

Art Foundation at Kings Oxford



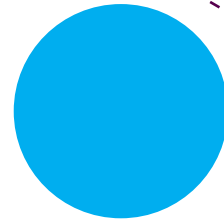
The fastest route to a creative degree

Any student wanting to study an Art and Design-related degree course at a UK university, including British nationals, must complete an Art Foundation course before starting undergraduate studies.

Usually, international students must also study a general Foundation before they are accepted onto an Art Foundation.

The Art Foundation course at Kings combines the two. It has been specifically designed to enable international students to get to university in just one year. If you have real artistic and creative ability, this course provides a fast, direct pathway to the first year of art-related UK degree courses.

The Art Foundation will really develop your creative skills and subject knowledge. It will also give you the general communication and study skills which will ensure you have the intellectual maturity and self-confidence to succeed at university.



Oxford – a wonderful location to study Art and Design

You'll find Oxford is a great location in which to study art — it's a city where centuries of culture are gathered together in some of the finest architecture and galleries in the world. Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum of Art is the oldest public museum in the world and has world-class collections of drawings, paintings, prints and jewellery; Christ Church College has an amazing collection of Old Master paintings and drawings; Modern Art Oxford is also internationally famous as one of Britain's leading galleries for contemporary art.

As an Art student at Kings in Oxford you'll be encouraged to make use of this wonderful environment. We'll organise regular class trips for sketching and observation and give you the chance to draw inspiration from the beauty of Oxford.

Quick facts

Price: £10,500 for full tuition

Location: Oxford

Start date: September 2009

Course length: Full academic year, September to June. Two semesters per year (34 weeks of tuition, average 680 hours total tuition).

Maximum class size: 10 (average 6 – 8)

Tuition: Average 21 hours per week

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Minimum age: 17

Academic: Completion of 11 – 12 years of high school with documented proof of grades.

Portfolio: Students must also submit a portfolio showing a suitable level of artistic accomplishment and creative potential.

English language: IELTS 5.5 overall or equivalent (minimum 5.0 in each module).

Note: You must show that your level of English is good enough to follow the course. If you have not taken IELTS or TOEFL or a similar exam, you can complete our English Language Suitability Test. This is not a substitute for these exams but it will help us assess your ability to follow the course. Kings can offer you one of a range of English language courses, depending on your needs.



Left: Kings Oxford, set 15 minutes from the city centre



Left and right: Students working on projects in the art studio

Course structure and learning outcomes

The teaching style of the Art Foundation is based on that of our A-Level Art & Design course. You will benefit from small tutorial groups and close individual attention within a highly supportive environment.

The course is full time and runs over two semesters from September to June. You will receive on average 680 hours of tuition.

You must complete the course with not less than 90% attendance. You will also sit the IELTS test before the end of the course.

You will complete five modules — three are compulsory and two are elective, depending on the degree you intend to study. See page 5 for details.

Helping you build your portfolio

You will need to submit a portfolio as part of your application to a university or art college. We will help you build a portfolio which will show off your skills and abilities in the best possible way.

Broad learning outcomes

The course will give you the broad knowledge and skills that will enable you to get the maximum benefit from your chosen undergraduate course. Successful completion of the Art Foundation will enable you to:

- identify and attain your future goals in Higher Education or chosen employment;
- display a broad range of skills acquired through intensive experimentation, risk-taking and creativity;
- display the skills and abilities needed for self-reliant learning and the ability to take responsibility for the overall direction of your own work;
- display critical awareness of both the contemporary and historical visual world and of your own work through your ability to analyse, interpret and evaluate;
- be able to make connections between your own work and that of other artists and designers, past and present, from your own and other cultures;
- identify the main argument in a lecture, seminar or debate and focus your response on this;
- hold a particular view while analysing alternatives objectively and acknowledging all sides of an argument.



Course modules

CORE

Module 1

FINE ART

Experimentation with a broad range of 2D media and techniques

Drawing (observational; analytical; expression; imagination)

Painting

Mixed Media

Printmaking techniques

Historical and Contemporary World Art Studies

Module 2

3D DESIGN

Experimentation with a broad range of 3D materials and processes

The Design Process

Working to a Brief

Interior Architecture

Environmental and Architectural Design

Jewellery/Body Ornament

Design for Stage

Sculpture

Module 3

COMMUNICATION AND STUDY SKILLS

Provision of general academic skills necessary for success in UK higher education

General English language development

Reading and writing for academic purposes

Research skills

Presentation skills

Listening, note-taking and summarising

ELECTIVE

Module 4

PATHWAY 1

Choose ONE of the following



FINE ART 2

A specialized area of Fine Art

3D DESIGN 2

A specialized area of 3D Design

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

Illustration

Advertising

Packaging Design

Communication

Computer graphics

Multimedia

Web design

TEXTILE DESIGN

Printed and dyed materials

Constructed Textiles

Historical and Contemporary Studies

Module 5

PATHWAY 2

Choose ONE of the following



FINE ART 3

3D DESIGN 3

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION 2

TEXTILE DESIGN 2

FASHION DESIGN

Life drawing (clothed/nude model)

Fashion drawing and illustration

Fabrics and haberdashery

Sewing skills, garment construction, pattern cutting

History of clothing, fashion and accessories

INTERIOR DESIGN

Drawing interiors and contents, plan and elevation

Mood boards, design boards

Samples and 3D models

Lighting

Materials

Domestic and public interiors

History of Interior Design

Assessment and quality assurance

Assessment is continuous, formative and externally-moderated. You will have a coursework assignment and an exam project for each module in each semester. Your final award is based equally on marks you have gained for all of these, making a total of 20 pieces of assessed work.

