

Thinking about choosing to study Art & Design at Advanced level?

or **Already studying it and wondering what your next step might be?**

This worksheet has been designed to help you consider how you can use what you learn from an Advanced level course in Art & Design in your future career planning.

+ What to study it with?

When choosing to study A level courses full time it is usual to study four subjects at AS level in the first year then three at A2 level in the second year. It is also possible to study some subjects via the vocationally related route (Applied A level double awards and BTEC Diplomas). The other subjects you choose to combine with Art & Design may have an influence upon what you can choose beyond Advanced level, so check out your choice. Although some Advanced level subjects require a good grade at GCSE as a foundation for study at the advanced level, others can be studied from scratch. It's a good idea to check this out before finalising your Advanced level course choices.

CAREER WARNING

* ART & DESIGN

Studying any Advanced level course will give you two main things, knowledge about the content of the subject (using different media, materials and techniques to express ideas through evocative images, etc.) and skills in how to deal with that content. Although you may not need to remember the content for very much longer than your course, the skills you develop can be built on and used throughout the rest of your life.

MIX & MATCH +

Art & Design AS/A2 courses are often taken alongside, and to contrast with, subjects that have a greater written component. It is usually an essential subject for entry to careers in Art and Design. Students wishing to pursue a career in the arts may take other complementary AS/A2 levels such as History, English, Media Studies, Drama/Theatre Studies and Modern Languages. Mathematics, Sciences and Craft Design and Technology may also be combined with Art to provide a useful combination for entry to fields such as Architecture, Engineering and Product Design. Students taking Art and Design via the vocationally related route will often focus on this area in greater depth and choose only one other subject at AS/A2 level to study alongside it.

The higher education and employment scenes are continually changing due to social, economic and political pressures. This worksheet, therefore, is not a definitive guide to your future career but is more of a prompt to get you thinking about making connections between your choice of Advanced level courses and higher education and career opportunities.

<i>Art & Design Skills</i>		⊗Ways in which you might learn these in the subject:
<i>Research skills:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> researching a topic by finding and choosing the most useful materials to use <input type="checkbox"/> summarising that information either in writing or verbally <input type="checkbox"/> developing artistic ideas through research, visual observation and recording	<input type="checkbox"/> looking for inspiration for art projects in magazines, papers, films, the natural environment, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> studying the work of other artists
<i>Communication skills - written and visual:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> putting across clear and relevant information when writing about a subject <input type="checkbox"/> using visual materials and images to convey design ideas <input type="checkbox"/> producing artifacts in 2 and 3 dimensional form in response to design briefs	<input type="checkbox"/> writing about your own and others work in essays and note books <input type="checkbox"/> producing art pieces in a range of media, eg. painting, sculpture, photography, drawings, collage, etc.
<i>Communication skills - verbal:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> taking part in discussions and making relevant contributions <input type="checkbox"/> listening and responding to others <input type="checkbox"/> making value judgements and giving constructive criticism about your own and others work	<input type="checkbox"/> discussing art works following individual research, lectures, visits to galleries and exhibitions <input type="checkbox"/> assessing and commenting on your own and others' work
<i>Numerical skills:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> collecting and recording data <input type="checkbox"/> estimating, measuring and calculating physical dimensions, proportions and timescales	<input type="checkbox"/> gathering together information and materials to use in art projects <input type="checkbox"/> working out how much paint, paper, plaster of paris, photographic fixer, etc. to use
<i>Creative skills:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> assessing the relationship between art and real life <input type="checkbox"/> visualising possible design solutions <input type="checkbox"/> selecting materials and techniques to develop design ideas	<input type="checkbox"/> learning about art and artistic methods and techniques and trying to develop your own artistic talents

⊗ Ways in which you might use these in a job:

developing creative ideas for advertising campaigns, fashion and interior designs, product and packaging design, in fact any kind of design

producing visually stimulating materials such as newsletters, handouts, posters, etc.
 writing newspaper articles, catalogue inserts, public notices, leaflets, etc.
 creating works of art

working as part of a team
 giving guided tours and presentations
 dealing with customers

calculating the quantities of materials needed for projects
 finding new and different uses for materials and products

thinking creatively and using your imagination when dealing with problems and looking for solutions
 presenting original views or interpretations on various topics

art & design

⊗ other skills

In addition to the specific skills you will develop whilst studying Art & Design at Advanced level, you may also develop a number of other skills which will be extremely important, whether you go on to higher education or into employment.

>Improving own learning and performance:

- dealing with complex subjects
- checking understanding of work set and seeking clarification if unsure
- agreeing and setting targets and planning action
- following a plan to meet targets and making revisions to the plan as necessary
- checking progress with an appropriate person
- identifying any support needed and using it effectively

>Working with others:

- planning activities with others
- identifying and agreeing targets with others and checking understanding
- identifying and confirming responsibilities within the group
- agreeing working arrangements with those involved

>Working with Information Technology:

- deciding what, when and whether to use information technology
- selecting and using appropriate technological hardware and software to process data, prepare and present information
- identifying support needed and using it effectively

Art & Design

CAREER c-o-n-n-e-c-t-i-o-n-s

There are a number of careers where having an Advanced level qualification in Art & Design, and all the skills that you develop through studying it, will be very useful. An Advanced level qualification in Art is usually required for entry into careers in Art & Design. Most of the career areas come under the general heading of 'Design' as the majority of people who enter careers connected to Art tend to be a designer of one sort or another. You can find out more about these careers by looking up information in your careers library under the Connexions Resources Classification Index (CRCI) codes listed here.

