Set Design

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How many units do you have to study for this course?

All Brighton Film School modules map directly to Edexcel units, there are no locally devised units. In Years 1 and 2, students complete eight different units covering all aspects of art direction and film design.

Higher National Cert Level 4 (Year 1)

Unit No	Unit Name	Credit	Level
1	Visual communication in art and design	15	4
2	Idea generation and development in art and design	15	4
3	Contextual studies	15	4
4	Professional practice in art and design	15	5
22	References and sources in art direction	15	5
86	Digital media	15	4
91	Design for performing arts	15	5
130	Drawing techniques and processes	15	4

Higher National Dip Level 5 (Year 2)

Unit No	Unit Name	Credit	Level
5	Project design and implementation	20	5
8	Ideas in context	15	5
9	Research project	20	5
10	Design methods	15	4
23	Communication with images	15	5
34	Management of the design and production process	15	5
89	Commercial model making	15	5
94	Visual and personal presentation	15	4

Our graduates have progressed into work with the BBC, production companies and continuing Higher Education on the BA (Hons) Film Production.

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