



# Purpose Statement

**NCFE Level 3 Applied General Certificate in Art  
and Design  
QN: 601/8898/4**

## Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is designed for learners who want to study Art and/or Design at a higher level. It's suitable for those who are motivated by applied learning through hands-on, creative experiences related to the work of a professional artist or designer.

This Applied General qualification is equivalent in size to an A-level and meets the entry requirements for higher education. It's aimed at post-16-year-olds studying a Key Stage 5 curriculum with an interest in art and/or design. The qualification has been designed to sit within the Study Programme, complementing A-levels and other Level 3 qualifications.

This qualification is not part of a suite.

This qualification aims to:

- focus on the applied study of Art and/or Design
- offer breadth and depth of study, incorporating a significant core of knowledge and theoretical content with broad-ranging applicability
- provide opportunities to acquire a number of practical and technical skills.

The objectives of this qualification are to help you to:

- progress to further and higher education
- develop new technical skills in art and design
- develop your knowledge of art and design.

There are no specific recommended prior learning requirements for this qualification. However, you may find it helpful if you've already achieved a Level 2 qualification.

## What does this qualification cover?

The NCFE Level 3 Applied General Certificate in Art and Design covers the following mandatory key topics:

- **Materials, techniques and processes** – you'll safely experiment with a variety of materials and techniques to produce art or design work.
- **Research and analysis** – you'll research a specific area that interests you, then develop creative work based upon your research.
- **Visual communication** – you'll learn how artists and designers visually communicate a theme/idea/message, then apply this to your own work.
- **Presentation and promotion** – you'll learn how to present your work for public exhibition and promote it through a variety of digital and physical methods.
- **Personal response** – you'll develop your own personal responses to a variety of themes and ideas in art or design as you find your own creative voice.

### **What knowledge and skills will you develop?**

As you study this course, you'll develop your general knowledge of art and design, as well as subject-specific practical skills. You'll also develop a range of transferrable skills, such as:

- problem solving
- research skills
- safe working practices
- evaluative skills
- critical thinking
- visual communication
- promotional planning.

### **Which subjects will complement this course?**

Other subjects which could complement this course include:

- Design technology
- Photography
- History of Art
- English Literature
- Principles of the Creative and Cultural Sector

### **What could this qualification lead to?**

This qualification fulfils entry requirements for a range of Higher Education courses, so you could go on to study Foundation Degrees or Degrees in subjects such as:

- Art and Design
- Graphic Design
- Advertising and Branding
- Architecture
- Art History
- Fine Art
- Fashion and Textiles
- Illustration
- Ceramic Design
- 3D Design
- Film and Visual Culture
- Photography
- Animation

### **Who supports this qualification?**

The following Higher Education Institutions recognise this qualification for entry to a higher level course or qualification:

- [The University of Sunderland](#)
- [Southampton Solent University](#)
- [The University of Huddersfield](#)

### **Further information**

For more information about the NCFE Level 3 Applied General Certificate in Art and Design, please visit the NCFE website.