

Diplomas in Photography

We offer both Level 2 and 3 Diplomas in Photography. Our photography programmes encourage you to explore traditional and digital photography processes.

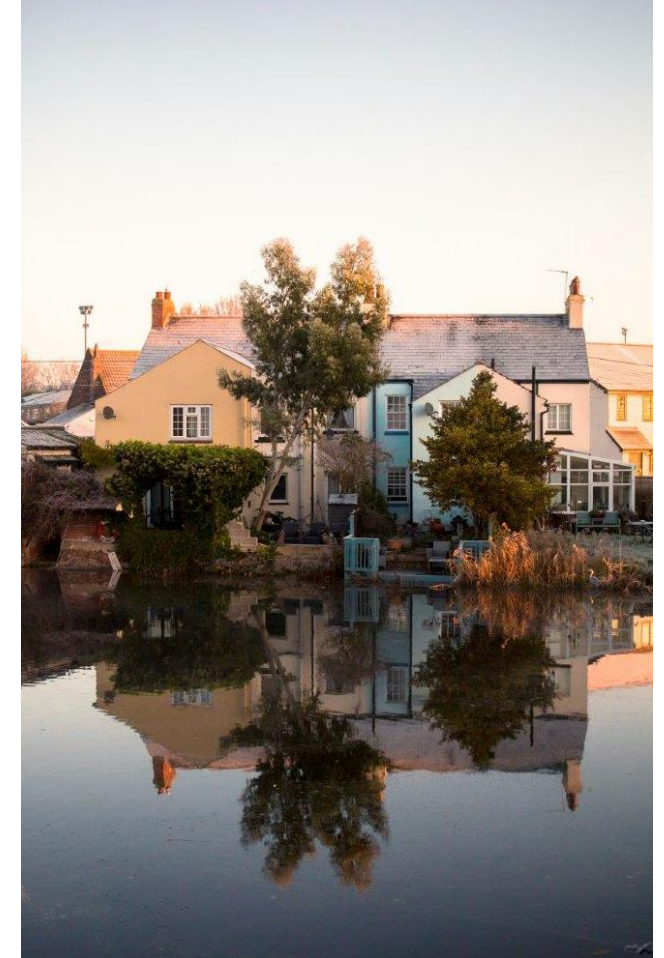
The courses provide students with a foundation of skills and knowledge in technical, contextual and creative approaches. They help learners to develop portfolios for progression to moving image, portraiture, advertising, documentary as well as fine-art photography.



Who we are and what do we do?

The Course Leader for the Level 3 Diploma in Photography is Darren Hart. As a photographer with over twenty years experience, Darren has seen the evolution of photography from its traditions in film right through to the current digital era. He has experience with a range of genres including still life, advertising, portraiture and wedding photography.

Jodie Evans is the Course Leader for the Level 2 Diploma in Art & Design. Jodie has worked in the creative education sector for over 18 years. During this time she has been involved in various community art projects, raising funds and awareness of homelessness and social care in both the UK and abroad. She has also run her own studio at Hylands House, Chelmsford.



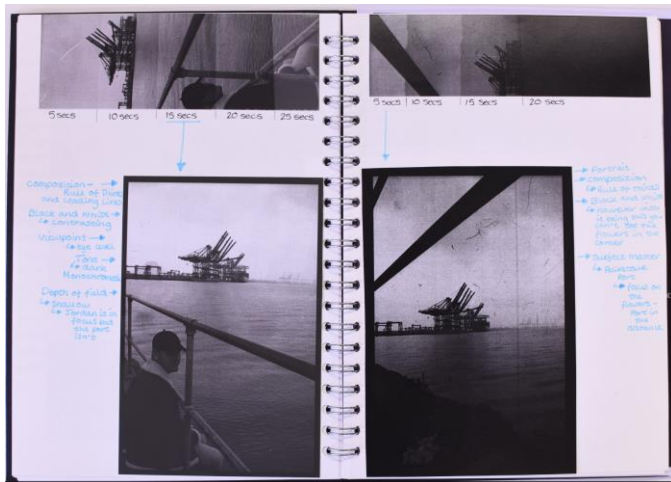
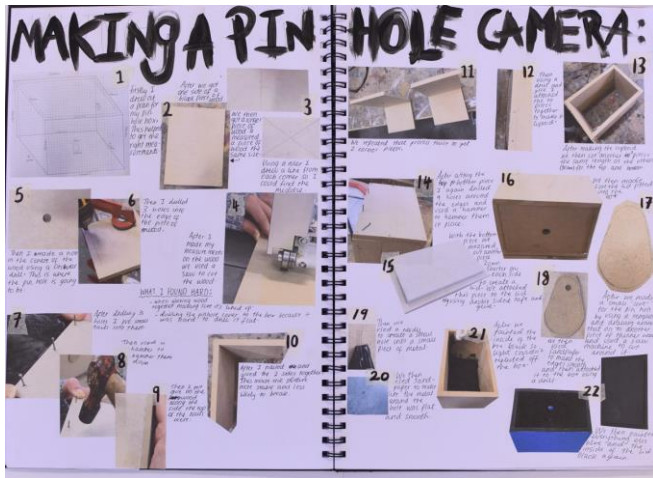
What type of lessons might I have?

