

GCE A-Level in Art, Craft, and Design (AQA)

The **GCE A-Level in Art, Craft, and Design (AQA)** is a creative and exploratory qualification designed for students who wish to develop their artistic skills, experiment with different media, and explore their creativity. This course offers a broad-based curriculum that allows learners to explore a variety of art, craft, and design disciplines, making it ideal for students with diverse artistic interests.

Key Features

1. **Qualification Level:** A-Level (Level 3).
 2. **Assessment:**
 - 100% coursework-based assessment split into **two components**:
 - Personal Investigation (60% of the grade).
 - Externally Set Assignment (40% of the grade).
-

Components of Study

The course comprises two main components:

1. Personal Investigation (60% of A-Level):

- **Focus:** Students explore a topic, theme, or idea of their choice in depth.
- **Content:**
 - A practical portfolio showcasing, and experimentation with media.
 - A related written element (around 1,000–3,000 words) that provides critical analysis and contextual understanding of the chosen theme.
- **Goal:** To develop a cohesive body of work demonstrating creativity, technical skill, and understanding of contextual influences.

2. Externally Set Assignment (ESA) (40% of A-Level):

- **Focus:** Students respond to a set theme or starting point provided by AQA.
- **Structure:**
 - A preparatory period to research, develop ideas, and experiment.
 - A 15-hour supervised practical exam to produce a final piece of work.

- **Goal:** To showcase creative problem-solving and independent artistic interpretation.
-

Skills Developed

- **Practical Skills:** Mastery of various materials, techniques, and processes (e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, digital media).
 - **Creative Thinking:** Generating and developing original ideas.
 - **Critical Analysis:** Reflecting on personal work and evaluating the influence of artists, designers, and craftspeople.
 - **Presentation Skills:** Curating and presenting a cohesive body of work.
 - **Research Abilities:** Conducting contextual studies and exploring artistic movements or themes.
-

Career Pathways

This qualification provides a foundation for: 1.**:

- Degrees in fine art, graphic design, illustration, fashion, product design, architecture, or animation.
2. **Creative Apprenticeships:**
 - Opportunities in areas like digital design, photography, or textiles.
 3. **Employment:**
 - Entry-level roles in creative industries such as marketing, design studios, or arts administration.
 4. **Self-Employment:**
 - Pursuing freelance work as an artist, illustrator, or craftsperson.
-

Who Is It For?

- Students with a passion for creative expression and artistic exploration.
- Those who enjoy working independently and experimenting with different materials and techniques.

- Learners seeking to develop a portfolio of work for further study or employment in the creative arts.