Programme Specification

![Middlesex University London logo]

1. **Programme title**	BA Hons Photography	
	BA Hons Photography with Foundation Year	
2. **Awarding institution**	Middlesex University	
3a. **Teaching institution**	Middlesex University London	
3b. **Language of study**	English	
4a. **Valid intake dates**	Autumn Term	
4b. **Mode of study**	Full-time or Part-time	
4c. **Delivery method**	☒ On-campus/Blended	
	☐ Distance Education	
5. **Professional / Statutory / Regulatory body**	N/A	
6. **Apprenticeship Standard**	N/A	
7. **Final qualifications available**	BA Hons Photography	
	BA Hons Photography with Foundation Year	
	BA Photography	
	BA Photography with Foundation Year	
	DipHE Photography	
	CertHE Photography	
8. **Year effective from**	2024	

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

We welcome a diverse student cohort to support diverse and inclusive creative practice.

Applicants usually achieve 112 UCAS points or a relevant equivalent qualification. Please see https://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator to help you calculate your tariff points. After completing the UCAS process, applicants may be required to submit a portfolio of their work to support their application. Additionally, in certain cases, applicants might be

invited for an interview. Further instructions will be provided after submitting the application.

The *Arts and Creative Industries Foundation Year* at Middlesex University is available for those applicants no or very limited practical experience, before progressing onto year 1 of the BA Film programme.

Overseas applicants must possess an IELT 6.0 qualification in each category. Those who do not meet this English language proficiency level are strongly advised to enrol in the Pre-sessional English course
and Foundation Year programme to adequately prepare for the full degree course.

There are no restrictions to admission to the programme based on disability. Students with disabilities will receive support to fully participate in the programme (refer to section 16 for details).

Direct entry to Year 2 or Year 3 of the programme is evaluated on an individual basis. While Year 3 entry is seldom suitable, applications for it will be reviewed by the programme team. Any applications for entry with prior accreditation or advanced standing will undergo assessment following the University's standard procedures.

We welcome applicants from Foundation, HND, or BTEC courses. We also welcome applicants with relevant experience from industry, as well as those without evidenced work experience or formal qualifications, as long as they demonstrate an aptitude for learning and a commitment to photography.

If an applicant has substantial work experience, specialist expertise or previous awards/qualifications, it is possible to have this experience recognised and claim university credit through the Recognition of Prior Leaning (RPL) process.

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10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- Support students in becoming highly skilled photographic practitioners, able to work with informed choice and control across a range of photographic processes.
- Create a collaborative, supportive environment in which ideas and learning can thrive and be purposefully developed, in fulfilment of students' creative and professional potential.
- Foster critical enquiry across aesthetic, ethical, political, cultural and social considerations, to enable students to be reflective, confident and responsible in their creative output.
- Promote social responsibility and an ethical orientation, in recognition of photography's potential and capacity for positive social change.
- Equip students with the knowledge, skills, experience, and resilience required to establish a sustainable practice and career in the field of photography, the wider creative industries and post-graduate education.
- Produce well-rounded, articulate and visually literate graduates, who are technologically and intellectually agile, able to work both independently and in collaboration with others.

11. Programme outcomes*	
A. Knowledge and understanding On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of: 1. how to work with and across a range of different photographic processes, techniques and materials, depending on aims, function and purpose; 2. photography as an evolving set of technologies, practices and histories, as explored across in-depth case studies; 3. critical enquiry in aesthetic, legal, ethical, political and social aspects of photography and its role as critique, challenge and force of social change; 4. research processes and methodologies as an integral element of practice along with methods and approaches to identify appropriate ideas and stories to develop for photographic practice; 5. ways to approach different audiences, contexts, the value of mindfulness, reflection and documentation for enhancing practice outcomes; 6. evaluative processes to chart creative development and career identity.	**Teaching/learning methods** Students gain knowledge and understanding through: • Ongoing photographic practice and other self-directed learning (including museum, gallery, library & archive research); • Practice and theory-based seminars and workshops; • Individual tutorials; • Group tutorials, student led presentations and critiques (peer group learning); • Skills based workshops, across technical areas and writing approaches; • Set and negotiated project work; • Collaborative working as well as individual research and skills-based acquisition. **Assessment methods** Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by: • sharing of their practice through presentation and/or exhibition; • reflective documentation of practice. • writing, including analytical writing, reflective writing, curatorial texts, project proposals and reports; • vivas; • continuous personal portfolio; • evidence of industry engagement and/or employability-related activities; • templated, professional practice log the 'Toolkit'.
B. Skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. articulate complex ideas and arguments, in a range of formal and informal settings, via written, spoken, and visual language;	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn skills through: • Ongoing photographic practice and other self-directed learning (including museum, gallery, library & archive research); • Practice and theory-based lectures and seminars;