Rewarding your success

On successful completion, you will receive a formal Diploma in recognition of your achievement. Your final award will be expressed as a grade and as a percentage mark: Pass (40%), Merit (60%), Distinction (awarded discretionarily where marks are above 75%).

Accreditation and quality assurance

The college is fully accredited by the British Council and regularly inspected by the British Accreditation Council. The Art Foundation Diploma is overseen by an independent Advisory Board of higher education and is also formally inspected by the British Council for Independent Further & Higher Education (BAC) and by the British Council.

Degree course pathways

On successful completion, students from the Kings Art Foundation can gain direct entry to the first year of degree courses in a variety of Art and Design related subjects.

Many of our former Art and Design students have gone on to successful and rewarding careers within these areas.

The table below shows typical degree course pathways, depending on the choice of Art Foundation elective modules.

Sample Degrees	Core modules			Elective modules Pathway 1				Elective modules Pathway 2					
	Fine Art	3D Design	Communication and Study Skills	Fine Art 2	3D Design 2	Graphic Communication	Textile Design	Fine Art 3	3D Design 3	Graphic Communication 2	Textile Design 2	Fashion Design	Interior Design
Animation	•	•	•		•	•							
Art History	•	•	•	•				•					
Computer Animation Arts	•	•	•			•			•				
Computer Games Animation	•	•	•			•			•				
Computer Visualisation and Animation	•	•	•			•			•				
Fashion	•	•	•				•					•	
Filmmaking: Design and Production	•	•	•			•			•				
Fine Art	•	•	•	•				•					
Graphic Design	•	•	•			•				•			
Illustration	•	•	•	•						•			
Interior Design	•	•	•				•						•
Multimedia Design	•	•	•			•			•				
Photography	•	•	•	•				•					
Product Design	•	•	•			•			•				
Textile Design	•	•	•				•				•		
Theatre Design	•	•	•		•								•

An art studio with an easel in the foreground and a student working at a table in the background. The easel is wooden and holds a white sheet of paper with blue text. The background is filled with art supplies and a student in a blue shirt is working at a table.

Art facilities at Kings

The art studio at Kings Oxford, shown in this photograph, is a light, spacious, dedicated room, specially equipped for teaching painting, drawing and modelling. Lessons take place here and students use the studio to work on projects in their own time.

The studio is a place where you can meet other students after classes to share and develop artistic ideas, to do your coursework and to learn new skills. We'll provide you with the facilities and the professional guidance you need to develop your creative ideas.



Meet Kristina from Kazakhstan

Kristina Kurkina took her Foundation at Kings. She's now studying a BA (Hons) degree in Fashion at Kingston University. On page 9 she talks about her journey to success with Kings.



Previous page: Kristina pictured at the Fashion Department of Kingston University.

Above: Chatting to Vice-Principal Sarah Bacon at Kings Oxford.

Below: Kristina working on a project at university.



Q: Why did you choose a Kings course?

A: The college has a very good reputation and, in addition, Oxford seemed like a good place to start this ‘grown up’ journey. It has a nice student community and an amazing mixture of cultures which made it easier to improve my English.

Q: How does Kings help students achieve their goals?

A: Apart from the vast amounts of attention that students receive from the tutors there is an amazing stream of inspiration coming from the Vice Principal (Sarah Bacon). I’ve always been fascinated by the amount of care she puts into relationships and her involvement with students’ lives including their successes and difficulties.

Q: What makes studying at Kings so good?

A: I loved the fact that groups were really small, hence every student could get more attention. I personally learnt how to listen carefully and on the whole create an interesting, balanced discussion.

Q: What do you like about life in the UK?

A: Culture and Art. Endless resources of inspiration, history, breath-taking architecture and ability to mix with people of different ages and cultural backgrounds. I enjoyed doing internships where I could meet and communicate with professional people and learn a lot from them!

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: I am planning to develop my skills as much as possible to become really good at designing and creating. After my graduation I would love to stay in the UK to get a good taste of working in the fast-moving fashion industry. I am in love with this country and want to become a part of its creative life.

Q: How would you describe your Kings experience to a friend?

A: I had a really great time with some hard moments that let me enjoy the cool side of student life without letting me forget that the way to my future is actually a very serious business!

Q: How did the teaching and support at Kings help you to succeed at university?

A: Getting into a habit of working hard, being more serious and responsible about my future and doing it for myself is one of the most crucial lessons I learnt. Tutors at Kings made it clear from the first days that we’re not there to please them but to achieve something that we’re aiming for.

Put yourself in the frame

Take the first step towards your future in Art and Design.
Contact us today to apply for a place on the Kings Art Foundation.

Courses start September 2009.

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