

BA(HONS) ILLUSTRATION

Dear

Welcome to BA(Hons) Illustration at Falmouth University!

We're getting in touch with some important information about your course that will help you as you prepare to join us.

At the end of this letter, you will find a list of equipment that you should bring with you, as well as any other costs that you might incur throughout your course that are not covered by your student loan.

We've also included some suggested reading. You will have access to all the reading resources from the library when you arrive on campus, but if you're looking forward to getting stuck in, this is a good place to start.

Your academic experience will be predominantly in person with some courses using some digital resources to support your learning. To engage in the digital learning activity, although you will be able to access IT suites on campus, you may find it beneficial to have a laptop to access the platforms and tools we use. You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite, (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) while you study at Falmouth.

Student Finance

If you are eligible for a loan from Student Finance and have not yet applied, please do so immediately to ensure the loan is approved before you enrol. Once you enrol you are liable for the tuition fees. You can find more information from the Student Loans Company at: [gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company) If you are paying for your tuition yourself please check out falmouth.ac.uk/study/tuition-fees. Advice on managing your finances whilst studying can be found on the University's website here: falmouth.ac.uk/study/student-funding/how-much-does-it-cost

Student Support

We know the prospect of coming to university can feel overwhelming but we're here to support you every step of the way. You can find an overview of the support available to you once you get here at this link falmouth.ac.uk/experience/support

To help us provide you with the right support during your time at Falmouth, if you have a disability, health condition or Specific Learning Difference (SPLD), you should apply for an Individual Learning Plan (ILP). This document suggests simple adjustments to your academic experience, tailored to your needs. By disclosing early, we can ensure that the necessary support is in place before you begin your journey with us. Find out how to apply here studyhub.fxplus.ac.uk/accessibility-inclusion/ilps

If you don't have a formal diagnosis of an SPLD such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or ADHD but think you might, our free online screening tool, the Do-It Profiler can help. It's like a quiz that helps

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pinpoint any areas where you might need extra support. More information and a link to the Profiler can be found here studyhub.fxplus.ac.uk/accessibility-inclusion/spld-screening

Step Into Falmouth

In the coming weeks, you can join our Step into Falmouth programme, designed to provide advice and guidance to help you to settle into university life. This programme includes a range of informative and supportive videos you can view at a time that suits you, followed by live online events in August where you can meet our staff, current and new students. More information can be found at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth

Student Mentors

Before September, if you have any questions, you can join the Student Mentor team on Discord to talk about the course, living in Cornwall and what to expect at Falmouth. Our mentors are already studying on your course, so ask them anything you like. Find them at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring. Alternatively, email your name and your course to: studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk and they will be in touch.

Over the next few weeks, we'll email you more important information about your course and life at Falmouth. If you're going to be away or out of contact, make sure you ask someone to check your emails and reply on your behalf.

We know there is a lot to think about before you start at university. So, we're here to help. If you have any questions, just get in touch with Applicant Services on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantservices@falmouth.ac.uk

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable few weeks before the start of term and we're looking forward to welcoming you to Falmouth in September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nigel Owen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nigel Owen

Course Leader, BA(Hons) Illustration

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Getting started

Your offer

If you have a conditional offer, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. This means we're waiting to receive your results or some more information before your place can be finalised. You can see these conditions on your UCAS Hub <https://accounts.ucas.com/account/login>

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions

You'll get an email two weeks before the start of term telling you how to enrol online. You'll need to enrol before the first day of term to officially register as a student of Falmouth University and receive your undergraduate student loan.

When you enrol, you'll need to agree to and comply with the University's Student Terms & Conditions. These Terms & Conditions are important, and we encourage you to read them carefully, before enrolling. You can find them under 'Student Terms & Conditions' on our website www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations

Tuition fees (per year)

2024-2025 full-time UK: £9,250

2024-2025 full-time International: £17,950

Term dates

Term dates can be found at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2024-25

Welcome Week starts on Monday 16 September for first year students.

Study Block one begins on 23 September and teaching and assessment will be throughout the full 15 weeks of the study block.

Your timetable

Your academic timetable shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be published from 9 September. After you've enrolled, you can view it via the Student Portal at falmouth.myday.cloud/ or the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store. It will also be accessible at mytimetable.falmouth.ac.uk.

Welcome Week

After you have enrolled, your timetable will show you where you need to go and when on Monday 16 September and throughout the week.

This is the week when you'll meet your course mates, course tutors and University staff. There will be important inductions to both your course and the wider University facilities and services, in addition to social activities organised by the University and Students' Union.

Pre-course preparation

It makes good sense to use the summer months leading up to the start of Study Block 1 to prepare yourself creatively for the start of your studies. With that in mind we would like to challenge all new students to maintain a personal sketchbook / journal as a record of the months leading up to your new adventure in Falmouth. This might focus on observational drawing or incorporate a more personal and imaginative approach to image making. This will help you get up to 'speed' and ready for the start of the year. Alongside this we would also like you think about what the term 'illustration' means for you personally.

Course equipment and costs

Essential

A laptop will be an essential piece of equipment along with a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in University accommodation you will have this). You will also need access to a camera phone or a scanner.

Laptop advice

Go for something with a decent processor, 16gb of ram and a fair size hard drive/solid state drive. Although preferable for speedy running, most SSD's have less storage space, which should encourage cloud or physical backups (or both).