2. work with confidence across a range of photographic processes, making informed choices over technical, critical and theoretical elements of their practice and demonstrate advanced levels of competency to produce quality creative content; 3. evidence innovation, experimentation and high levels of control over their image-making processes, aesthetic approaches and strategies for making public; 4. plan, research negotiate, organise and manage their own and practice projects from ideation to completion, within defined time frames and resource constraints, both individually and in collaboration with others; 5. evidence a capacity for continuous self-directed learning and adaptability, further developing their digital, technical, and conceptual literacy and preparedness for work; 6. work professionally as individuals and collaboratively and deploy problem solving skills and at a high level.	• Individual tutorials; • Group tutorials, student led presentations and critiques (peer group learning); • Skills based workshops, across technical areas and writing approaches; • Set and negotiated project work; • Collaborative working as well as individual research and skills-based acquisition. **Assessment methods** Students' skills are assessed by • sharing of their practice through presentation and/or exhibition; • reflective documentation of practice; • writing, including analytical writing, reflective writing, curatorial texts, project proposals and reports • vivas; • continuous personal portfolio; • evidence of industry engagement and/or employability-related activities; • templated, professional practice log the 'Toolkit'.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

Foundation Year			
Semester 1		**Semester 2**	
AMD0001 Creative London	AMD0002 Skills and the Creative Process	AMD0003 Exploring Creative Directions	AMD0004 Major Project and Portfolio

Year 1			
Semester 1		**Semester 2**	
SOF1201 Visual Storytelling	SOF1202 Production Skills	SOF1203 Documentary	SOF1204 Creative Production
Year 2			
Semester 1		**Semester 2**	
PHO2130 Professional Alignment	PHO2230 Photography as Collaboration	PHO2330 Developing an Independent Practice	PHO2430 Sightlines: Photography and Visual Culture
Year 3			
Semester 1		**Semester 2**	
PHO3430 Sightlines: Independent Research	PHO3230 Negotiating an Independent Practice	PHO3130 Professional Toolkit	PHO3330 Establishing an Independent Practice

	Theory/Writing Subject
	Skills/Practice Subject
	Professional Practice / Other

FULL TIME

YEAR 1 / LEVEL 4
Semester 1

SOF1201 Visual Storytelling

SOF1202 Production Skills

Semester 2

SOF1203 Documentary

SOF1204 Creative Production

YEAR 2 / LEVEL 5
Semester 1

PHO2130 Professional Alignment

PART TIME

YEAR 1 / LEVEL 4
Semester 1

SOF1202 Production Skills

Semester 2

SOF1203 Documentary

YEAR 2 / LEVEL 4
Semester 1

SOF1201 Visual Storytelling

Semester 2

SOF1204 Creative Production

YEAR 3 / LEVEL 5
Semester 1

PHO2230 Photography as Collaboration	PHO2130 Professional Alignment
Semester 2	**Semester 2**
PHO2330 Developing an Independent Practice	PHO2330 Developing an Independent Practice
PHO2430 Sightlines: Photography and Visual Culture	
YEAR 3 / LEVEL 6	**YEAR 4 / LEVEL 5**
Semester 1	**Semester 1**
PHO3430 Sightlines: Independent Research	PHO2230 Photography as Collaboration
PHO3230 Negotiating an Independent Practice	**Semester 2**
	PHO2430 Sightlines: Photography and Visual Culture
Semester 2	**YEAR 5 / LEVEL 6**
	Semester 1
PHO3130 Professional Toolkit	PHO3430 Sightlines: Independent Research
PHO3330 Establishing an Independent Practice	**Semester 2**
	PHO3130 Professional Toolkit
	YEAR 6 / LEVEL 6
	Semester 1
	PHO3230 Negotiating an Independent Practice
	Semester 2
	PHO3330 Establishing an Independent Practice

All modules are 30 credits. The suggested part-time route outlined here is based on a six-year period of study and on an even balance across the various strands.

