



**UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH**

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION**

### ***MA Illustration***

# COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	MA Illustration
Final Award	MA
Exit Awards	PGCert, PGDip
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P2552FTC P2552PTC
Mode of study	Full time, Part time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	1 year full time, 2 years part time
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2024 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Creative and Cultural Industries
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Architecture, Art and Design
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/faculty-of-creative-and-cultural-industries/school-of-architecture-art-and-design">https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/faculty-of-creative-and-cultural-industries/school-of-architecture-art-and-design</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/ma-illustration">https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/ma-illustration</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	N/A
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	Level 7

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

### **Educational aims of the course**

- To allow students to enhance and extend their scholarship, research skills, practical skills and knowledge in relation to the subject of illustration. This is achieved through the development of self-directed research driven study that critically engages with and challenges the subject.
- Historical, contemporary, global and theoretical contextual discourses constitute an essential role in defining and positioning engagement with the subject of advanced illustration both academically and professionally.
- To provide students with an intellectually challenging study environment where they can question, reflect and respond to social, ethical, political and global debates within the subject specialism.
- To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment that facilitates the developing and extending of their practical learning and subject specific skills.

### **Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies**

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

<b>A. Knowledge and understanding of:</b>			
<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
A1	Employ materials, media, techniques, methods, technologies and tools associated with the discipline(s) studied with skill and imagination while observing sound and ethical working practices, and professional/legal responsibilities relating to the subject to an advanced level (A&D).	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
A2	Articulate, synthesise and generate knowledge and understanding, attributes and skills in effective ways in the contexts of advanced creative practice, employability and enterprise, preparation for further study, research and personal career development (A&D).	Lectures, tutorials, group work, workshops, Careers and Employability group sessions.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
A3	Make connections between intention, process, advanced outcome, context and methods of dissemination. (A&D).	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
A4	Understanding of the complex issues which arise from the creative practitioner's relationship with audiences, clients, markets, environments, users, consumers, and/or participants (A&D).	Lectures, tutorials, group work, workshops, visiting lecturer programme and field trips.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
A5	Generate ideas, concepts, proposals, solutions or arguments independently and/or	Illustration studio: a teaching	Formative: tutorials and reviews.

	collaboratively as self-initiated activity and/or in response to industry standard set briefs (A&D).	environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, workshops, lectures.	Summative: Portfolio, reports.
--	--	--	--------------------------------

<b>B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:</b>			
<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
B1	The critical, contextual, historical, conceptual, economic, social environmental and ethical dimensions of the student's advanced discipline in particular, and art and design in general (A&D).	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, seminars, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and presentations.
B2	Understand the implications and potential for their advanced discipline presented by the key developments of current and emerging media and technologies, and of inter and multi-disciplinary approaches to contemporary practice in art and design (A&D).	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, seminars, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and presentations.
B3	Be intellectually curious, embrace challenges and seize opportunities for development.	Lectures, tutorials, group work, visiting lecturer programme. PDP tutorials, careers and employability group sessions.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
B4	Employ both convergent and divergent thinking in the processes of observation, investigation, speculative enquiry, visualisation and/or making to an advanced level (A&D).	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, seminars,	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and presentations.

		workshops, lectures.	
--	--	-------------------------	--

<b>C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:</b>			
<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
C1	Be resourceful, ethical and entrepreneurial. (A&D).	Lectures, tutorials, careers and employability group sessions.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
C2	Be proactive in recognising and addressing personal development needs, and able to make informed career decisions.	Tutorials, group work, PDP tutorials, careers and employability group sessions.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
C3	Have a critical and reflective knowledge and understanding of their subject, with both the ability and readiness to question its principles, practices and boundaries.	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, seminars, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and presentations.
C4	Select, experiment with and make appropriate use of materials, processes, technologies and environments showing an advanced understanding of quality standards, professional requirements and attention to detail (A&D).	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, seminars, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.



<b>D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:</b>			
<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
D1	Study independently, set goals, manage workloads and meet deadlines appropriate to Industry. Anticipate and accommodate change, and work within contexts of ambiguity, uncertainty and unfamiliarity. (A&D)	Tutorials, Seminars, Workshops.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
D2	Benefit from the critical judgements of others and recognise their personal strengths and needs. (A&D)	Illustration studio: Tutorials, Seminars, Workshops.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports.
D3	Navigate, select, retrieve, evaluate, manipulate and manage complex information from a variety of sources. Select and employ communication and information technologies. (A&D)	Tutorials, seminars, workshops, software sessions.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and presentations.
D4	Interact effectively with others, to a professional level, for example through collaboration, collective endeavour and negotiation. (A&D 6.10)	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines, tutorials, group work, seminars, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and presentations.
D5	Communicate and present ideas and refined work to audiences in a range of situations. (A&D)	Illustration studio: a teaching environment conducive to creative practice which combines,	Formative: tutorials and reviews.  Summative: Portfolio, reports and

		tutorials, group work, seminars, workshops, lectures and a visiting lecturer programme.	presentations.
--	--	---	----------------

## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

### In addition to these University support services this course also provides:

CCI Creative Careers: Support to add degree-related and relevant work experience for CV building including a work placement year, summer or short internships and part-time work.

CCI Creative Skills: One to one support sessions and group tutorials in creative software and skills relevant to CCI courses and future careers.

CCI Academic Skills: Access to resources to support learning strategies and techniques through one to one tutorials or group workshops.

CCI Student Support Advisor: Help to find appropriate academic, pastoral or practical support.

Specialist equipment and facilities relevant to the course.

## Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

## Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Vision](#)
- [Office for Students Conditions of Registration](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for **Art and Design (A&D)**
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **N/A**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

## Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

## Copyright

The contents of this Course Specification are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

Document Details	
CSD Template date	January 2025
Author	Dr Jackie Batey
Date of production and version number	01/11/2018 v1.0
Date of update and version number	27/11/2024 v3.0
Minimum student registration numbers	12