During the course you will learn how to create photographs using a range of different and exciting scenarios. You will learn how to use film and digital cameras on location and in the studio, and you will learn how to work in a traditional darkroom.

You also will also learn about the history and contexts of photography. Through continued analysis and reflection of your work, you will develop and improve your knowledge and skills.

You will learn how to use your sketchbook effectively to record and develop your ideas and be introduced to digital methods of producing professional portfolios





First Attempt (Negative)

This was my first attempt at pinhole photography. To take the photo, I set the camera up on a level surface and set a timer to 90 seconds. For this photo we decided to stand back to back for 45 seconds and then for the remaining 45 seconds facing the camera; this created a double exposure effect. We had to be quick to open and close the shutter so we wouldn't be seen in front of the camera.

Once we were back in the darkroom, I placed the paper into the developing tray for 2 minutes, then into the stop tray for 30 seconds, then into the fix tray for 5 minutes and finally the wash tray for 5 minutes. I then scanned the photo so I could open it in photoshop to invert and flip the photo.

Second Attempt (Negative)

This was my second attempt at pinhole photography. I set the camera up in the same place and this time we decided to experiment with more movement. We stood far away for 45 seconds, then a step closer for 30 seconds, and another step closer for 15 seconds. This created multiple versions of us.

I developed this attempt the same way as the first attempt in the darkroom. I then inverted and flipped the photo and noticed the photo needed more exposure time. This means it got slightly darker outside.

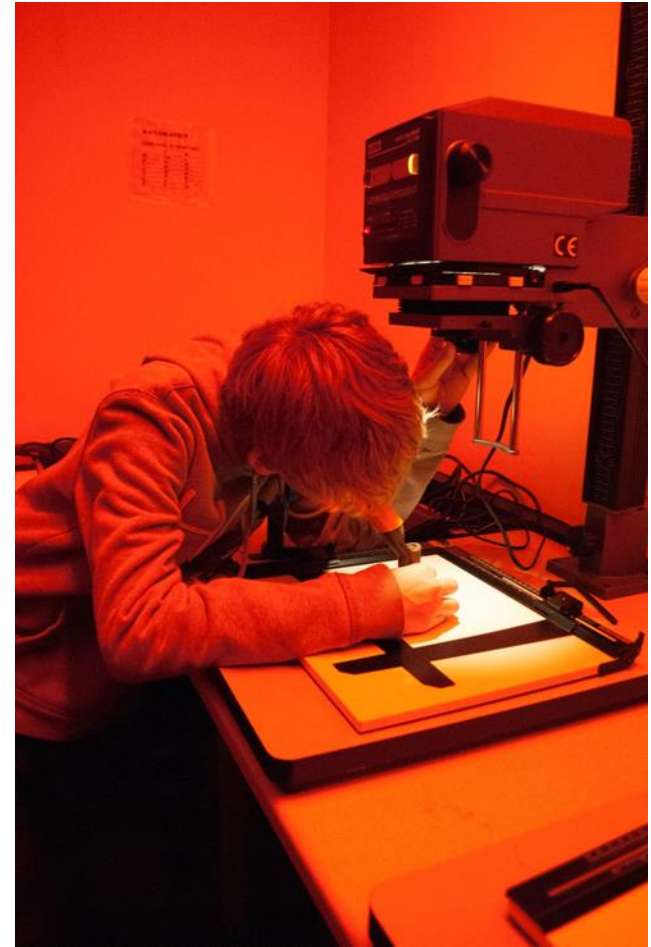
Here I tried to take photos following the rules of Hills & Bernd Becher. I tried to make the photos as 'artistic' as possible. All the images are in black and white. These are the iconic beach huts at Mersea Island and even though they all have the same function they have been designed very differently.

