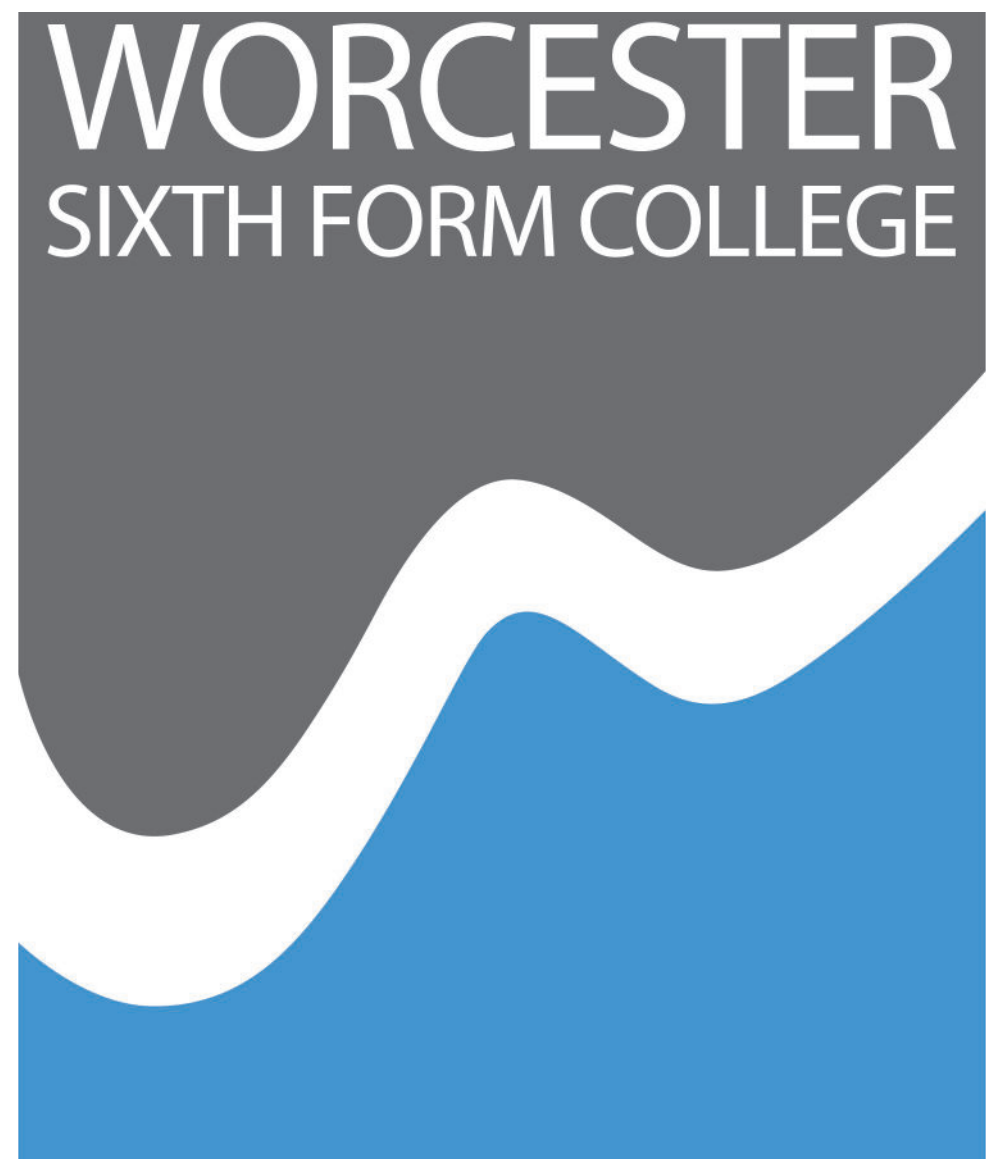


A Level Photography



Why study photography?

Engaging with A Level Photography will enhance your appreciation of the visual world across different periods and cultures. It opens doors to various career paths in creative industries and hones transferrable skills that are valuable across your other subjects, at university, and in the workplace. These include decision-making, digital literacy, communication, confidence, presentation, collaboration, self-reflection, and research. Photography serves as a powerful visual language, enabling you to express and interpret ideas in a compelling way.



Course Ethos

Students experience a choice-based learning approach that fosters independence by managing multiple tasks and meeting deadlines within comprehensive projects. From the second term onward, students are free to explore various photographic media and techniques, allowing them to refine their strengths and experiment with what they enjoy most.

Project themes are intentionally broad, giving students the freedom to select subjects that resonate with them personally. This flexibility allows students to develop ideas and themes that are meaningful to their lives and interests, paving the way for a more self-directed experience in their second year.

Results

Students achieve highly every year with ALPS scores usually in the range of 3-4 which puts us in the top 25-40% of A Level Photography courses nationally.

Progression

Every year many of our students go on to study Photography based degree courses around the country.



A Level Photography

WORCESTER
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Year 1:

Term one consists of a range of short tasks introducing students to the media, skills and techniques they will use on the course, including: Camera functions, image composition, analogue black and white darkroom, studio lighting, Adobe Creative Cloud: PhotoShop & Lightroom.

Terms two and three consist of a series of longer tasks designed to help students refine their skills in identifying and developing project ideas. Work from these projects may form the basis of the Personal Investigation in year 2.

Year 2:

The work in year two forms 100% of the A Level grade.

Component 1: Personal Investigation - 60% of A Level Grade

Consists of two integrated parts, theme set by student.

1. a major in-depth critical, practical and theoretical investigative project/ portfolio and outcome/s based on themes and subject matter that have personal significance.

2. Related study: an extended response of a guided minimum of 1000 words.

Component 2: Externally Set Task – 40% of A Level Grade

Students choose one idea from themes set by exam board. A period of preparatory study based on a starting point set by the exam board followed by a 15 hour period of sustained focused work completed under exam conditions.

Materials and Equipment

Photography uses a large amount of materials and resources. You are required to pay for a starter pack of photography materials before the course starts enabling you to have the printing paper, film, printing facility etc. to complete the first term. After this you will be required to purchase additional materials as needed. If you require financial help please ask about the Student Hardship Fund.

You will need a DSLR camera or equivalent. You need to be able to set the shutter speed and aperture manually, being able to change lenses is also highly recommended. The camera doesn't need to be prohibitively expensive, entry level models are fine.

If sourcing a camera is an issue there are a small number of cameras in the department available to borrow, but at busy times demand may outstrip supply.

These are three cameras that would be suitable for the course, anything with similar or better specifications will be fine: Nikon D3500, Canon EOS 4000D, Fujifilm A-X20.

Please contact me if you need further information:
joe.blackardy@wsfc.ac.uk