Exit awards:
- BA Hons Photography (with 360 credits, i.e. upon completion of all modules listed above in either FT or PT mode)
- BA Hons Photography with Foundation Year (upon completion of all modules listed above, plus 120 credits from Foundation, Level 3)
- BA Photography (ordinary degree, with 300-359 credits)
- BA Photography with Foundation Year (as above, plus 120 credits from Foundation, Level 3)
- DipHE Photography (upon completion of all Level 4 and Level 5 modules)
- CertHE Photography (upon completion of all Level 4 modules)

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 4		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL*	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following:	None	Attaining 120 Level 4 credits
• SOF1201 Visual Storytelling • SOF1202 Production Skills • SOF1203 Documentary • SOF1204 Creative Production		
Level 5		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL *	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following:	None	Attaining 120 Level 5 credits
• PHO2130 Professional Alignment • PHO2230 Photography as Collaboration • PHO2330 Developing an Independent Practice • PHO2430 Sightlines: Photography and Visual Culture		
Level 6		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL *	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following:	None	
• PHO3130 Professional Toolkit • PHO3230 Negotiating an Independent Practice • PHO3330 Establishing an Independent Practice • PHO3430 Sightlines: Independent Research		

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	**Module code**
Level 6	PHO3430; PHO3330

13. Information about assessment regulations
https://www.mdx.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0031/623758/Regulations-2021-22-V1.12.pdf
14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)
Within the modules PHO2130 Professional Alignment and PHO3130 Professional Toolkit, students can incorporate work experience into their second or third-year assessment. This involves building a 'professional toolkit,' which is a portfolio serving as a personal journal documenting templated activities and tasks related to employability.

15. Future careers / progression
Employability is integrated throughout the programme, designed around the progressive development of knowledge, skills and experience of creative, professional practice, tailored across students' fields of choice. Developmental modules offer the opportunity to

develop skills in collaborating with others, research, project management, pitching, presentation and writing across different platforms. Students gain wide experience in producing a range of public-facing outcomes, in directing their own projects with strategies for their appropriate dissemination. Students are supported in establishing a clear sense and direction for their own sustained, independent practice, post-graduation, including preparing them for pursuing opportunities for publication, commissioned work, post-graduate study and/or a wide-range of future career paths in the creative industries. Recent graduates have gone on to be employed in positions including: studio assistant; photo editor; editorial portraiture; fashion photographer; working artist; studio manager; stylist; photography writer; curator; gallery assistant; photo lab technician; re-toucher; e-commerce photographer and architectural photographer.

16. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

An academic adviser to help manage the journey through higher education and provide regular sessions along with information and support at any point in the academic year.

Outstanding technical facilities include four Photographic Studios, the Digital Darkroom (80 workstations, Hasselblad Flextight scanners, L8 A2 plus 6 large format Epson printers all colour-managed), two Black and White Darkrooms (up to 5x4 large format), Colour C-type darkroom (up to 5x4 large format) and (Colorama backdrops, full height cove, electronic flash and tungsten lighting).

A range of workshops, facilities and expert technical staff provide the technical input for the realization of any studio-based materials required for the research projects.

Loan store with an extensive range of equipment: film cameras from 35mm through medium format (645, 67) to large format (5x4), full frame digital cameras with a wide range of lenses, flashguns, location lighting kits, light modifiers etc. This is a free service.

Library facilities and resources, including specialist books, journals, videos, DVDs, slides, special collections, and computer programmes. There is a fine collection of Photography books, journals and videos/DVDs of recorded programmes on the work of Photographers.

The **Learning Enhancement Team** and the **Subject Librarian** in the Sheppard Library support students with different aspects of academic study and research to develop essential skills in these areas.

Students are also given 24/7 access to **MyLearning**, a robust online learning support platform containing a raft of communication and assessment tools, and supported by an accessible learning technology unit within the University's **Centre for Academic Practice Enhancement**. This ensures students can access the latest learning technologies and platforms, to support and advance academic practice, teaching and assessment.

