

Fine Art and Art History

TOP 4
IN THE UK
AND 1st IN WALES

★★★ NSS 2016 ★★★

FOR STUDENT
SATISFACTION

Fine Art | Art History | Creative Arts

School of Art

As well as intellectually stimulating and personally rewarding schemes of study, we offer a caring and friendly community of staff and students.

A dedicated team of practicing artists, art historians and curators will help you develop your learning potential and apply your knowledge and skills to your work. Housed in an elegant Grade II listed building which is home to a museum, galleries and art collections, the School of Art is a fitting symbol of our aim to bridge traditional skills, new technologies and contemporary practice with critical and interdisciplinary thinking, and theory with a vocation oriented, hands-on education.

100% STUDENT SATISFACTION FOR FINE ART, AND IN THE TOP 5 IN THE UK WWW.ABER.AC.UK/EN/ART/NATIONALSTUDENTSURVEY

The study of art has many practical benefits. It fosters a hands-on approach to the challenges of everyday life, encourages creative problem-solving, improves your ability to adapt in a changing world, and enhances your interpersonal liaison skills. By combining traditional skills with new technologies, our courses aim to give you a competitive edge by broadening and enhancing your portfolio. We enjoy an international reputation for the quality of our teaching and research and have an excellent record of employment for our graduates.

Facilities

As the internationally renowned “cultural capital” of Wales, Aberystwyth is a truly unique place to study. The School of Art enjoys an international reputation for the quality of its teaching and research. Our facilities include studios, print workshops, darkrooms, galleries and a Mac suite, as well as an important collection of fine and decorative art and archives housed and displayed within our own museum and galleries.



We enjoy a cutting-edge IT infrastructure and modern, fully equipped teaching spaces. The School is well served by the University library and our students also have access to the National Library of Wales – one of only 5 copyright institutions entitled to receive a copy of every book published in the UK. It also houses important art collections and archives.



100% OF OUR GRADUATES WERE IN EMPLOYMENT OR FURTHER STUDY WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF GRADUATION

DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION (DLHE) SURVEY 2015

Our Collections

Our collections include European prints from the 15th century to the present day, as well as drawings, watercolours and photographs. The George Powell Collection of books, manuscripts, letters, Pre-Raphaelite drawings and watercolours, bronzes and objets d’art is an invaluable resource of the reconstruction of the world view of a 19th-century collector. There are some 5,000 illustrations for 1860s periodicals, an excellent collection of prints representing the Etching Revival since Whistler, the Gulbenkian Collection of Welsh art, School of Paris prints and contemporary printmaking.

Our Ceramic Gallery in the Arts Centre houses an important collection of 20th-century studio pottery. The ceramics collection comprises some 2,000 examples of contemporary British, European, American, and Japanese ceramics, 18th-19th-century slipware, Swansea and Nantgarw porcelain. Its major strength is the collection of early 20th-century British Pioneer Studio Pottery.

A DEPARTMENT WITH A DISTINGUISHED HISTORY THAT GOES BACK TO 1917

Our galleries stage twelve to fifteen public exhibitions annually – both touring shows and those that are curated by staff. We also collaborate with international museum and galleries.

Industrial Years and Study Abroad

Students can opt to undertake a year in employment placement between the second and third years of their degree through the University’s Year in Employment Scheme. This is a fantastic opportunity to develop your employability skills and to acquire some impressive work experience to include on your CV. Taking part in the scheme may also provide you with the opportunity to make or test decisions about a chosen career path, work abroad and learn a new language, or receive specialist training.

ONE OF THE FEW UNIVERSITIES IN BRITAIN TO OFFER JOINT HONOURS SCHEMES IN FINE ART AND ART HISTORY

Joint honours language students automatically spend a year in another European country between their second and third years as part of the language degree requirements.

Our degree schemes

Fine Art

Our Fine Art course provides you with an education based on the experience of a professional training in art and help you to develop your creative abilities as an artist.

As an intellectual and professional pursuit, fine art requires training, creative intelligence, and a thorough knowledge of theory and practice - both present and past. At Aberystwyth we are dedicated to the development and innovative application of traditional skills. We specialise in the history and practice of drawing, painting, book illustration, printmaking, photography and multimedia (installation, site-specific performance, digital art, video and sound). We offer a wide range of complementary modules, and training that connects traditional skills with contemporary practice and theory.

Drawing is at the heart of your student experience and is fundamental to your training in all other media. Accordingly, it occupies a central position in the curriculum, particularly during the first year.

In light of the recent revival of interest in traditional drawing skills, the School is at the vanguard of contemporary art education. All of our Fine Art schemes may be pursued with specialisation in painting, photography, book illustration, printmaking and multimedia.

