



Get off to a 'Flying Start' in

Art, Craft & Design - A Level

Welcome to Flying Start with North Devon College.

We hope that you are excited to join us at North Devon College. We want to help you to focus on your skills for your course with us and so below you will find questions to consider, tasks to complete and some background research to undertake before enrolment.

Please read the instructions and have a go at the activities.

If you get stuck, please see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section at the end of this document for help.

A quick hello and introduction to the course

Art, Craft & Design explores all avenues of the Art and Design discipline. Our material use is wide and varied, we explore drawing with pencil, charcoal, and ink, but we also look at printing techniques, lino, mono and screen. If you have the desire, you can look at 3D with ceramics, clay, and wood. However, the desire to explore and investigate will ultimately come from you. This course requires commitment, independence and maturity.

Observation is a key element: not just for your technique, but also to investigate ideas and concepts.

We start the course with a short project based on observational drawing and are quite prescriptive to begin, but the premise is to push you towards independence and ultimately follow your own path guided of course by us.

A-level Art, Craft & Design is not a "soft option", it's hard work! You will be required to work at home for a minimum of 5-10 hours per week. We urge you to have a go at the Flying Start, it will help you to settle in. The benefits for your progression are innumerable, with universities understanding that to have achieved on this course means that you are a free thinking, and broad-minded student. For a career in the Creative Industries, it will lead you to careers from theatre design or illustration to interior design or architecture.

Useful websites:

<https://www.studentartguide.com/about>

lots of great advice here and examples of work.

And for sketchbook ideas from around the world

<https://www.sketchbookproject.com/>

And for current up to date work in all the creative industries

<https://www.behance.net/>

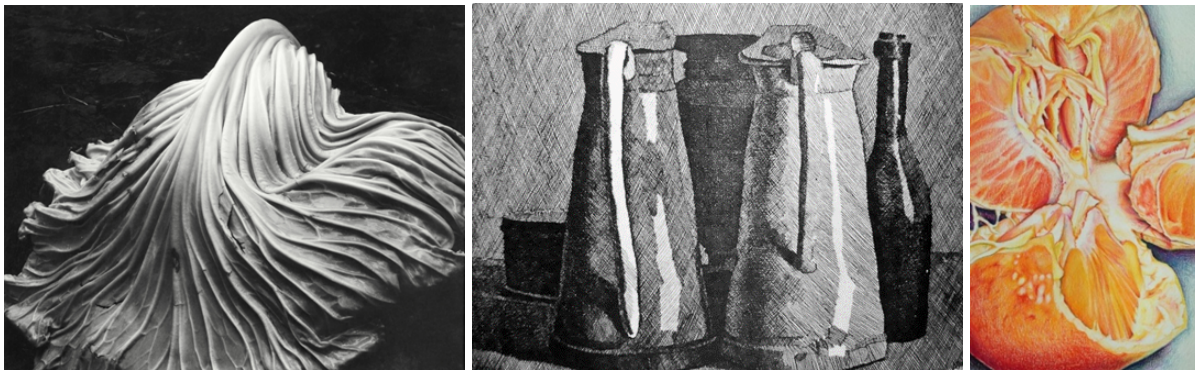
For clear Art History that you can have as an App on your phones

<https://www.theartstory.org/movement/surrealism/>

This is another world wide contemporary Art site that covers lots of subjects and media

<https://www.thisiscolossal.com/>

To get you started...



DEVELOPMENT OF IDEAS.....

Visit your fridge, supermarket or woodland and select interesting forms and textures to draw or paint. You may choose a red cabbage, slices of bacon, a pepper, a fish, grapes, a walnut, an iced lolly (although it would be important to photographically record an object that is melting), the list is endless. It is important to note that the item that you choose is correct if it has intriguing form, colour or texture. Make a series of 4 drawings of your chosen form or forms

1. Your first drawing should fill an A3 sketchbook page or sheet of paper, and you need to focus on tonal variation using a graphite stick or soft pencil 4B for example.
2. Your second will be a line drawing; you may choose to indicate areas of shade by cross hatching. A3/A4 scale
3. The focus of your third study is colour working in a medium of your choice. You may choose to enlarge a small area of your form to record. A3/A4 scale
4. Your final study should be produced in a technique and scale of your choosing. You may like to consider collage, paint, ink, chalk or you could choose a less conventional approach.

For those who want a bit more...



Experiment with mixed media...or do some more sustained studies. Maybe you could explore some unusual materials, food colouring? Mud? Make-up? Or look for ways to vary your marks. Sticks? Fingers? Printing with materials?

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Will this work be marked and when is it due?

A: This work may not be formally marked but will be discussed during your first classes with us in September. Just bring along what you have completed to your first timetabled sessions.

Q: I am not sure if I have the answers right, what should I do?

A: Don't worry, just have a go at getting something down and bring it along to the lesson where we can talk it through. There is no need to get anxious about the tasks, we are not expecting you to know everything before you arrive but are interested in your ideas and what you have found easy or difficult as it helps us support you right from the beginning.

Q: Do I have to do it?

A: Flying Start is not compulsory, but many students find it useful for getting them used to thinking about subjects at the next level. Early classroom sessions will also reflect on some of the Flying Start activities.

Link to the specification for this qualification

This is the link to the Art, Craft and Design Syllabus that we follow at North Devon College:

[AS and A Level - Art and Design - H200, H600](#)