LinkedIn Learning free subscription to this website packed full of videos, tutorials and fully-curated courses taught by recognised industry experts. It is an incredibly valuable resource, with which you can learn new business, technology and creative skills to achieve your personal and professional goals.

Adobe Creative Cloud free subscription whereby you can install your personal copy of creative cloud software on your computer to assist you with your studies. Creative Cloud is collection of software titles that help bring all your creative ideas to life and includes Photoshop, Lightroom, Premiere-Pro and InDesign, along with many other titles.

MDXworks: Careers & Employability Service support students in developing employability skills.

Close collaboration takes place with Rapid Eye and Printspace. Discounts have been arranged at Metro Imaging, Rapid Eye and Printspace.

17. HECos code(s)	100063
18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)	Art and Design (December 2019)

19. Reference points

- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Art and Design, https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-art-and-design-17.pdf?sfvrsn=71eef781_16

- Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications, file:///C:/Users/My%20PC.000/Downloads/qualifications-frameworks.pdf

- Middlesex University Regulations, https://www.mdx.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0031/623758/Regulations-2021-22-V1.12.pdf

- Knowledge into Action, Middlesex University Strategy 2031

- Middlesex University Centre for Academic Practice Enhancement (CAPE) guidance and Academic Planning Framework 2020-21

- Middlesex University Regulations 2020-21

- Middlesex Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook (LQEH)

- Middlesex University Learning Framework 2031 strategy Transforming our Educational Approach (mdx.ac.uk)

- Middlesex University Inclusive Curriculum Framework https://www.intra.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/services/centre-for-academic-practice-enhancement/inclusivity-in-the-curriculum-edi/LTC21-10-Inclusive-Curriculum-Framework-update-Oct-21-final.pdf

- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook (https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/academic-quality/handbook)

- Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education https://seec.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SEEC-Credit-Level-Descriptors-2021.pdf

20. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for BA Photography

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

	Knowledge and understanding
A1	how to work with and across a range of different photographic processes, techniques and materials, depending on aims, function and purpose.
A2	photography as an evolving set of technologies, practices and histories, as explored across in-depth case studies
A3	critical enquiry in aesthetic, legal, ethical, political and social aspects of photography and its role as critique, challenge and force of social change
A4	research processes and methodologies as an integral element of practice along with methods and approaches to identify appropriate ideas and stories to develop for photographic practice
A5	ways to approach different audiences, contexts, the value of mindfulness, reflection and documentation for enhancing practice outcomes.
A6	evaluative processes to chart creative development and career identity.
	Skills
B1	articulate complex ideas and arguments, in a range of formal and informal settings, via written, spoken, and visual language
B2	work with confidence across a range of photographic processes, making informed choices over technical, critical and theoretical elements of their practice and demonstrate advanced levels of competency to produce quality creative content

B3	evidence innovation, experimentation and high levels of control over their image-making processes, aesthetic approaches and strategies for making public
B4	plan, research negotiate, organise and manage their own and practice projects from ideation to completion, within defined time frames and resource constraints, both individually and in collaboration with others
B5	evidence a capacity for continuous self-directed learning and adaptability, further developing their digital, technical, and conceptual literacy and preparedness for work
B6	work professionally as individuals and collaboratively and deploy problem solving skills and at a high level.

Programme outcomes									
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
Highest level achieved by all graduates									
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
Visual Storytelling	SOF1201			x	x			x					
Production Skills	SOF1202	x								x			
Documentary	SOF1203					x					x		x
Creative Production	SOF1204	x				x			x				
Professional Alignment	PHO2130		x				x	x				x	
Photography as Collaboration	PHO2230	x			x					x			
Developing an Independent Practice	PHO2330					x			x				x

Course	Code												
Sightlines: Photography and Visual Culture	PHO2430		x	x	x			x					
Professional Tool Kit	PHO3130						x	x				x	
Negotiating an Independent Practice	PHO3230	x			x				x	x			
Establishing an Independent Practice	PHO3330		x			x			x		x		x
Sightlines: Independent Research	PHO3430		x	x	x			x					