Personally I don't find this grid of photos in the style of Bechers enjoyable to look at and I find removing the sea takes away part of the seasons and joy of a beach but even if it is nice to see them together in a different way.

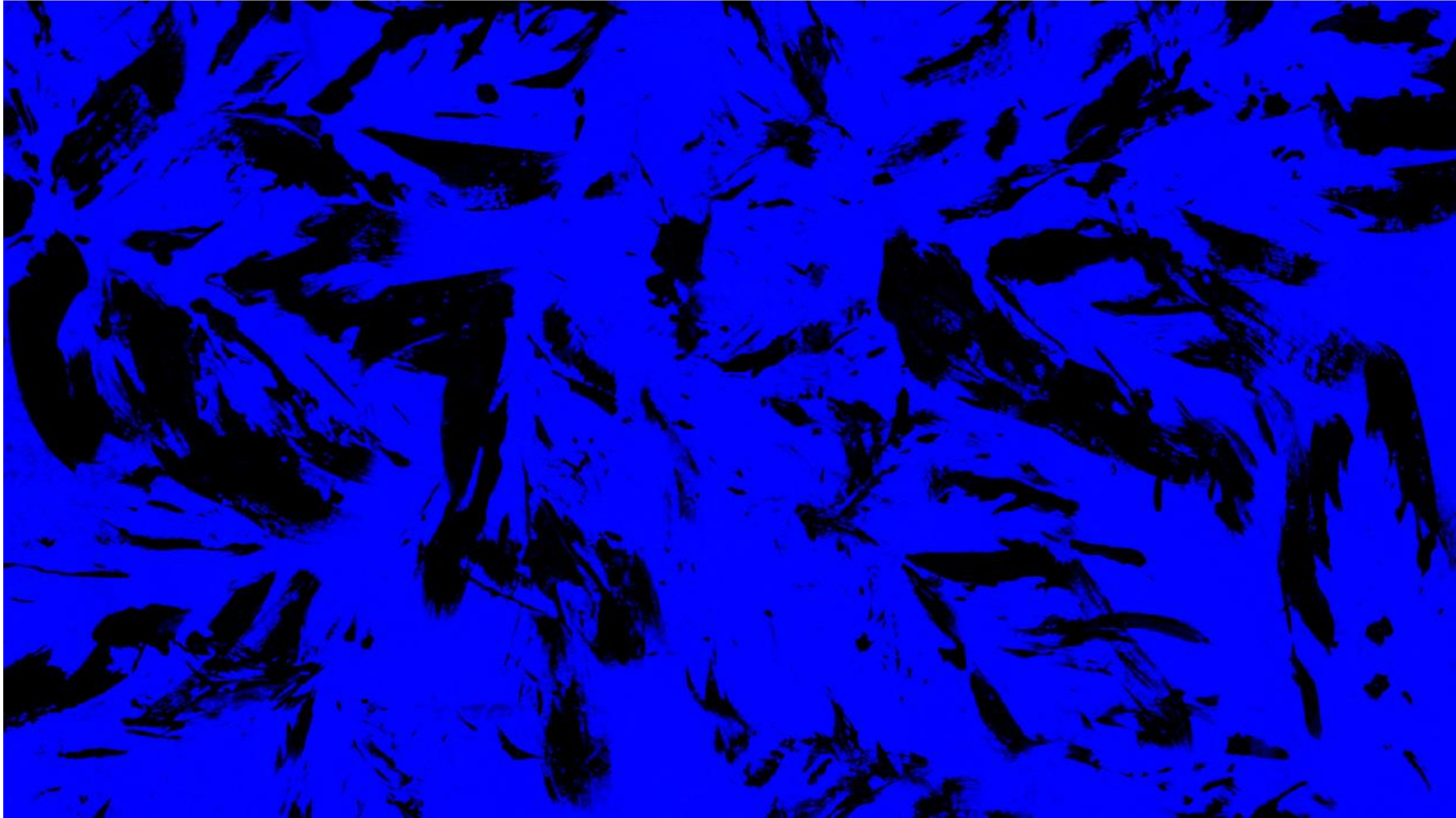
Where you will be learning?

