

HEADSTART

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A-Level Fine Art



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Welcome to your Art A-level course summer guide. We are delighted that you have chosen to study art with us! To ensure that you are able to make the best start on your art course please read this booklet carefully and tackle all of the tasks included here. If you have any questions please email: richardday@richuish.ac.uk and I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

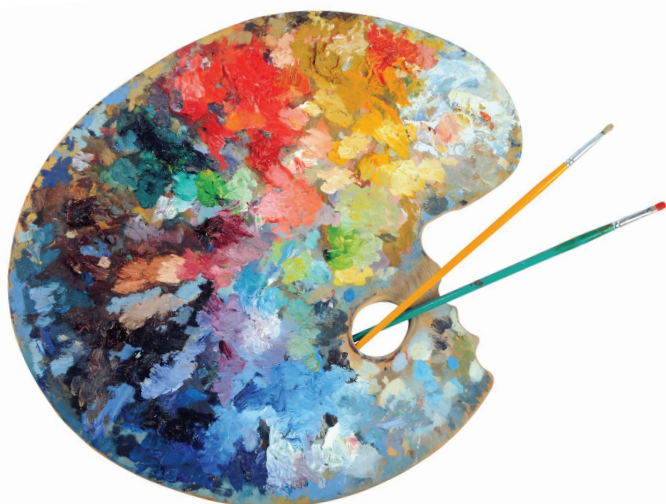
The recording through drawing and photography here will give you a personal choice of starting point for your first project as well as helping your teacher to gain some insight into your interests and styles of drawing and recording.

For these tasks you will need some basic drawing materials. We will offer you the opportunity to buy art materials for the rest of your course once you have joined us.

If you have chosen to study more than one Visual Arts Course (Art, Graphics, Photography) please ensure that all tasks for both subjects are completed as this will help us to be sure that you are prepared for the demands of studying both courses.

We are looking forward to working with you soon.

Richard & Annabel



Websites to visit

www.tate.org
www.tate.org.uk/art/student-resource/exam
www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/a-z
www.nationalgallery.org.uk
www.southbankcentre.co.uk
www.moma.org
www.estorickcollection.com
www.whitecube.com
www.rwa.org.uk
www.royalacademy.org.uk
www.studentartguide.com/articles/art-sketchbook-ideas
www.studentartguide.com/articles/still-life-drawing-ideas

A LEVEL FINE ART – 'WAYS OF SEEING'

You will begin your course by exploring the act of recording through drawing. If possible work on good quality cartridge paper.

Objects, Light and Placement

1. Choose a natural form or a mechanical object to study in detail. This object should have both a visible inside and outside. Look/feel it closely. Alter it if you need to, e.g. break it open. Your natural form could be a vegetable/fruit/seed head/rock/shell/wood... Your mechanical object could be a tool/gadget/mode of transport/toy/machine... **DO NOT CHOOSE YOUR MOBILE PHONE.** The more complex the better! Place your object in a strong, direct light source and place it somewhere new (i.e. where you might not expect to find it)! You could suspend, stand, prop or balance it. Think carefully about this section. Your choice of object & location are just as important as the drawings & photographs you will make. Then work through the following tasks in this order:

Draw

2. Pay attention to light and shadows. Create 4 drawings on paper. Each drawing should be no smaller than A5. Each time you make a new drawing, change your viewpoint, so that each study you make tells us something new about your object. Include part of your location in your drawing.

Consider these options for your drawings

- A line drawing – see how many different lines you can use to capture the form of your object. Use a fine liner/fountain pen/biro for this drawing – spend a minimum of 30 minutes on this drawing.
- A tonal drawing with a soft (2B, 4B) pencil/graphite/charcoal – spend a minimum of 1 hour on this drawing.
- A coloured drawing – see how many different coloured tones you find in and on your object. Use pencil crayons/paint/pastels for this study – spend about 1 hour on this drawing.
- A textured mixed media drawing. Try working with different paper, e.g. tissue paper/newspaper/'discarded paper'. Rip/cut your papers and glue these down to create a collage inspired by your object. Then draw on top and around your papers with a combination of different medium. E.g. pencil and pen/pastels and paint – spend a minimum of 1 and a half hours on this drawing.



Jim Dine



Wayne Thiebaud



Henry Moore

Photograph

3. Take photographs of your object in interesting light, in your chosen location. Experiment with perspective. E.g. close-up shots. Print your 4 best photographs, no smaller than A5. Present these on A3 paper. You may find that these look most effective in black and white/sepia.

Please note:

If you don't have the suggested art materials, then just use whatever you have e.g. Different pens and pencils. You can be creative and interpretative with this project. You can do more drawings than we have suggested but you must stick to the timings above for the 4 core drawings. This is your chance to show us what you can do. When you start in lessons with us, we will show you how to make improvements to your artistic practise – we certainly don't expect you to be an expert already! You will always be given merit for putting your best into your work.

We really look forward to seeing you and your work, which will form the basis of our first project.

Checklist:

- Choose an interesting object
- Place the object in an interesting setting, where you would not expect to find it
- 4 Drawings of the object in your chosen setting (see above)
- 4 Photographs of the object in your chosen setting
- Bring your object, your drawings & photographs to your first lesson of Art.

