

BA(HONS) COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE WITH PLACEMENT YEAR

Dear

Welcome to BA (Hons) Commercial Photography,

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 while 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

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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,

Anthony Prothero

Course Leader, BA (Hons) Commercial Photography

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

2024-2025 placement year: £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.

Course equipment and costs

As a medium, photography is constantly developing so the following figures are intended as a rough guide of anticipated expenditure on the course for 2024/2025.

Laptop

You will need to have your own laptop, PC or MAC, on which you can access online learning materials and can process high resolution digital images. This should be capable of running Photoshop as a minimum, the specifications can be found here:

<https://helpx.adobe.com/uk/photoshop/system-requirements.html>

You will also need access to a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in University accommodation you will have this).

Accessories

- SD card(s), minimum 16Gb.
- USB card reader for the above.
- USB hard drive, minimum 250Gb recommended.

Approx. overall cost £50 – £100

Camera

Whilst a Laptop is the most important piece of equipment for your studies, If you have the budget for a camera then I would suggest waiting until you arrive as we have a wide range of cameras and lenses you can try before you decide which system is best for you. If you do want to take the plunge and buy your own DSLR then I would suggest a full frame or Mirrorless DSLR. The IOP supports Canon, Sony and Nikon so these may be the best choices for compatibility with our lenses and accessories.

Optional items – We also recommend the following optional equipment as an important aid to your studies:

- Lens hood and UV/Skylight filter for each of your lenses.
- Shutter release remote control or shutter release cable.
- Camera bag – large enough for items you may wish to use/purchase during the course.
- Sturdy tripod.
- There will also be a number of stationery items that you will need to purchase during the course such as notepads, A4 binders and a Stanley knife.

Approx. overall cost £50 – £100

Consumable materials

Throughout all three years students need to budget for material costs for film, printing, portfolio materials and other consumables. The actual costs will depend on the amount of work you do and on the decisions that you make in terms of processes, presentation, print size and so on. A budget of £100-£400 per year should cover basic costs.

During the first year you will get the optional workshops in the darkroom to work with analogue processes. You will be able to buy these materials from our stores on Penryn Campus, or from the following suppliers:

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Associated Photography
30 Arwenack Street, Falmouth
+44(0)1326 319591
associatedphotography@btconnect.com

or online from:
www.silverprint.co.uk
www.processuk.net
www.portfoliosplus.co.uk

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

There will be a number of educational trips during the course which include study visits, individual research trips and placements. These experiences are an integral part of your studies and you are expected to attend. We estimate this to be about £200 in total per year although this may vary, depending on the visits or placements arranged.

Optional trips

We run a number of international trips every year; with costs ranging from £400 - £1500. Information about trips running this year will be made available after enrolment.

Reading lists

You will have access to a wealth of resources from the library when you arrive and reading lists will be available on The Learning Space when you enrol for each of your modules. However, you may wish purchase some key books during your time at Falmouth. If you are going to buy one book on photography before you arrive, we recommend:

The Portrait Photographer's Manual

Oba-Smith, C. and Ferguson, M. (2023) *The Portrait Photographer's Manual*. London: Thames & Hudson Ltd.

The above publication can be ordered from:

Falmouth Booksellers

+44(0)1326 312873

falmouthbookseller@mabecronbooks.co.uk

or www.hive.co.uk or any other reputable bookseller.

We also recommend looking regularly at www.itsnicethat.com & www.nowness.com which are both great resources for keeping up to date with creative practice in general, and are both regularly referred to in tutorials and seminars.