Arts and Graphics

Foundation Degree in Graphic Design

Campus: University Centre Rotherham
Code: U01HE02
Type: Full Time | Part Time

This course will provide you with an opportunity for you to fulfil your creative ambitions and develop your understanding of current design practice.

You will gain an overview of the whole design and production process. It will give you the knowledge, understanding and skills to enter a range of careers in the graphic arts industries.

Work-based learning is at the heart of this course and is embedded into the modules.

Why Study With Us?

The teaching team have a range of experience from practice within the industry with local, national and international networks. They can offer real-world advice and guidance to help develop your practice.

You will be based in our professional design studio space which provides a stimulating learning environment, all fully equipped with the latest Mac/Adobe software.

Live projects are set by local and national designers and creatives including Eleven Design/Human Studios/Wentworth Woodhouse/Grimm & Co amongst many others. Students are offered placements to gain insight into the industry and to develop their professional practice.

You will have access to the lecture programme at Sheffield Hallam University where you will be able to see professional graphic designers and creatives and have access to their learning resources.

There's also the opportunity for field trips to local and international venues accompanied by a yearly residential to places such as Paris, Rome, Barcelona, New York and Berlin.

Modules Covered

Year 1

Design Techniques and Processes –

The aim of this unit is to introduce you to the different types of processes used within the graphic design industry. This ranges from illustration, printmaking, digital processes, typography, etc. Here you will develop a body of experimental work through tutor-led workshops.

Graphic Image Making and Communication –

The aim of the unit is to develop your knowledge and skills using graphic imagery in a variety of situations. You will learn skills in both traditional and digital media to develop your creative graphic image-making skills and techniques. Here you will develop a body of experimental work through tutor-led workshops.

Year 2

Work-based Design Projects –

This is an opportunity for you to develop your professional practice by engaging with a range of institutions, local industry, and commercial partners. Students are also encouraged to enter competitions such as D&AD, New Blood Student Awards to enhance their professional practice and further develop a creative, professional portfolio of work.

Specialist Creative Response –

Explore and study an area of interest that you have studied. This will be about a chosen specialist area such as Illustration, UX/UI, Typography, Branding etc. You will then provide a written project proposal on the said research topic and produce an outcome of your choosing.

Entry Requirements

- A relevant Level 3 qualification or substantial relevant experience
- GCSE English and Maths at grade C/4 or above or equivalent
- A portfolio of work
- All applicants who are non-native English speakers, or who have not studied the final two years of school in English, must have an IELTS score of 6.0 or above.

How To Apply

You can apply using our online application form and clicking the **Apply Now** button at the top of the page.

Career Opportunities

After successful completion of this course, you can pursue employment in graphic design, illustration, UX/UI Design, branding, packaging, advertising, marketing or alternatively you could become self-employed as a Freelance Designer.

Additional Information

Digital Portfolio Requirements.
If you apply to the course we will ask you to provide a portfolio of work/digital portfolio to support your application. This can include development work so include scans of one of your sketch books or other examples of development work to demonstrate your working method and ideas.

PLEASE NOTE

We make every effort to ensure information within our online course directory is accurate and a true representation of the courses we are offering in 2026-27. However, we do reserve the right to make changes if necessary.

Last updated: 20th November 2026