Key Facts

Degree type: BA

UCAS code: W100

Duration: 3 years

Entry requirements: BBC with B in Art or appropriate subject, plus satisfactory portfolio

IB: 30 points with Higher Level art plus satisfactory portfolio

Available with (joint honours or major): *Art History, Creative Writing, Drama and Theatre Studies, Education, English Literature, Film and Television Studies, History, and Welsh.*



Art History

Art History is the interdisciplinary study of artefacts and techniques, texts and concepts within social, historical and philosophical contexts. This degree scheme provides a general overview of the discipline, as well as a specialised and in-depth study of specific topics. We place an emphasis on the ability to conduct research, to investigate and analyse, and to articulate your ideas.

As an art historian at Aberystwyth you will examine the products of cultures and trace their development in painting and printmaking, photography and book illustration, digital sound and sound art. The course will provide you with a historical, theoretical and practical introduction to museums, galleries and collections, as well as the interpretation of material culture. You will be able to select from a choice of vocation-oriented modules that engage with the curatorial study of

art and receive skills development and research training tailored to your specific interests. Access to the School's internationally significant collection of some 20,000 original artworks will greatly assist your learning.

Key Facts

Degree type: BA

UCAS code: W350

Duration: 3 years

Entry requirements: BBC

IB: 30 points

Available with (joint honours or major): *Creative Writing, English Literature, Fine Art, and French.*

Creative Arts

Our innovative Creative Arts degree allows you to cross traditional disciplinary boundaries and discover the breadth of your own creative potential. This degree will equip you with skills, judgement and knowledge across three key strands of creative activity: Art and Design, Language and Writing; and Performance and Production. The scheme is highly flexible and designed to kindle your imaginative vision whilst delivering knowledge and skills that will be invaluable wherever your future takes you.

As a Creative Arts student you will benefit from the expertise of our staff drawn from across the creative disciplines, and the superb facilities which are available to you in Aberystwyth – the renowned cultural and creative capital of Wales. There is a strong vocational dimension to the course which provides opportunities for work-based learning and a direct engagement with the vibrant artistic community that Aberystwyth

enjoys. You will have the opportunity to select modules from the creative disciplines in the School of Art, Department of English and Creative Writing, and the Department of Theatre, Film and Television Studies. This collaboration is designed to cultivate critical debate and innovative practice. By the end of your studies you will not only have a portfolio of exceptional creative material but also the skills and attributes which will enable you to flourish in any workplace that demands creative thinking and critical creativity.

Key Facts

Degree type: BA

UCAS code: WW48

Duration: 3 years

Entry requirements: BBC

IB: 30 points

Gallery

'Lighthouse', a painting by a third year undergraduate. Aberystwyth, where the mountains meet the sea, provides unparalleled natural resources for the aspiring landscape painter.



*Edward Burne Jones
"Seraph" red chalk
1868 from the School
of Art Museum.*



*Oil painting by third year
student Rachael Rea 2016.*



*'Cloud Maze', a digital illustration
by student Judit Boor.*



*'Vannin Sound 2' an acrylic painting
on canvas by June Forster. June
studied her BA, MA and PhD
at Aberystwyth, and teaches
occasionally at the School of Art.*

Graduate Profile

Mike Love

One of Mike's illustration features on the front of this brochure. Mike studied for a BA in Fine Art here, and then stayed to study for a Masters in Fine Art: Illustration. Currently being represented by the Bright Agency, one of the country's best children's illustration agencies, Michael has already worked for some of the biggest publishers in the industry...but still visits us regularly, and comes to see our student exhibitions every year.



One of Michael's digital book illustrations for his series based on traditional Indian folk tales.

What's your favourite memory from your time here?

"I have many favourite memories of my years in Aber and couldn't possibly name them all. I simply lived the dream of studying what I loved in a beautiful location by the coast. I met people who had come far and wide to study in Aber, making many, many great friends along the way. One day I'll be back to stay!"

Would you recommend the courses at Aber to others?

"Absolutely. If you have the drive and love for art, Aberystwyth University is where your knowledge and skills will flourish."

What did you think of the School of Art?

"The School of Art was of course at the heart of my time in Aber. There was always a sense of community between the staff and students. I felt that I was a part of the School, not just someone passing through. I still love to pop by when the May exhibitions are on and see everyone."

What was your favourite part of the course?

"I have many favourites, but I did love group tutorials in my second and third year illustration modules. Checking out and discussing what everyone had been up to was always fascinating, I took so much away from those sessions. Most of the course was practical like that, I loved that aspect."



How do you think the course has helped you in your career so far?

"I can safely say I don't think there would be any career if I hadn't took the courses I did. The Master's degree in particular put me on just the right road I needed at the time, because of that I was able to join an agency before I even finished the course and it certainly still influences me even now."

Of those you've worked on so far, which is your favourite book?

