

## BA(HONS) DOCUMENTARY AND EDITORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY WITH INTEGRATED FOUNDATION YEAR

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Dear

Welcome to BA(Hons) Documentary and Editorial Photography with Integrated Foundation Year.

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 activities that we suggest you undertake, to help you prepare for your studies.

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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring). Alternatively, email your name and your course to: [studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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,  
Gretchen Viehmann

Course Leader, BA (Hons) Documentary and Editorial 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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/](http://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](http://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.

## IFY - Pre-Course preparation / Costs and Materials

We would like you to keep a **Summer Journal** – this could take the form of a sketchbook of course but sketching isn't the only way you could develop a journal over the summer. You could buy a hardback journal, or re-purpose an old book or hand-make and stitch one together? You might consider sticking in newspaper cuttings, tickets, stickers, photographs, receipts and other material to capture news and events. You could record visits to galleries or museums, draw from graphic novels, watch Film/TV shows, games, fashion, or explore other creative practices that inspire you. You might work on types of patterns, rubbing of textures, photographs, collages, imagine monsters and concept characters or explore bold *posca pen* designs? You might focus on a specific thing – drawings of people, photography, typography, storyboarding, maps, costume, logos, observed locations, natural history or fantasy characters and places– **it's up to you.**

This is an opportunity to show us what you like to do and for you to capture your own creative interests and ideas and to then be able to share these with us when you arrive. We're look forward to seeing what makes you tick.

**Additional Note:** You might also consider starting a Creative *Instagram* feed or *tumblr* blog. It's also a good idea to perhaps start collecting creative inspiration on *Pinterest* boards.

- You can see the IFY Instagram feed here as an example [@falmouthify](#)
- As an IFY student it would certainly be useful to have a pencil case with a good selection of creative mark-making stationary so that you can hit the ground running when you arrive.

(\*You can of course buy creative materials once you arrive in university and will have access to the campus shops – note: There is a terrific art shop on the Falmouth Campus.)

### What you need to bring with you in September:

A laptop is the most essential piece of equipment, along with a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in university accommodation you will have this). Either Mac or PC is fine, it is up to you as we use both. Do your research and get the best one you can afford. Your laptop will be an essential tool for photography editing and academic writing and a good one will last you for your university years and beyond.

*Note: The following Equipment and technical advice relates specifically to the three-year BA(Hons) Documentary and Editorial Photography degree that you are progressing into on successful completion of your Integrated Foundation Year (IFY) so this is a chance to get ahead of the expectations and to begin to consider purchasing relevant degree related equipment also.*

The equipment stores and facilities at Falmouth University provide a comprehensive variety of all necessary equipment, but there are certain essentials that incoming Press & Editorial Photography students should have at the start of term in order to be able to fully participate in course work and

to be able to work independently. The costs will be approximately £600 – £1000 and all of these should support you for the full three years.

As well as a laptop, the most important things you need to have are:

- Digital SLR camera capable of shooting RAW files with manual over-ride of any automatic settings and extra memory cards. You do NOT need to have a brand-new top-of-the line camera, just something that you are comfortable working with, as you will have access to and be trained on the fantastic camera equipment we have here on campus.
- An external hard drive of at least 500 GB to back up your work. We also recommend having cloud storage as further backup, like Google drive.

Other items that will be important to you:

- Camera equipment holdall, large enough for extra items you may wish to use/purchase during the course. We particularly recommend photo backpacks rather than traditional camera bag as they are more ergonomic and more secure.

## **During Your BA Course: materials and equipment list and costs**

### **Essential**

As a medium, photography is constantly developing, and our figures are intended as a guide of anticipated expenditure on the course for 2023-24

It is anticipated that total extra costs would be approximately £1800 per year during the 3 –year BA. This will cover film, travel, trips, paper and any other sundries. The equipment costs indicated vary depending on the brand/type of equipment you choose to purchase.

Your photographic practice will develop over the years of the course and there may be other equipment you want to purchase. It's possible to buy very good quality second-hand photographic equipment. Once you are established on the course, you will also find many students who are selling and swapping equipment.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of these equipment requirements, do not hesitate to get in touch with me at [gretchen.viehmann@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:gretchen.viehmann@falmouth.ac.uk)

## **Study Trips and costs once you have progressed from your IFY into the 3-year degree.**

### **Essential**

There will be a number of educational trips during the three years of the BA course. They are an integral part of your studies, and you are expected to take part to enrich your studies. One of the highlights of the year is our all-year exhibition in London, which takes place in the Spring just before the Easter break.

## Third Year Exhibition

In your third year you are encouraged to exhibit your work in the Degree Shows on campus, as well as in a group exhibition in a location of the year group's choosing. Students are required to pay for these exhibitions (many choose to Crowdfund or otherwise fundraise). Depending on the medium you choose to exhibit in, such as prints, multimedia or publications, and the off-site venue in which the year group chooses to exhibit, estimated costs will be £200.

## 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](https://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](https://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.

