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FALMOUTH

UNIVERSITY

WELCOME TO INTERIOR DESIGN ONLINE AT FALMOUTH

Dear [NAME]

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

In this letter you will find details about the online learning environment and your student advisors, a list of resources and how you can prepare for your studies, and information about your offer, term dates, costs and course enrolment.

The course is studied wholly online, which means you will need a laptop or desktop to complete your studies. 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

Virtual Learning Environment

During your time studying with us you'll have access to our dedicated Virtual Learning Environment. This provides a space to engage with course materials and connect with your lecturers and fellow students. Each degree has a 'Course Hub' which you will be able to access via the Virtual Learning Environment. From there, you will be able to use our online forums to discuss your work with other students. Your Course Hub also contains useful information regarding resource lists, course toolkits and assessment guidance to help keep you on track. You will also have access to a 'Student Hub' which covers support, regulations and study skills for your time at Falmouth.

Step into Falmouth induction sessions

These online workshops are designed to provide advice and guidance on settling into university life.

The live sessions are scheduled to take place across six 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

Student Advisors

During your studies at Falmouth, you will be assigned a Student Advisor, who will be your first point of contact for non-academic questions or queries. These may include:

- Study-life balance
- The academic calendar
- Applying for Extenuating Circumstances (EC)

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- Face-to-face events

Student Advisors work closely with Academic staff, Student Services and the Students' Union to support students.

Student Advisors are here to improve your student experience. Do not hesitate to get in touch with them - they will be happy to hear from you. The team operates a shared inbox to ensure all queries are responded to within 24hrs, Monday to Friday. You can get in touch with the Student Advisor team by emailing: StudentExperience@falmouth.ac.uk or calling +44(0)1326 255251.

We know you will get a lot of information over the next few months, so please do reach out if you would like to ask any questions at all. We're here to help. If you have any questions at all, 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 and creative time before the course starts and we're looking forward to welcoming you onto the course in September. In the meantime, do join our creative community and see what your fellow students have been doing by finding our Instagram feed [@interiordesignOnline.Falmouth](https://www.instagram.com/interiordesignOnline.Falmouth)

Yours sincerely,



Amanda Losasso
Course Leader
BA Interior Design (Online)
www.falmouth.ac.uk

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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.

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

Welcome Week

You'll begin your course on **Monday 18 September 2023** and this first week is a welcome week. This is your opportunity to familiarise yourself with the online platform. You'll be invited to meet your course mates, course tutors and the University staff. This week is about you navigating the online space, meeting your peers, and staff, and setting yourself up.

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 at 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 falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations.

Tuition fees (per year)

2023-24 Part time accelerated: £6,935 per year

Term Dates

You will be studying for 3 Study Blocks per year as follows -

Welcome Week: w/c Monday 18th September 2023 (see above)

SB1: Monday 25th September – Friday 19th January 2024

SB2: Monday 22nd January 2024 – Friday 24th May

SB3: Tuesday 28th May – Friday 13th August 2024

Each Study Block consists of 12 weeks of teaching content followed by 3/4 weeks of assessment

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Materials and equipment list, reading list and costs

As the BA Interior Design Online degree course is studied wholly online, as well as a computer or laptop, you will need a reliable broadband connection. You may wish to investigate the cost of a broadband plug-in dongle if you travel a lot or are worried about your internet usage or connection.

When considering the specs of your equipment, the most important things to look out for are the CPU/RAM/Graphics Card, as we use software that needs a large amount of power, especially Revit. We recommend one with as fast a processor as you can afford, 16GB of RAM minimum and a reasonably sized screen (15" is minimum), plus the following absolute bare minimum computer specifications:

Windows:

- Windows 10
- At least an i7 processor
- No less than 16GB Ram - more is better!
- Graphics Card (Nvidia 1050 minimum - not Intel Iris or XE integrated graphics) with at least 2GB - the bigger the memory the better!
- 512GB hard drive space minimum - bigger = better!
- 1920 x 1080 display resolution or higher. Ideally 4K.
- Mouse with a scroll wheel and two buttons

You will be required to use Windows only software on the course, so an Apple computer will not be suitable for all of your studies. Chromebooks and iPads will not run the software you require for your studies. An iPad however, is a useful secondary tool for digital notetaking, sketching and for creating digital sketchbooks, but is not mandatory.

Other digital equipment/software:

- Adobe Creative Cloud. We anticipate being able to offer a discount for this and will inform you as soon as possible.
- Sketchup - approx. £55
- 16 -32 GB memory stick - approx. £10-20. You will need to be able to back up and save work regularly.
- Wireless or Bluetooth mouse - approx. £15
- Access to either an A3 printer/copier/scanner or photocopying services (Approx £20 printing costs for A3 photocopies)

Process, Drawing and Modelmaking - Materials and Equipment - approx. £150 pa

Essentials -

- Sketchbook(s) - A5, A4 or A3 depending on your preference
- Scale ruler
- A3/2 layout pad
- A range of pencils – e.g. 4B, HB, 2H 4H
- A range of technical drawing pens e.g. 0.05mm, 0.4, 0.7, 1.0 mm UniPIN or similar make

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- Eraser
- Cutting mat – A2/3
- Metal safety cutting edge
- Retractable craft knife or scalpel and replacement blades
- Masking tape
- Pins (dressmakers steel)
- Spray mount
- Foamboard - 3mm or 5mm thick or corrugated card for model making (available from Amazon in 10xA3 sheets or larger format sizes from your local art supplier)
- An assortment of different coloured cartridge paper for model making and experimentation

Nice to have -

- Adjustable set square and T square
- Coloured pencils
- A few marker pens in greys, pale blue etc
- Highlighters

Commented [AL1]: new items added here

Face-to-Face Events: optional

As an online student you will be given the opportunity to attend up to two events per academic year to meet your classmates and tutors in person. Dates and location of the events will vary.

These trips are not mandatory, although they are a great opportunity to meet your peers and staff in person and build connections.

Costs of the events themselves are covered, however you will need to cover your own costs for travel, accommodation, food and drink. More information about these events will be given to you when you start your course, but you should expect them to cost approximately £500-800.

Pre-course preparation:

To help you get warmed up before the course starts, get drawing in your sketchbooks. Aim for 10 minutes of drawing from observation every day. Buildings, parts of interior spaces, or everyday objects are all good practice. Try a range of drawing equipment - pencil or pen, charcoal etc, and different techniques i.e. single line drawing, using light and shade, pattern making etc.

Reading List:

GODFREY, Jeanne. 2022. *Writing for University*. 3rd edn. London Bloomsbury Academic
GRIMMLEY, Chris & LOVE Mimi. (2018) *The Interior Design Reference and Specification Book*. Rockport Mass.
TRAVIS, Stephanie. (2015) *Sketching for Architecture + Interior Design*, Laurence King Publishing.
HETREED, J & ROSS, A. (2012). *Architect's Pocket Book*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.

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Nice to have: -
CHING, Frank. (2015). Architecture: Form, Space, & Order. Fourth edition. Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley.

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