

BTEC Extended Certificate in Art & Design Level 3

Qualification Aims and Objectives

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Art and Design is an Applied General qualification. It is equivalent in size to one A Level and has been designed to occupy one third of the curriculum in a broader programme of study, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications.

During their studies, learners develop art and design projects and gain an understanding of the creative process. They study visual recording and communication, critical analysis and production skills to produce art and design outcomes. It is designed for post-16 learners who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the creative industries, as part of a programme of study alongside other level 3 courses.

This qualification aims to provide realistic, work-based scenarios and projects. The course also provides the foundation for those students who wish to study art at a higher level.

Course Outline

Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are externally assessed.

Mandatory content is equal to 83%, and external assessment is equal to 58%.

There are two mandatory components:

- Component 1: Creative Practice in Art and Design
- Component 2: Responding to a Client Brief

Learners also develop skills and knowledge through an optional unit in a specific area such as graphics, photography, 3D studies, textiles, or fine art.

Entry Requirements

Minimum of 5 9-4 grades in GCSE examinations including English & Maths. Level 2 Art & Design or a visual portfolio submitted

Future courses & possible careers

- Teaching
- Graphic Design
- Product Design
- Fashion/Retail

Depending on the other qualifications learners have taken, students can progress to a degree programme or FE courses from a range of programmes in the art and design sector. This can lead to careers in areas such as teaching, museum and gallery work, graphic design, product design, fashion retail and animation.

Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.

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