SELBY COLLEGE COURSE INFORMATION:

HNC Graphic Design, Photography, Film & Television & Fine Art

ART, DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

START DATE
September 2026

LEVEL
Level 4

STUDY MODE
Full-time

DURATION
1 year

AWARDING BODY
Pearson BTEC

LOCATION
Selby College

For further information about this course, including Entry Requirements, Assessments and Further Study, scan the QR code.

Course Overview

The Higher National Certificate (HNC) and the Higher National Diploma (HND) in Graphic Design, Photography and Fine Art is a two-year programme providing you with a specialist vocational grounding in art, design and media. The programme is split into two one-year programmes. The HNC is a level 4 programme, when this is completed successfully you will have the opportunity to progress onto the HND at level 5.

There will be a strong emphasis on the development of both individual creative practice and an understanding of professional and employment-focused skills. The programme will also provide you with a higher level of contextual awareness of art and design practices, enabling you to progress onto top-up to a full degree.

Our goal is to prepare you for a successful career within the creative arts industry. Building on previous knowledge and skills in art, design and media, the course is structured to provide opportunities across a broad academic and vocational base, progressively deepening your knowledge and skills. Based on the current specification from the awarding body, you will undertake two units to complete the first year of the programme and two units to complete the second year.

A range of teaching and learning methods including seminars, lectures, group work, tutorials and e-learning are used, with a work-related, problem-solving and research-based approach emphasised. You will engage in practical workshops, theoretical studies, group and individual critiques, lectures and both physical and online exhibitions. Residential trips both home and abroad are an important part of the course but are optional.

What You Will Study

The course will focus on four main areas of specialisation: photography, graphic design and fine art. You will undertake general art and design project work and sample all pathways, working to your existing strengths but, at the same time, developing many new skills and competencies.

Building on previous knowledge and skills in art and design, the course is structured to provide opportunities across a broad academic and vocational base, progressively deepening students' knowledge. We also offer different pathways in; Fine Art, Photography and Graphic Design.

Need More Information?

For additional course information please contact the Course Information Team on **01924 789111** or email **courseinfo@heartofyorkshire.ac.uk**.

To learn more about Selby College, our facilities and how we can support you please visit our website **www.heartofyorkshire.ac.uk**.

Quick Links

How to Apply

Student Support

Virtual Tours

Selby College

Based on the current specification from the awarding body, students will undertake two units to complete the first year of the programme. These are currently planned as (subject to change):

- Unit A1: Concept & Development
- Unit A2: Creative Practice

The second year of the course will then follow on with a further two units. These are currently planned as (subject to change):

- Unit B1: Personal Professional Development
- Unit B2: Professional Project

Assessments for the course may take a variety of forms, from practical tasks, group work and presentations to formal, written assignments and reports.

Academic and practical skills developed through the course focus on workplace and transferable skills to equip students for progression into employment, developed alongside academic skills such as research, problem analysis and critical thinking to support progression to higher level study. You will develop the ability to work independently and on your own initiative.

You will develop career-ready employment skills which will include:

- Technical and practical confidence in the use of a wide range of professional-level equipment management of the digital workflow (ideas-artwork-production-reproduction)
- The ability to manage time effectively and to plan to meet your client's expectations
- Awareness of budgets, production costs and charging for time
- The ability to communicate your ideas to others and present compelling concepts appropriately
- The capacity to work safely and responsibly throughout the creative process when dealing with clients and other stakeholders

Attendance Expectations

This full-time programme is run over one year per level with daytime sessions blocked over two days.

Entry Requirements

64 UCAS tariff points (NEW UCAS TARIFF) from either:

- A Levels (including Art and Design or another relevant subject)
- UAL level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design
- BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design
- Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art & Design)

The following are also required:

- A Grade C or above in GCSE English
- Two satisfactory references

A Grade C or above in GCSE Maths is also desirable.

Applications from mature students with relevant professional/life experience are welcome. You might be required to provide further evidence to decide on your suitability for the course and an admissions test may be used in certain circumstances.

Fee Information

Further Study

On successful completion of the HNC, you will progress to the HND. You will then have the opportunity to progress to a top-up course to gain a full BA (Hons) degree either at an outside university or on our BA Hons Arts Practice (Top Up). Other students may progress to employment, set up their own enterprise or continue to study a teaching qualification.

Selby College

The course aims to equip students with the skills required to embark upon a variety of employment opportunities in the creative industries:

- Graphic Design
- Web Design
- Commercial Photography
- Illustration
- Animation
- Lens-based Media Production
- Marketing
- Fine Art
- Further Education Teaching

Students might also use the course to set up their own business, exhibiting and selling their art products or using their design skills, photographic and graphics talents to work freelance.