

MARINE & NATURAL HISTORY PHOTOGRAPHY AT FALMOUTH

WELCOME TO BA(HONS) MARINE & NATURAL HISTORY PHOTOGRAPHY AT FALMOUTH

We're getting in touch with some important information about your course and to tell you about some things you need to know as you prepare to join us in September.

Based on the positive feedback received on elements of the online learning experience during the pandemic, we are adopting a Falmouth approach to digitally enhanced learning from 2021/22. This has a clear core focus on in-person learning activities and stays true to our creative culture by maximising your directed studio and workshop time, but your education will now also be enhanced with a mixture of real-time and guided online learning that can be engaged with in your own time. Making the most of technology to support your learning provides a way to enhance your experience in our world-class facilities and creates a more inclusive, creative, and flexible way for you to learn.

Our on-campus courses are designed to give you hands-on experience so we will only move to fully online delivery if we are required to do so by Government. But whatever happens, digitally enhanced learning means our plans are flexible enough to accommodate changing circumstances.

Based on the current Government roadmap, we anticipate there will be no social distancing restrictions in place in our teaching spaces. However, the reality is that we may be living with Covid-19 for a long time to come, so we are also putting in place mitigating measures to keep the campus community safe and can quickly reintroduce social distancing measures, if required. It is likely that measures such as face coverings inside, hand sanitation stations, regular Covid testing and track and trace will remain, as we follow the latest Government guidance both on and off campus.

In summary we are committed to an approach to learning and teaching that maximises access to our fantastic physical and human resources on our campuses. An approach that takes the best lessons learned from the last 12 months and the digital technology advances and applies them. An approach that encompasses:

- Digital provision where this is better
- A hybrid combination of digital and face-to-face in-person where we can offer the flexibility and choice to students and
- In-person on campus provision as much as possible for the rest which should always be the majority.

To engage in the digital learning activity, you will need a laptop to access the tools used. We recognise this means you also need access to industry-standard software so you will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite, (including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) while you study at Falmouth.

If you also need to use Adobe Creative Cloud, you can purchase an annual licence for this coming

year. It will be available from the University's registration portal once you have enrolled with us, at a significantly reduced price of £48 per user. The cost remains the same no matter when you make the purchase after enrolment and will expire on 13 August 2022. If you should leave your course within 3 weeks of starting, we will refund the cost of your licence, but no refund is possible after this time.

If you are worried about being able to afford any equipment, additional financial support may be available through the Falmouth University Hardship Fund which aims to consider any unforeseen financial issues which might arise. Further details on how to apply can be found [here](#).

Your offer

If you have a conditional offer, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. This means we're waiting to receive your results or some more information before your place can be finalised. You can see these conditions using UCAS Track track.ucas.com/

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on 01326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

MyTimetable

Your academic timetable shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. From 7 September, you can view your timetable at [this link](#), or via the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store.

Tuition fees (per year)

2021-2022 full-time UK: £9,250

2021-2022 full-time International: £16,950

First week of term

Your first day of attendance is **Monday 13 September 2021**.

This is the week when you'll meet your course mates, course tutors and University staff. There will be important inductions for both the course and the wider University. You will also be given course outlines and timetables.

Pre-course Preparation

Before commencing the course, you will need to make sure you have the necessary kit. As a medium, photography is constantly developing so the following figures are intended as a rough guide of anticipated expenditure on the course starting in September 2021.

Although you will be able to borrow University camera equipment during term time, you are required to have the following list of items at the start of term:

- A **Digital SLR camera** of reasonable quality **with manual over-ride** to any automatic settings. Nikon or Canon are recommended as they are compatible with University equipment (Approximately £500-£1,000)
- **CF and SD memory cards (High speed) minimum 4GB, but higher recommended** (Approximately £25)
- **USB card reader for the above** (Approximately £10)
- **USB external hard drive, minimum 250GB recommended** (Approximately £50-£100)

- **Camera equipment holdall** that is large enough for extra items you may wish to use/purchase during the course (Approximately £50-£100)
- **Sturdy tripod** (Approximately £100-£200)
- **Academic year diary or equivalent electronic device** (Approximately £3)

Laptop

- You will need to have your own laptop, PC or MAC, on which you can access online learning materials and can process high resolution digital images. You will also need a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in University accommodation you will have this).

In addition to the above, the following items will also be required, but can be purchased during the first Study Block.