"It's difficult to name my favourites, I haven't had a single project I didn't love and can't think what would make me dislike one! At the moment I'm working on the UK editions of a kids book series called 'Battle Bugs' for Scholastic. The US editions have been developed slightly ahead of the UK ones so I've been able to check out the other illustrators' work whilst working on mine. Seeing the direction they took the project in contrast has been something I hadn't yet experienced, fascinating!"



Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards

We offer a valuable package of Scholarships and Bursaries for all undergraduate applicants. Our awards provide valuable financial support to ensure that students of all backgrounds can enjoy the benefits of higher education. Further information can be found online: www.aber.ac.uk/scholarships or you can contact the Scholarship Team on: 01970 622065, or by email: marketing@aber.ac.uk.

Open Days and Visiting Days

During the year the University hosts several Open Days, when you can visit all parts of the campus. For more information, including dates and registering to attend an Open Day visit our website www.aber.ac.uk/openday phone us on: 01970 622065, or email: openday@aber.ac.uk.

Once you've applied for a place at Aberystwyth, you will automatically be invited to attend a Visiting Day. These visits focus specifically on the course you're interested in, and the Department that is home to that course. You'll have a chance to speak in more depth with our staff and current students, as well as having a tour of the Department, some of the University's accommodation, and the town.

Postgraduate opportunities at Aberystwyth

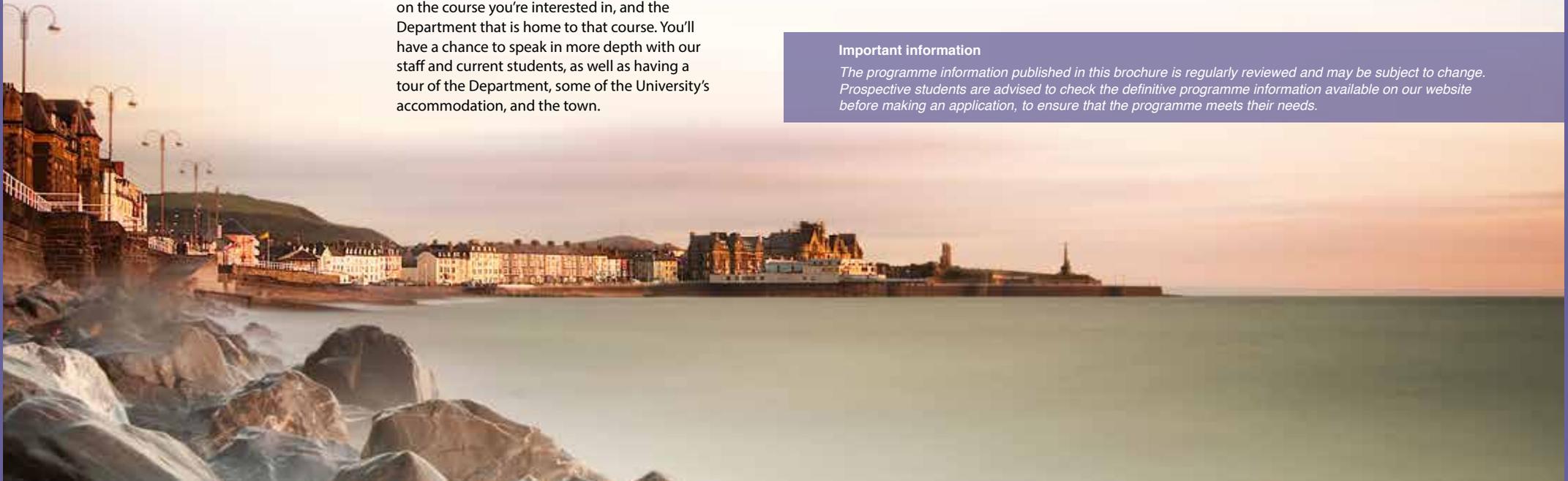
We offer a selection of postgraduate taught and research degrees aimed at extending your knowledge and experience of Art and Art History. As well as research degrees in all of our specialist areas, we also offer taught MA degrees in Art History and Fine Art.

Staff produce research of international significance that has value, impact, scope and relevance. We are a team of researchers who are involved with the histories, theories and practice of art. Our staff engage with visual and textual materials in their widest cultural, historical, technical and theoretical contexts. The School aims to provide a stimulating learning environment and the best possible student experience.

For more information, visit our website: www.aber.ac.uk/en/art

Important information

The programme information published in this brochure is regularly reviewed and may be subject to change. Prospective students are advised to check the definitive programme information available on our website before making an application, to ensure that the programme meets their needs.



- Coastal, campus university
- Guaranteed first year accommodation
- Valuable scholarships and bursaries
- Access to the School's internationally significant collection of original artworks
- Training that combines traditional skills with contemporary practice and theory
- Fine art practice tuition in painting, printmaking, drawing, photography, illustration, film, installation and site-specific performance
- Vocation-oriented modules that engage with the curatorial study of art

For further information contact:

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