

FALMOUTH

UNIVERSITY

COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY WITH PLACEMENT YEAR

Dear [NAME]

Welcome to Commercial Photography with Placement Year at Falmouth.

We're getting in touch with some important information about your course that will help you as you prepare to join us.

At the end of this letter, you will find a list of equipment that you should bring with you, as well as any other costs that you might incur throughout your course.

Your academic experience will be predominantly in person with some courses using a small amount of digital resources to support your learning. To engage in the digital learning activity, although you will be able to access IT suites on campus, you will benefit from a laptop to access the platforms and tools we use. You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite, (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) while you study at Falmouth.

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

Over the summer, if you have any questions, you can join the Student Mentor team on Discord to talk about the course, living in Cornwall and what to expect at Falmouth. Our mentors are already studying on your course, so ask them anything you like. Find them at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring. Alternatively, email your name and your course to: studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk and they will be in touch.

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 there is a lot to think about before you start at university. So, we're here to help. If you have any questions, just get in touch with Applicant Services on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable summer and we're looking forward to welcoming you to Falmouth in September.

Yours sincerely,

Ant + Oli

Anthony Prothero

Course Leader, BA (Hons) Commercial Photography

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Oliver Udy

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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

2023-24 placement year: £1,850

Term dates

You can find our term dates on the website at 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 on Monday 18 September and throughout the week.

This is the week when you'll meet your course mates, course tutors and 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.

Suggested reading

You will have access to a wealth of resources from the library when you arrive and reading lists will be available on The Learning Space when you enrol for each of your modules. However, you may wish purchase some key books during your time at Falmouth. If you are going to buy one book on photography before you arrive, we recommend:

Mary Warner Marien: Photography, A Cultural History.

The above publication can be ordered from:

Falmouth Booksellers

+44(0)1326 312873

falmouthbookseller@mabecronbooks.co.uk

or www.hive.co.uk or any other reputable bookseller.

We also recommend looking regularly at www.itsnicethat.com which is a great resource for keeping up to date with creative practice.

Equipment and costs

As a medium, photography is constantly developing so the following figures are intended as a rough guide of anticipated expenditure on the course for 2022/2023.

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. This should be capable of running Photoshop as a minimum, the specifications can be found here:

<https://helpx.adobe.com/uk/photoshop/system-requirements.html>

You will also need access to a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in University accommodation you will have this).

Accessories

- SD card(s), minimum 16Gb.
- USB card reader for the above.
- USB hard drive, minimum 250Gb recommended.

Approx. overall cost £50 – £100

Camera

Whilst a Laptop is the most important piece of equipment for your studies, if you have the budget for a camera then I would suggest waiting until you arrive as we have a wide range of cameras and lenses you can try before you decide which system is best for you. If you do want to take the plunge and buy your own DSLR then I would suggest a full frame or Mirrorless DSLR. The IOP supports Canon, Sony and Nikon so these may be the best choices for compatibility with our lenses and accessories.

Optional items – We also recommend the following optional equipment as an important aid to your studies:

- Lens hood and UV/Skylight filter for each of your lenses.

- Shutter release remote control or shutter release cable.
- Camera bag – large enough for items you may wish to use/purchase during the course.
- Sturdy tripod.
- There will also be a number of stationery items that you will need to purchase during the course such as notepads, A4 binders and a Stanley knife.

Approx. overall cost £50 – £100

Consumable materials

Throughout all three years students need to budget for material costs for film, printing, portfolio materials and other consumables. The actual costs will depend on the amount of work you do and on the decisions that you make in terms of processes, presentation, print size and so on. A budget of £100-£400 per year should cover basic costs.

During the first year you will get the optional workshops in the darkroom to work with analogue processes. You will be able to buy these materials from our stores on Penryn Campus, or from the following suppliers:

Associated Photography
30 Arwenack Street, Falmouth
+44(0)1326 319591
associatedphotography@btconnect.com

or online from:

www.silverprint.co.uk
www.processuk.net
www.portfoliosplus.co.uk

Study trips

There will be a number of educational trips during the course which include study visits, individual research trips and placements. These experiences are an integral part of your studies and you are expected to attend. We estimate this to be about £200 in total per year although this may vary, depending on the visits or placements arranged.

Optional trips

We run a number of international trips every year; with costs ranging from £400 - £1500. Information about trips running in 2020-2021 will be made available after enrolment.

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.