

BA(HONS) ILLUSTRATION WITH INTEGRATED FOUNDATION YEAR

Dear

Welcome to (BA)Hons Illustration with Integrated Foundation Year at Falmouth.

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 pre course guidance and preparation that we suggest you undertake, to help you prepare for your studies.

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

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

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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,

Duncan Cameron

IFY Course Leader

Gina Burney

IFY Pathway Leader: Illustration and Graphic Design

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 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

We are not setting you an IFY summer project, but we would encourage you to maintain your creative practice over the summer in preparation for the course start in September.

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](#)

Attend some exhibitions:

We recommend you experience a range of exhibitions, events, and performances, ideally in person.

Do some pre-reading, watching & listening:

Raising your awareness of art and design history, particularly originating from the 20th Century is a key aim of the course and you may wish to begin this process before you start.

The Tate Shots series on You Tube offers bite-size introductions to the lives and work of some of the most ground-breaking artists, both British and international: www.youtube.com/user/tate/videos

You could also watch 'Abstract: The Art of Design' 2017 on Netflix (2 seasons)

Reading list and costs (Illustration specific)

Optional

Below is a list of books, magazines and periodicals that are relevant to the BA course, however you may want to start looking at some of these titles in the run up to the IFY. Our intention is not that you should purchase any or all these publications, but rather to make you aware of them. 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

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 £40

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

We also recommend these texts as preparatory reading over the summer. They will help you to be best prepared for studying at university. Buying an e-book where available or 2nd hand can be more cost effective and it doesn't matter which edition you get.

Cottrell, Stella. 2019. *The Study Skills Handbook*. London: Palgrave. RRP £15.99

- Recommended by our academic skills team – this book covers everything from managing your time and taking notes to working with others and developing as an academic writer and critical thinker.

Tobin, Lucy. 2015. *A Guide to Uni Life*. Bath: Trotman. RRP £9.99

- This terrific book walks you your first day at University, through to managing your money, keeping healthy and making the transition to university life.

Phillips, Rachel. 2017. *Student Eats*. London: Ebury Press RRP £12.99

- Each year, we recommend a cookery book. Life at university is far more than just study – you've moved home, are living independently, and meeting hundreds of new people as committed to the cinematic arts as you are – life skills are important. We really like Rachel's approach to cheap, healthy ingredients – she's a recent graduate too, so speaks from experience.

Equipment and materials costs

Costs for materials are very difficult to estimate on any visual arts course, due to the wide range of processes and materials associated with contemporary art and design practices. However, to successfully engage with the Illustration programme there is some equipment that you will need to bring with you. Please see the list below:

Essential

Your academic experience will be predominantly in person, but you will need to access digital resources to support your learning and to upload work for assessment. To engage in the digital learning activity, although you will be able to access IT suites on campus, you will benefit from **your own 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. You will ideally also need either Windows or Mac capable of running the Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop and After Effects). This is likely to be one of the bigger investments you will make whilst studying graphic design and could cost between £300 and £1800 for the computer and Adobe subscription. The system requirements to run the software can be found here:

helpx.adobe.com/uk/creative-suite/kb/cs6-system-requirements.html

You will also need access to 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.

As a new student to the BA(Hons) Illustration with IFY 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 course 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.

(You may already have some of these materials of course)*

Below is a list of essential materials that you will need on the course: (* This is the BA Year 1 list but you should aim to get as much of this as you can as you progress into and through the IFY)

- Academic year diary
- Sketchbooks
- Graphite pencils (3B to HB), pencil sharpener and eraser
- Retractable pencil
- Fineliners and markers
- A variety of media for experimentation such as oil pastels, chalk pastels, Conte crayons, compressed charcoal
- Black Indian ink and coloured inks
- Masking tape
- PVA glue and glue stick
- Scissors
- Scalpel and blades such as Swan Morten (10a blades most useful)
- 12-inch metal ruler
- Cutting mat (A4 size minimum)
- Paints – Gouache, watercolour, acrylic
- Good quality synthetic paint brushes of various widths and varieties for working with a range of media
- Paint palette with wells, preferably ceramic/china
- Materials for collaging – pads of multicoloured paper, magazines, old maps, leaflets, swatches of textured wallpaper etc.

You will also need to allow for ongoing annual printing costs for projects and experimentation undertaken.

Optional

If you own a 35mm SLR or digital camera, you will find this useful. Falmouth also has photographic equipment, which can be booked for free. If you wished to purchase your own camera, the approximate costs can be between £300 and £1000 plus, depending on your preference for camera choice.

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.

Typical Course Costs

- £250 - Recurring annual costs may include: art/creative materials and costs towards your end of year show exhibition.

Study trips

There are several IFY field trips and you will need to allow for some costs for student contributions towards coach hire and exhibition entry. Total annual cost approx' £50. If you want to attend the planned IFY week-long residential trip to London in the Spring of 2025 then you will need to plan for a £100 deposit payment shortly after arriving on the course, to secure a place, and to budget for a total trip cost of approx' £400 - to be paid in instalments.