

Higher Photography 2021-22

A run-down of what to expect and how to prepare

**This session will start shortly - please ensure your
microphones are switched off - with thanks.**

The Overall Structure

23% of marks are awarded for the **written exam** (30 mark paper)

The exam is 1 hour and is used to assess student recall, analysis and evaluation skills.

77% of marks are awarded for the **final portfolio** (100 marks available)

For the final assignment students create a portfolio of work on a theme of their choice (negotiated with teaching staff). This will be created online and should display a range of skills in research, creation, creative and technical decision making, analysis and strategic planning.

This year there are reduced requirements due to covid recovery and only 8 final images are required rather than 12.

Exam Question Paper (*Recall and Analysis Skills*)

- 10 multiple choice questions
- 2 questions analysing previously unseen photographs consider both technical and creative elements/decisions

Final Portfolio (*Research, Analysis, Planning, Creative and Technical skills, Evaluation and Strategic Planning Skills*)

- Photographer research and analysis
- Thorough plan of action
- Mood boards
- Further reading
- Approx 10 individual shoots exploring chosen theme
- Analysis of shots and identification of next steps/targets
- Selection of 8 final images from this body of work which sit well together as a collection.

The Written Exam

Section 1: Multiple Choice

A range of questions covering all aspects of technical and creative decision making in photography.

MARKS

DO NOT
WRITE IN
THIS
MARGIN

7. An image taken on a DSLR camera has been affected by motion blur. Which one of the following has contributed to this?

1

- Slow shutter speed
- Incorrect focus
- Wide aperture
- High ISO setting

8. Which technique did the photographer use to achieve the creative effect in this image?

1



- Tilting
- Panning
- Auto-focusing
- Zooming

Section 2: Unseen Analysis

Pupils must analyse a range of previously unseen photography.

This can be very challenging and so we will undertake extensive practise in class but we would encourage extra at home.

Refer to this image on the supplementary sheet when answering question 12.



New Brighton from The Last Resort series (1985) by Martin Parr

12. Discuss the **technical** and **creative** factors which the photographer would have considered when setting up this shot.

10

How can you help?

- Encourage students to maintain their notes in an orderly way.
- Build weekly revision of technical and creative elements into your schedule so that their learning each week is retained.
- Create flashcards/brainstorms/bullet lists/word clouds/google slides which should be used regularly to revise and secure these elements in students longer term memory using a format that suits them as an individual.
- Encourage students to use the Higher Photography “Cheat Sheet” booklet provided on the google classroom as a main source for technical revision.
- Encourage students to always follow the Point, Evidence, Impact (PEI) structure when practising analysis of photographs.

Practical Assignment

Pupils will have to plan, prepare for and undertake a range of approx 10 shoots related to their theme.

It should be a **thorough exploration** of the theme in a variety of ways e.g. thinking about their theme in lots of different ways, from a range of viewpoints, using a good selection of technical skills which they have identified as focus for improvement.

They will have approx 1 week per shoot which includes planning, prep, undertaking the shoot, post production editing, selection of top 5 photos and analysis of these.

THIS IS A LOT OF WORK! IT REQUIRES REAL DEDICATION!

How can you help?

- Help pupils plan for each shoot, considering everything from weather conditions to appropriate clothing.
- Help ensure pupil safety by accompanying (or arranging someone to accompany) pupils on shoots in environments you consider more difficult or risky e.g. at night, in difficult landscapes. Discuss safety issues with them.
- Encourage pupils to set and stick to individual deadlines considering the many aspects of the shoot shown on the previous slide.