- Lens hood and UV/Skylight filter for each of your lenses (Approximately £50)
- DSLR cable release for your camera model (Approximately £15)
- Print Box for storing prints and submitting them for assessments, these can be purchased at the university or online retailers (Approximately £20)
- In addition, there will be several stationery items that you will need to purchase during the course such as notepads, A4 binders, pens and so on (Approximately £20)

Optional analogue equipment

During the second study block of the first year you will be introduced to traditional film technologies. You are likely to use the following equipment, please bring it along if you have it. Much of this can be purchased second-hand from students when you are at Falmouth or from web-based outlets (anticipate spending about £50):

- Film SLR camera with or without filters (bring one if you have it, but no need to go and buy one)
- Patterson's Universal developing tank to take 35mm and 120mm films
- Negative filing system binder (loose leaf type)
- 120 negative filing pages for above binder
- Magnifier - Linen tester or Lupe
- 12-inch cable release to fit an analogue camera (screw thread with lock)
- Pair of white cotton gloves
- Spotting brush - No1 sable
- Black print spotting medium or tube of black water colour or gouache

You may need to purchase additional items to suit your developing practice as you progress through the course. Tutors will give advice where needed to support the purchase of additional equipment.

Ongoing Materials costs

You are expected to provide most of the photographic materials yourself such as film, printing paper and so on. The actual cost will depend on the amount and type of work you do. You are advised to allow approximately £350 for materials per year. This is important as you will be required to have your portfolio pictures professionally printed, as well as all essays and other written submissions professionally bound for assessment.

Personal items

By the very nature of the course, you will be expected to work in all sorts of locations and weather conditions. It is therefore essential that you come fully prepared with the right sort of personal clothing to protect yourself from the elements and meet risk assessment requirements. This list is not exclusive, so please use it as a guide; you are likely to have some of this kit already, but if buying new you should be able to equip yourself for the outdoors for approximately £300:

- Anorak or weather/wind-proof jacket
- Warm headgear
- Strong waterproof boots/shoes
- Wellington boots
- Gloves
- Waterproof trousers, as jeans are not always appropriate, particularly in wet weather
- Mobile phone for emergencies

Although not essential, you might find a pair of 8x30 binoculars are useful. These can be purchased in Falmouth from Associated Photography with prices ranging from £20-£150 (associatedphotography@btconnect.com or 01326 319591). The course has negotiated a discount of 20-30% depending on brand. You will need to show your student ID card (issued when you have enrolled and are on campus), but you should shop around for the best price.

One of the main features that brings students to Falmouth is access to the sea. Even though the climate is milder than most of the UK it is advisable to wear a wetsuit if you plan to be in the water for a prolonged period (more than a few minutes!). Wetsuits and snorkelling kit can be hired for approximately £15 or purchased for £80-£200.

Field Trips

During the course there are a number of one-day field trips (subject to current COVID restrictions). These cost of these is covered by your fees. In addition there may be a number of optional international field trips. These are, of course, subject to travel once again being possible.

The options will be explained to you during your first year. Previous trips undertaken have been to Iceland (approx. £1,200), Cairngorms (approx. £600), Galapagos Islands (approx. £2,500), and for the underwater photography group, the Red Sea (£1,500).

It should be stressed that whilst undoubtedly offering an excellent experience, these additional trips are not essential for successful completion of the course. With the current global situation, and the environmental impact of international travel, these trips are currently under review.

Student Mentor Scheme

Join the Student Mentors on Facebook to talk about the course, living in Cornwall and what to expect at Falmouth. Our mentors have already done the first year of the course, so ask them anything you like:

www.facebook.com/groups/marineandnaturalhistoryphotographyfalmouth202124

If you're not on Facebook, you can still speak to a Student Mentor. Email your name and the course you're starting to: studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk and we will be in touch with you.

Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions

You'll get an email two weeks before the start of term telling you how to enrol online. You'll need to enrol before the first day of term to officially register as a student of Falmouth University and receive an undergraduate student loan.

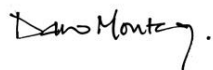
When you enrol, you'll need to agree to and comply with the University's Student Terms & Conditions. These Terms & Conditions are important, and we encourage you to read them carefully before enrolling. You can find them under Student Terms & Conditions on our website falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations

Over the next few weeks we'll email you more important information about your course and life at Falmouth. If you're going to be away or out of contact, make sure you ask someone to check your emails and reply on your behalf.

We know all of this can seem overwhelming and preparing for your course can involve a lot. So, we're here to help. If you have any questions at all, just get in touch with Applicant Services on 01326 213730, use the chat function on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

We understand that coming to university will be a big step forward for many of you. If you have any concerns or questions, please do email me. We hope that your three years with us will be enjoyable and rewarding and look forward to meeting you in September.

Yours sincerely



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