

FALMOUTH

UNIVERSITY

GRAPHIC DESIGN BA(HONS) WITH PLACEMENT YEAR

Dear [NAME],

Welcome to Graphic Design at Falmouth.

The Graphic Design staff team are all excited to meet you and help you begin your creative exploration of the subject. You have a wonderfully dynamic and rigorous three years ahead, full of creativity, problem solving and Graphic Design joy.

In this letter you will find information about your course that will help you as you prepare to join us. Do please read it carefully.

A list of basic equipment is included as well as some potential other costs that you are likely to incur throughout your course. Each module has a recommended reading list and these are made available either in the library (multiple copies) or online, when you join us in September.

Our course is studio based and delivered in person with a small amount of online access to support your learning. We have Mac suites on campus but you will hugely benefit from owning your own laptop to work on and access the platforms and software we use in Graphic Design.

You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) and receive the student discount on the industry standard Adobe Creative Suite, that includes Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere and After Effects.

If you are eligible for a loan from Student Finance and have not yet applied, please do so immediately to ensure the loan is approved before you enrol. Once you enrol you are liable for the tuition fees. You can find more information from the Student Loans Company here: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company

Advice on managing your finances whilst studying can be found on the University's website here: falmouth.ac.uk/study/student-funding/how-much-does-it-cost

Over the summer, you are invited to join our 'Step into Falmouth' sessions. These online workshops are designed to provide advice and guidance on settling into university life and take place across three weeks in July and August. Some of them will be recorded so you can watch them back at a time that suits you. More information about these can be found here: falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth

If you have questions about the course, living in Cornwall and what to expect at Falmouth over the summer, you can join the student team on Discord and ask mentors who are studying on your course already. Do please feel free to ask them anything you like. You will find them at: <https://www.falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring> Alternatively email your name and the course you are on to: studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk and they will get in touch.

Over the next few weeks, you will receive further information via email 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, so you are kept in the loop.

There is a lot to think about as you begin life at University and we're all here to help. If you have further questions, do please get in touch with Applicant Services on +44(0)1326 213730, use the LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk and the team will do their best to answer all your questions.

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer and the graphic design staff look forward to welcoming you in the studio in September to begin your creative journey with us.

Kind regards,

Ed Gill

Course Leader, BA (Hons) Graphic Design
The School of Communication

Getting started

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 on your UCAS Hub

<https://accounts.ucas.com/account/login>

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

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 your 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 www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations

Tuition fees (per year)

2023-2024 full-time UK: £9,250

2023-2024 full-time International: £17,460

2023-2024 placement year: £1,850

Term dates

You can find our term dates on the website at <https://www.falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2023-24>

Study Block 1 starts on Monday 18 September.

Teaching and assessment will be throughout the full 15 weeks of the study blocks.

Your timetable

Your academic timetable shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be published in early September. After you've enrolled, you can view it via the Student Portal at falmouth.myday.cloud/ or the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store.

Welcome Week

Your timetable will show you where you need to go and when throughout the week. This is when you'll meet your colleagues, course tutors and other University staff. There will be

important inductions to both your course and the wider University facilities and services, in addition to social activities organised by the University and Students' Union.

Pre-course preparation

Pre-course preparation

As part of your preparation for the new academic year, we ask that you to keep a physical sketch book between now and September, which contains a minimum of twenty five images of 'just one thing'. This one thing could be any object, a collection of spoons? shoes? letter 'A's'? (or any letter, number or word), your breakfasts? buttons? absolutely anything!

We simply ask that you focus on the singularity of one subject and capture it in as many forms and ways as possible using a range of different mediums and materials as possible: photographs, collage, drawings, prints, etc. We are not looking for 'perfect drawings' just want you to have fun and play with it. Bring this sketchbook with you on Tuesday 19th Sept.

Equipment and costs

As mentioned earlier, a laptop is a fairly essential piece of equipment for Graphic Design. You will need either Windows or Mac capable of running the Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop and After Effects). This is likely to be one of the bigger investments you will make whilst studying design and could cost between £300 and £1800 for the computer. The system requirements to run the software can be found here:

helpx.adobe.com/uk/creative-suite/kb/cs6-system-requirements.html

You will also need a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in university accommodation you will have this already).

You should allow at least £200 for the studio kit outlined below:

- Academic year diary.
- A3 layout pads or sketchbooks.
- Scalpel and blades such as Swan Morten (10a blades most useful).
- 12-inch metal ruler.
- Selection of graphite pencils (3B to HB).
- Retractable pencil (basic).
- Pritt Stick.
- Masking tape.
- Plastic eraser.
- Memory stick (USB).

You will be taking part in a bookbinding workshop after Christmas. We recommend that you purchase a basic good kit, which can be picked up on Amazon for about £10.

This is optional as the course will also supply basic materials and kit for bookbinding workshops for those students who do not have their own.

You will also need to allow for ongoing annual printing costs for projects and experimentation undertaken, which can be between approximately £150 and £350 depending in your needs.

Optional

If you own a 35mm SLR or digital camera, you will find this useful. Falmouth also has photographic equipment which can be booked free of charge from our stores. If you wished to purchase your own camera, the approximate costs can be anywhere between £300 and £1000 plus, depending on your preference.

Exhibitions & events: optional

Students often attend a number of events, exhibits and conferences that take place both in and outside of Cornwall. These events are generally organised by the students and attended at their discretion as they do not form a core requirement of the course. Whilst you can visit regional

exhibitions for little expenditure, you could spend up to £500 on more visits to national or European events.

Students also sometimes visit the D&AD New Blood Festival in July of the second year, and more specifically in the final year. This is a showcase of some of the top graduate work from the UK, across Europe and the rest of the world. This would cost between £100 and £300, depending on preference for travel and accommodation for each of both years.

In the final year we usually run other network or portfolio events like D&AD where we arrange the event itself, but students are required to make their way to London and arrange accommodation where necessary. Occasionally, students will stay on in London and make use of the time to contact agencies too. Depending on accommodation and travel choice, you may need to allow up to £250 approx. for this altogether.

Study trips: Optional

In the first semester of the second year we have a study trip to visit professional design studios and agencies in London. The trip lasts approximately three days although some students spend the whole week in London to visit galleries and see exhibitions, etc. This trip is not mandatory, although they are a great opportunity to visit some of the finest studios in the industry and put your own emerging design work into a professional context.

For this you will need to organise your own transport and accommodation. Costs associated with going to London are partly dependent on your own preferences: whether taking public transport, staying with friends, or in a hotel or hostel. Therefore, you should allow between £100 and £400 for this trip.

Professional placement

You can access support from the University Employability team to help you prepare and search for placement opportunities. Usually, students undertake paid placements so you should be able to earn whilst you are working. Depending on where your placement is, you will need to be prepared to factor in costs such as accommodation, costs of travel, etc. If you are unable to find a suitable placement, you will be able to transfer to the 3-year version of the course.

