

■ IB Visual Arts HL and SL

Introduction

This is an exciting course for those who are committed to art and enjoy the challenge of practical studio work as well as in-depth investigation and critical analysis. Students will get the opportunity to:

- experiment with a range of materials and studio techniques (e.g. painting with oils on canvas and constructing sculptures from recycled materials).
- explore a variety of cultures and contexts (e.g. African printmaking and local willow weaving).
- investigate a selection of past, present and emerging developments in art, craft and design (e.g. cave paintings and today's graffiti).
- visit a number of exhibitions, museums and craft centres (e.g. 'Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs' in London and Somerset Art Weeks).

Content

Students on both the Higher Level and Standard Level courses will spend about 60% of the time on studio work and the remaining 40% preparing their investigation workbooks. The course content for HL and SL is similar. However, students at HL have more time and opportunity to develop ideas and skills, to produce a larger body of work, and to work in greater depth.

Studio work

This is practical exploration and artistic production.

Investigation workbooks

These are independent contextual, visual and critical investigations including substantial elements of analysis, evaluation, discussion and reflection - written in clear English.

The course offered is designed for students who wish to concentrate on studio practice. However, without strong investigation workbooks the quality of the practical work will suffer. Thus, the workbooks are important because they support, inform, develop and refine the studio work.

Assessment

The assessment is based entirely on work produced by the student over the two years. The studio work is exhibited at the end of the course. An external examiner will assess the work and interview the student. The investigation workbooks are internally assessed and externally moderated.