Get ready for BA(Hons) Integrated Foundation in Art, Media and Design

I hope that you are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leader, I warmly welcome you onto your Year 0 Foundation Programme.

I have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us.

The foundation team are looking forward to meeting you.

Mary Murphy
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14 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 course mates. 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.

Please note: If you are intending to work in part time employment this year, please be advised that we will not be able to confirm your attendance days with you until the start of term. When accepting an offer of employment, you should communicate to your new employer the need to remain flexible until we can confirm your tutor group and contact days at the start of term. Once we confirm your attendance days these will not change, and you will be able to organise your schedule for the year.

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 your login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

What resonates with me?

From the beginning of the year (and throughout your entire time at UWE) we will be encouraging you to think about your own areas of interest and themes. Are you fascinated by colour? Passionate about design? Obsessed with texture? Start to keep a record of things in the world that inspire you. Take notes and photographs. Make time to doodle, scribble and document. Some creative practitioners like to keep sketchbooks, others prefer to keep journals or a blog, the format is not important. What is valuable is the practice of observing the world and your place in it, and the act of recording, documenting, responding and reflecting. You will be doing this each week while on the foundation program, so get started now with your own creative journal, and draw design, plan and observe!

Get inspired

On the Foundation course, we encourage you to engage with a wide variety of creative making. Why not take this opportunity to engage with activities happening in your local area? Go and visit free exhibitions and events in your neighbourhood for example, or join a club, society or group.

Connect with others

Connect with our Foundation Course online here. Start with our fantastic 2025 end of year showcase of student work and leave a comment in the visitor's book.

Be prepared

Access support

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

On the foundation year we will provide a range of materials and tools in the studio, and you will have access to further technologies and tools through the ACE central loans desk.

In relation to smaller items used in creative practice, everybody has their own preferences when drawing/designing/planning, so it is a good idea to begin toput together a personal toolbox containing things that you like to use in your creative practice. (Pencils/markers/fine liners/rulers etc).

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies, and the foundation studios are fully equipped with a creative computer suite. These Apple Mac computers provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You will also have access to I-Pads and DSLR cameras while studying on the foundation year, 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.

Key software packages

On the Foundation Program you will have the opportunity to learn a little more about Adobe Photoshop (For editing and manipulating images digitally)Adobe Premiere (For editing moving image and audio) and Adobe Illustrator (For manipulating text and image for print/publication.) All of these packages are part of the Adobe Creative suite, available for all UWE students through the Apps Anywhere store. Click here to learn more.

The packages we will use on the programme will run on most devices but functionality on tablets and Chromebook can be limited. We recommend that you have access to a device with the **Core Specification**. It is great to be able to purchase a new device at the start of your higher education journey with us, but if you already have a device that can access the internet you may wish to continue to use this on your foundation year and seek advice from your home program next summer in relation to the minimum specifications required for your destination 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 course, please contact the Programme leader: **Mary Murphy** at mary2.murphy@uwe.ac.uk

---

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