The cheapest laptops sometimes don't have the best screen quality – Macs generally have superior screen quality and can easily run several ram hungry programs at once due to the nature of the Operating System and processor – this can be an expensive initial outlay though.

A laptop absolutely doesn't have to be a Mac though – It ultimately comes down to budget - try not to scrimp on processing / memory power and display quality though.

If you want to save money somewhere, then you don't need to go for the physically biggest machines – a 13-inch screen suits just fine for all sorts of illustration work.

We have decent machines on campus if you prefer to wait and try things out before committing to purchase.

There are also laptops and other equipment that students can take out on loan.

Materials & media

As a new student to BA(Hons) Illustration it is expected that you start to build your own personal stockpile of materials and media to expand and evolve your visual language. In the early phases of the curriculum, you will explore many different approaches to image-making. Therefore, it would be wise to have access to as broad a range of media as possible.

Below is a list of essential materials that you will need at the start of your course (*you will require further sketchbooks and materials as you progress through your degree*).

There is a well-stocked art materials shop on campus, so don't feel that you need to acquire everything prior to induction week:

- At least two A4 or A3 sketchbooks, or equivalent loose sheets of paper (for Visual Problem Solving).
- Two A4 notebooks (for Digital Skills and Critical Studies).
- Gouache paint (Windsor and Newton Designers Gouache is the best to use) Suggested Colours: Large White 37ml (essential), Black 14ml (essential), Ultramarine Blue 14ml (essential), Burnt Umber 14ml (essential), Windsor and Newton Set of basic colours (Red, blue, Green, yellow, violet).
- A variety of materials and mediums that will facilitate a broad range of experiments and approaches to media, process, and aesthetics (*here are some suggestions...*): acrylic paint (*particularly black and white*), a paint palette with wells (*preferably either ceramic / China*), oil pastels, chalk pastels, conte crayons, graphite pencils (*varying weights*), pencil sharpener, eraser, compressed charcoal, black Indian ink and coloured inks, masking tape, PVA glue and glue stick, A2 sheets of paper for life drawing, 2 X A4 sheets of acetate for printmaking, small

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tube of black printmaking ink, scissors, scalpel and blades or craft knife, steel ruler, cutting mat (*A4 minimum size*).

WE WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING FOR YOU FOR YOU AT NO COST:

One A4 Sketchbook for Colour and Composition.

Study trips

There will be a study trip to St Ives in SB2 of your 1st year of study. This trip will be funded by the Course. In your 3rd year there will be an optional opportunity to visit the Bologna book fair and /or London as part of the Professional Practice module. These visits will be funded by the students participating in the trips

Highly Recommended - the 'Live @ AMATA Pass'

AMATA is Falmouth University's arts centre, offering a diverse year-round programme of exciting performances and productions, from monthly comedy nights to fantastic live music, trailblazing new theatre and dance.

The programme complements our portfolio of undergraduate degrees and enables students to experience high quality, contemporary performances on their doorstep.

Students can purchase a one year Live @ AMATA Pass which offers five tickets for £25. This represents a 50% reduction on our standard student ticket price of £10.

You will be able to view the programme at falmouth.ac.uk/arts-centre from August 2024. However, the Live @ AMATA Pass is available now to book at falmouth.ac.uk/arts-centre/visit/tickets#live-pass

Please note: If a parent or guardian is purchasing on behalf of a Falmouth University student, the account should be set up in the student's name, using their email address.

Suggested Reading lists:

Optional

Below is a list of books, magazines and periodicals that are relevant to the course. ***You don't need to purchase any of them prior to your studies here.*** Prices vary, depending on vendor, but second-hand copies are usually available from online stores. Many can also be found in the Falmouth University library and in the library's online collection. They will help you understand the illustration industry in a historical and contemporary context and help develop your passion for the subject.

Books

- Bang, M., 2016. *Picture this: How pictures Work*. Chronical Books. RRP £17.99
- Barker, C and Jane Emma A., 2000. *Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice*. London, Sage. RRP £37.99
- Brazell, D & Davies, J., 2013. *Becoming a Successful Illustrator*. London, Bloomsbury. RRP £26.99
- Crow, D., 2003. *Visible Signs*. Lausanne, AVA. RRP £36.99
- Fletcher, A., 2001. *The Art of Looking Sideways*. London, Phaidon. Used from £21.16
- Male, A. (2017) *Illustration a theoretical and Contextual Perspective*. London: Bloomsbury Visual Arts. RRP £26.99
- McCloud, S., 2001 *Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art*. Harper Collins. RRP £17.99
- Rees, D., 2014. *How to Be an Illustrator*. London, Lawrence King. RRP £17.99
- Salisbury, M & Styles, M., 2020. *Children's Picturebooks Second Edition: The Art of Visual Storytelling*. Laurence King. RRP £29.99
- Zeegen, L., 2017. *The Fundamentals of Illustration*. London, Bloomsbury. RRP £26.99

Magazines and periodicals

- Varoom Magazine/The Association of Illustrators magazine. RRP £12.
- 3x3 Magazine (American Illustration). RRP \$15.
- Journal of Illustration. One year subscription £52

Websites

- Falmouth Illustration official website www.wunderkammeronline.com
- The AOI (Association of Illustrators): www.theaoi.com
- Grain Edit: www.grainedit.com
- It's Nice That: www.itsnicethat.com
- Digital Arts Online: www.digitalartsonline.co.uk
- Heart Agency: www.heartagency.com
- Dutch Uncle: www.dutchuncle.co.uk
- 50 watts: www.50watts.com