Art is not what you see, but what you make. Others see. — Edgar Degas
The UAL Foundation Diploma in Art & Design is an exciting, creative and innovative course. It’s a place for you to explore a diverse range of practices, and then to specialise in an area of your choice. It’s the route to help you access Higher Education or employment in the Creative Industries. Always supportive and always inclusive, the Diploma celebrates difference and imagination.

The Programme builds on students’ prior experience, linking skills already acquired with ideas and challenges. This will increase their independence, employability and enable them to demonstrate a full understanding of the relevant standards necessary to progress to Higher Education or to an alternative career path.

The UAL Foundation Diploma in Art and Design is a one-year course and is designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge needed to access higher education and employment.

Housed in our impressive Centre for Art and Design, you have access to a range of resources designed to complement and enhance your studies including: a specialist art studio, photographic dark/developing room for black & white prints; sewing room; dye room; kilns; machine workshop; digital film editing suite.

What will the qualifications cover?
Both qualifications (Level 3 and 4) are made up of three mandatory units.

Unit 1: Diagnostic Investigation into Creative Practice
In this unit, students will undertake a diagnostic investigation into visual language and creative practices. This exploratory investigation allows students to experiment within a wide range of art, design and media disciplines. These include Fine Art, Illustration, Graphic Design and UX, 3D Design, Fashion and Textiles, Animation and Film, and Photography. Students will also participate in Life Drawing and Art History. There will be opportunities in unit 1 to engage with creative practise beyond the classroom through gallery trips, live briefs and through working with external artists/designers.

Unit 2: Developing Specialist Practice. (Level 3) OR Unit 3: Developing Specialist Practice. (Level 4)
This unit will provide students with the opportunity to reflect on the knowledge, skills and practices they have developed in Unit 1 of the qualification, and to define their creative ambitions by specialising in an area of study and working with a specialist tutor to develop a portfolio. Specialisms include Graphic Design, UX, Illustration and Animation, Fine Art, Fashion/Textiles, Fashion Media, Photography, 3D Design, Costume and Set Design, Architecture and Interior Design. (Specialisms are reactive to student ambitions)

Unit 4: Consolidating Practice
This unit aims to provide students with an opportunity to take control of their own learning and demonstrate their achievement by independently initiating, researching, completing and evaluating a project proposal and realisation within their chosen professional context. This unit culminates in a public exhibition. Students create a project consolidating their interests and ambitions.

Students must pass all three mandatory units to be awarded the qualification.

Mackenzie Ewen
Group Project

I decided to study Art Foundation at Carmel primarily because I felt I wasn't ready for university.

I felt my skills needed further development because at university I wanted to be as creative and ultimately as successful as possible. The tutors are really helpful and more than willing to guide you towards success. They helped me choose universities that suit my personality, course and city of choice.

Chester Benito
Leeds Beckett University
BA (Hons) Interior Architecture

Willowbrook Hospice Charity Project
How will I be assessed?

All UAL Foundation Diploma students are continually monitored and given feedback and assessment sheets. Tutorials are offered daily to help with all units. All students participate in weekly group critiques/peer assessments. In order to progress through the course, students must successfully pass each unit and the final grade each year is determined by the final practical (Unit 4), which is studied in the selected specialist area. All units are assessed by the centre and then moderated by UALAB.

What support will I receive?

A range of supportive measures are designed for you to succeed. We design engaging projects in Units 1, 2 or 3 which last between 1 day and 3 weeks. All skills are taught from scratch and there is always the opportunity for additional help with both practical and the written elements of the course. Project structure places great emphasis on enabling students to personalise briefs and take ownership of projects. Lessons are only one aspect of course delivery. Individual tutorials enable students to discuss their progress in more detail. Feedback is specific, detailed and enables students to make constant improvements to their practise. Opportunities exist for students to work in the studios over lunch, break times and after college.

Enrolling on the Art Foundation course at Carmel is beyond doubt the best decision I have made for my education, social life and wellbeing.

The outstanding pastoral care provided here, which in my experience is unique to Carmel, has been essential in providing me with the confidence and support I needed to apply to competitive university courses.

Mathilde
Cheers-Aslanian
Goldsmiths BA (Hons)
Fine Art
Studying Art Foundation has really developed, refined and fine-tuned my creative capabilities.

Through different projects, I was able to experiment with a wealth of media approaches whilst collaborating with new students to achieve a shared goal.

Soraya Gaied
Chortane
Central St Martins
BA (Hons) Fashion
Communication:
Fashion Journalism

What are the entry requirements for these courses?

A Level Grade C in an Art and Design / Technology subject or UAL Extended Diploma Merit or equivalent. If you haven't studied Art, no problem, just come and talk to one of the tutors.

All applicants are interviewed 1:1 by a specialist Art/Design tutor.

What is UAL?

University of the Arts London is Europe's leading Art & Design University. It is made up of six distinctive and distinguished colleges:

- Chelsea College of Art & Design
- Central St Martins College of Art & Design
- Camberwell College of Arts
- London College of Communication
- London College of Fashion
- Wimbledon College of Art

Where can this course lead?

The UAL Foundation Diploma in Art and Design is a Level 3 Qualification, which can be obtained at Level 4 and is therefore included in the UCAS tariff and attracts tariff points for each final grade as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Tariff Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>112</td>
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</tbody>
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How successful are Carmel's students?

Our Art foundation alumni are working in all fields of the creative industries. Possible careers could include: Architect, Interior Designer, Illustrator, Set/ Costume Designer, Animator, Artist, Fashion Designer, Fashion PR, Accessories Designer, Curator, Graphic Designer, user Experience Designer, Computer Games Designer, Concept designer, New Media Designer, Art Therapist, Photographer, Creative Director, Fashion Journalist, Fashion Stylist, Teacher and many more!

Results 2019

All students completed at Level 4
54% Distinction 26% Merit 20% Pass

What other activities can I get involved in?

Tutors guide and support students to build professional profiles through entering external competitions and gaining work experience. All students participate in a number of exhibitions every year. All students visit the Create Your Future fair and meet current working artists and designers. Universities including UAL also visit college to deliver talks, workshops and aid successful progression.