

BA(HONS) ANIMATION WITH PLACEMENT YEAR.

Dear

Welcome to Animation with Placement Year, your journey starts here.

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 don't have to read everything before you join us, but if you're looking forward to getting stuck in, this is a good place to start. You will have access to all the reading resources from the library when you enrol.

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

FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

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 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 applicantsservices@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,

Nikki Marlborough

Nikki Marlborough

Course Leader, BA (Hons) Animation

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 applicantservices@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 EU/International: £17,950

Professional placement year full-time UK and EU/international: £1,850

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 blocks.

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

Embarking on your journey into the world of animation is an exciting adventure filled with boundless creativity and endless possibilities. Before you dive into your degree studies, take the summer to immerse yourself in **drawing and reading** for fun.

Drawing sharpens your skills and helps you visualize your ideas, turning imagination into reality. It's a language of its own, allowing you to communicate your visions vividly and effectively. Meanwhile, reading expands your horizons, introducing you to different styles, stories, and techniques from across the globe. It fuels your creativity and provides a wealth of knowledge that will enrich your animations.

By engaging in both drawing and reading, you are laying a strong foundation for your studies, equipping yourself with the tools to create captivating, compelling animations. So, pick up your sketchbook and dive into a good book—each line you draw and each page you turn brings you one step closer to becoming an accomplished animator.

Course equipment and costs

A laptop will be a good investment so you can control your work pattern when away from campus. A graphics tablet is also a good investment. We support Wacom tablets (as our computers have the drivers for the Wacom range) You can expect to spend between £60-£300 depending on your budget, buy the best you can afford.

Suitable models include:

Wacom Intuos, Wacom One, One by Wacom

It's always good to backup storage for your work, the following is a good option:

- External hard drive (minimum 1TB) for backing up your own work.

It would also be nice to get:

- Pen
- Craft knife
- Permanent marker
- Folders or portfolio for animation drawing/design work
- Folders to keep handouts and filed notes
- Good quality headphones – you will need these for working in the studio and for your sound-based projects

You should also look to invest in a range of materials for life and observational drawing:

- A4 sketchbook, A2 sketchbook, pocket-sized sketchbook.
- A good range of drawing pencils from H to 6B a sharpener and eraser

Other art materials that would be nice to get, but that aren't essential, include:

- Coloured pencils, pastels, inks or paints and paint brushes
- Dip pens
- Sellotape and masking tape
- Blu Tack and glue stick
- Scissors
- Ruler

We endeavour to provide everything that you will need to produce your animation work, however, you may still need to purchase some items during your studies especially if you decide to work with stop-motion. This might include materials for puppet making, props and sets for stop motion animation production.

All curriculum-specific software is available in the studios, but you may decide to purchase your own licences for specific programs like TV Paint, Dragon Frame, Maya or the Adobe Suite for working off-campus.

The price of these versions of software may vary, but you can expect to spend approximately £200 - £250 for TV Paint (wait until you get here, and we will try to provide you with a discount code) and a similar amount for the full Adobe suite.

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 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.

Study trips

We endeavour to organise optional visits for location drawing and study which are subsidised and will cost approximately £15, which includes entry and transport to and from the campus.

We also endeavor to organise larger trips where possible, with a view to exploring culture and animation festivals. The cost of these trips is likely to be substantial, approximately £500 - £800. If a trip is organised attendance is optional and it's not necessary to attend to progress through your studies.

Reading lists

Watch animation. It is important that you challenge yourself to vary your watch lists and look at animation content from all around the world and across a variety of styles from the classic movies to the present day. Exploring the current trends will help you get a sense of what is possible in the production of animation and how you can prepare your knowledge ready for your studies.

Invest time in building your creativity - continue learning and looking for opportunities to see the world around and express it through any medium you like such as photographs, drawing and story. You can never do enough observation and drawing so practice, practice, practice.

We recommend the following texts as inspiring reading to help prepare you for your studies:

Williams, R. 2001., *The animator's survival kit*. Faber and Faber. RRP £20.83.

This is a wonderful bible that provides the underlying principles of animation that every animator - from beginner to expert, classic animator to computer animation whiz - needs.

Glebas, F., 2008. *Directing the Story*. Routledge. RRP £29.00

We recommend this for understanding a structural approach to clearly and dramatically presenting visual stories.

Parr, P. 2018., *Sketching for Animation*. Bloomsbury Academic. RRP £26.75

This is a great book for 'Sketching for Animation' offering a wealth of examples, exercises and tips from an army of professional animators to help you develop essential sketching, technical drawing and ideation techniques.

We would also recommend:

Whitaker, H., 2009.' *Timing for animation*. Focal Press. RRP £18.35.

Hooks, E., 2011.' *Acting for animators*. Routledge. RRP £22.49.

Stanchfield, W., 2009. *Drawn to life*. Focal Press. RRP £16.65.

The Art of..... These inspirational books provide an exclusive look into the artistic exploration that goes into the making of animated films and Games. They feature concept art—including sketches, collages, colour scripts, character, worlds and much more.

We would also encourage you to start visiting Animation festivals. They are a key part of the industry for education, fans, and professionals. Getting to see new animation, networking and hearing from animators is so interesting and festivals take place all year. There's a great list of what's on offer at www.animation-festivals.com from around the world and with the increase in online festivals there may be some great opportunities to join the animation community online.