Get ready for BA(Hons) Fine Art

I hope that you are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leader, I warmly welcome you onto **BA(Hons) Fine Art.** I have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for our course and some links to our friends and partners in the city.

The Fine Art team look forward to meeting you.

Sophie Hayes
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14th September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and cohort. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practice the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrolment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival
You can find everything you need to know about enrolment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

Enrolment
Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment website.

ID card - upload your photo now
We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Read around your subject

A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and art practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the Library web pages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

Connect with others

To succeed within your chosen programme, we highly recommend that you visit local galleries and exhibitions on a regular basis. Visit the websites of some of our partners and students:

- View the work of our students online
- Follow our Instagram @fineartsuwe
- Spike Island is our host, and a centre of contemporary art & design.
- Arnolfini is Bristol's International Centre for Contemporary Arts.
- Bristol Museum and Art Gallery host various talks and events for our course throughout the year.
- Watershed offers a diverse programme of films and events.

Be prepared

Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on choosing your IT equipment including recommended specifications.

For this programme we recommend the **Enhanced Specification**.

Specialist applications used on the course include: **InDesign, Premiere, Photoshop, and Audition**. Most of these applications work on **Windows and Mac** devices but not on tablets or Chromebooks.

Fine Arts uses UWE's core digital education systems - Blackboard, Collaborate, Panopto, Microsoft 365 (formerly Office 365), Padlet and some other lightweight specialist

applications. The following should accommodate these. The industry tends to be Mac facing, but a PC would be sufficient.

To work with these applications, to include image and basic editing we recommend that you have access to a device with the following minimum specifications:
PC: i5 or Ryzen 5 processor, 8GB memory, 256GB solid state storage
MAC: any entry level Macbook Pro would be sufficient.

Creative Cloud/AppsAnywhere
Fine Arts also uses/trains students in some industry standard programmes. You may wish to use these on your laptop, using our online apps. If you do, you will need to check your specification (see below).

- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Premiere Pro

Equipment for Fine Art
No need to buy anything too ambitious to start with, you will be able to decide for yourself when you begin the introductory projects at the start of the term. One very popular place our students obtain materials is Bristol's Scrap Store. You will have membership to the Scrapstore once you start the course.

International students
The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the programme, please contact the Programme Leader: **Sophie Hayes** via email at sophie.hayes@uwe.ac.uk

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026