Study spaces are different depending on the learning activity. It's likely that you'll be learning in one of our studio, traditional darkroom or digital darkroom areas. You may also spend time developing practical skills in our print space.

Some sessions take place in general purpose design studios where you have the freedom to explore alternative photographic techniques. Some of your learning, for example contextual studies and group tutorials may also take place online.



Click image below to open video in YouTube



Better Careers Begin Here

Personal Development & Tutorials

As part of the Photography course you will attend a programme of Group Tutorials led by the Art & Design Progress and Destination Tutor, Leon Carter.

During the tutorials you work together to learn about careers in the Creative Industries, British Values, current events and work experience opportunities. These sessions will help you to broaden your understanding of the world and support you to make informed decisions about your future.



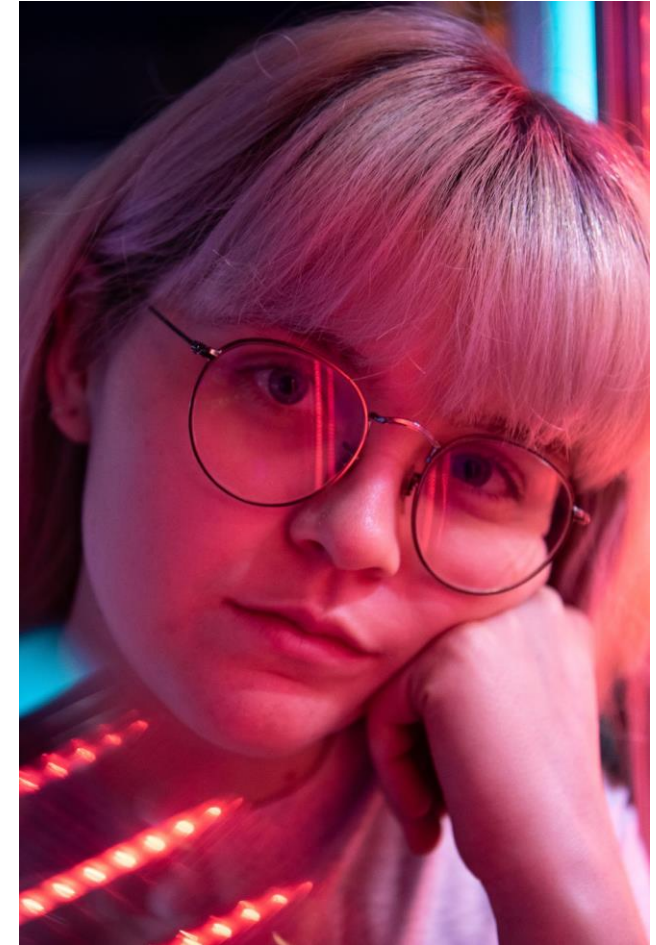
What's next?

New statistics reveal the Creative Industries sector is growing more than five times faster than the national economy*.

Hardworking students with good photographic and entrepreneurial skills can become freelance photographers, assist established pros or develop their potential by progressing to Higher Education.

In recent years our students have gone on to study on courses at universities such as, NUA, UAL, and Westminster.

* www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-creative-industries-contributes-almost-13-million-to-the-uk-economy-every-hour



Where are they now?

Jamie Appleby, one of our alumni, has gone on to study photography at Bournemouth University of the Arts, he says:

“The course broadened our understanding in both theory and practical knowledge. We were encouraged to explore a wide range of processes and techniques to develop our skill set.”

The course is the best start to a career in photography, as it gives you the opportunity to find your personal style and progress on to higher education.”



What will I need?

To study photography you'll need a small kit of tools and materials. This should include:

- Pens, Pencils & Sharpener
- SD Card and USB Stick
- SD Card Reader
- A good quality sketchbook - A4 or A3 - sewn or stapled
- Small scissors and Pritt Stick
- Ruler
- External Hard Drive / Mac & PC compatible.