CRCI code	Title
E	General information on careers related to Art & Design
E	Fine Art
E	Graphic Design
E	Fashion Design
E	Textile/Surface Design
E	Interior Design
E	Exhibition Design
E	Product Design
PC	Photography

Other occupations where Art may be required or useful:

BA	Architecture
HB	Landscape Architecture
O	Advertising Copywriter
JF	Art Therapist
BC	Town Planning
K	Museum Curator
Q	Make Up Artist
RC	Beauty Therapist

Although it is possible to enter some of these jobs after Advanced level studies, many of these areas recruit people with higher qualifications so you may need to seriously consider going on to higher education.

6 ways to check it out

Look at the 2 Skills pages.

- ① Put a cross against those skills you already have.
- ② Tick those skills you would like to gain or develop further.
- ③ Could you see yourself studying this subject at:

	Yes	No
Advanced level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Degree level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
- ④ Look at the Career Connections section which lists careers related to Art & Design. Do any of these appeal to you? Why?

- ⑤ Look at the 'Thinking of doing a degree' section which lists degree programmes that are popular with Art and Design students. Tick those that appeal to you. Pick out your top 3 and explain why.

- ⑥ So what do you think?
Are you interested in studying Art and Design further? Give 3 reasons for your answer:

- 1
- 2
- 3

Remember: Advanced level course grades can be converted into UCAS points which count towards admission to university so it is important to choose subjects which reflect your interests and abilities.

A = 120 points
B = 100 points
C = 80 points
D = 60 points
E = 40 points

Thinking of * doing a degree?

Entry into Art & Design careers may not be as clear cut as in some other occupations. There are a wide range of degrees in the broad spectrum of design disciplines. The criterion for selection to these degrees is not only Advanced level qualifications, but also the quality of the portfolio, usually developed over 1 or 2 years on a pre-degree foundation course. Although it is possible to gain direct entry to degree or HND studies from Advanced level courses, many students choose to take a Foundation course in order to identify which area of art and design they wish to specialise in.

Degree programmes in Art & Design

There are two main sectors in higher education that offer courses related to Art. These are firstly Colleges & Institutes of Art & Design and secondly Universities and Colleges of Higher Education. A vast number of courses exist at degree and HND level. These include:

- Fine Art
- Visual Arts
- Fine Art Conservation
- Painting
- Multi-disciplinary Design
- Graphic Design
- Printing Design
- Illustration
- Visual Communication
- Typography
- Furniture Design
- Fashion & Textile Design
- Advertising Design
- Industrial/Product Design
- Interactive and Electronic Design
- Glass Design
- Ceramic Design
- Surface Pattern Design
- Interior Design
- Theatre Design
- Jewellery Design
- Design & Technology
- Display Design
- Photography
- Film & Photographic Art
- Animation
- Film & Television production
- Multimedia Design
- Sculpture

Details of all the degrees available in these areas, and more, can be found on the University Central Admissions System website at www.ucas.com

There are many degrees where having an Advanced level qualification in Art & Design may not be of direct relevance but will be useful, however, so you need not be restricted by this list.

Art & Design FACTFILE

Opportunities for Graduates

Statistics from a recent survey show the following trends can be identified for Art & Design graduates:

- around 63% entered employment within 6 months of graduating
- 29% entered jobs in art, design, culture, media and sports professions
- just over 26% of those that entered design careers became 'Design Associate Professionals', entering careers such as animators, product designers, illustrators and fashion design
- less than 11% continued with further studies or training
- unemployment rates were higher than for most other subjects.

...jobs ✖

These are some of the jobs that Arts graduates have gone into in recent years ...

- ◆ Design Assistant
- ◆ Furniture Maker
- ◆ Graphic Designer
- ◆ Illustrator
- ◆ Interior Designer
- ◆ Textile Designer
- ◆ Web Page Designer
- ◆ Sales Assistant
- ◆ Marketing Manager
- ◆ Teacher
- ◆ Admin Assistant, Crown Court



need to find out more?

You might find these publications useful. Check to see if your Careers Library or local library have copies.

- > The Art & Design Directory (Annual)
published by ISCO
- > Questions and Answers - Studying Art & Design
published by Trotman
- > Degree Course Guide - Art & Design including History of Art
published by Trotman
- > Getting into Art & Design Courses
published by Trotman
- > Progression to Art & Design Courses
published by UCAS
- > Art & Design Uncovered
published by Trotman
- > Trotman's Green Guide - Art & Design and Performing Arts Courses
published by Trotman
- > Careers in Architecture
published by Kogan Page

Useful website:

www.yourcreativefuture.org.uk
Website dedicated to careers in the creative industries. Provides careers information, profiles of people working in the creative industries, useful addresses, publications and website links.

Free information is available from the following organisations. If writing please send a stamped addressed envelope to cover postage:

- ▷ Arts Council England
14 Great Peter Street
London SW1P 3NQ
Tel: 0845 300 6200
www.artscouncil.org.uk
- ▷ Association of Illustrators
2nd Floor, Back Building,
150 Curtain Road,
London EC2A 3AT
Tel: 020 7613 4328
www.theaoi.com
- ▷ Crafts Council
44a Pentonville Road,
Islington,
London N1 9BY
Tel : 020 7278 7700
www.craftscouncil.org.uk
- ▷ Design Council
34 Bow Street
London WC2E 7DL
Tel: 020 7420 5200
www.designcouncil.org.uk
- ▷ Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)
66 Portland Place
London W1B 1AD
Tel: 020 7580 5533
www.riba.org
- ▷ Royal Photographic Society
Fenton House,
122 Wells Road,
Bath BA2 3AH
Tel: 01225 325 733
Email: reception@rps.org
www.rps.org
- ▷ National Society for Education in Art & Design (NSEAD)
The Gatehouse
Corsham Court
Corsham
Wiltshire SN13 0BZ
Tel: 01249 714 825
www.nsead.org