

What is Fine Art?

Historically, the five main **fine arts** were painting, sculpture, architecture, music, and poetry, with performing **arts** including theatre and dance. Today, the **fine arts** commonly include additional forms, such as film, photography, video production/editing, design, sequential **art**, conceptual **art**, and printmaking.

Fine Art is a form of visual poetics, using materials and media to develop insightful, personally motivated creative expressions. Some have likened it to 'visual philosophy'; that is, **thinking about, reflecting on and making statements about the world through materials and images.**

Fine Art is about having a voice in the world and communicating ideas through a visual language. Fine Art should make people think.



By street artist Jean Michel Basquiat

A Level Fine Art - course breakdown

Component 1 Personal investigation - 60%

This is a practical investigation supported by written material.

Students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

The investigation should be a coherent, in-depth study that demonstrates the student's ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning from an initial starting point to a final realisation.

The investigation must show clear development from initial intentions to the final outcome or outcomes. It must include evidence of the student's ability to research and develop ideas and relate their work in meaningful ways to relevant critical/contextual materials.

The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople.

Component 2 Externally Set Assignment - 40%

Separate question papers will be provided for each title. Each question paper will consist of a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select **one**. Students will be provided with examination papers on 1 February, or as soon as possible after that date.

Preparatory period – from 1 February

Following receipt of the paper students should consider the starting points and select one. Preparatory work should be presented in any suitable format, such as mounted sheets, design sheets, sketchbooks, workbooks, journals, models and maquettes.

Supervised time – 15 hours

Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time.

What will I be doing?

- The course is 60% coursework (Personal Investigation) and 40% exam (Controlled assignment).
- You will explore, research and acquire techniques and develop your skills, knowledge and understanding in a range of Fine Art media.
- You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to Fine Art. You may use traditional methods and/or digital techniques to produce Fine Art work.
- You will be expected to demonstrate specialisation in particular materials, media or processes to allow for an appropriate depth of study. This can be achieved by working toward the extension and development of particular themes, ideas or issues.
- Drawing skills should be understood and developed as appropriate to the ways of recording and communicating your intentions, ideas and emotions in the context of Fine Art.



Painting by ex student Esmee Turlej

Assessment

The assessments will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives:

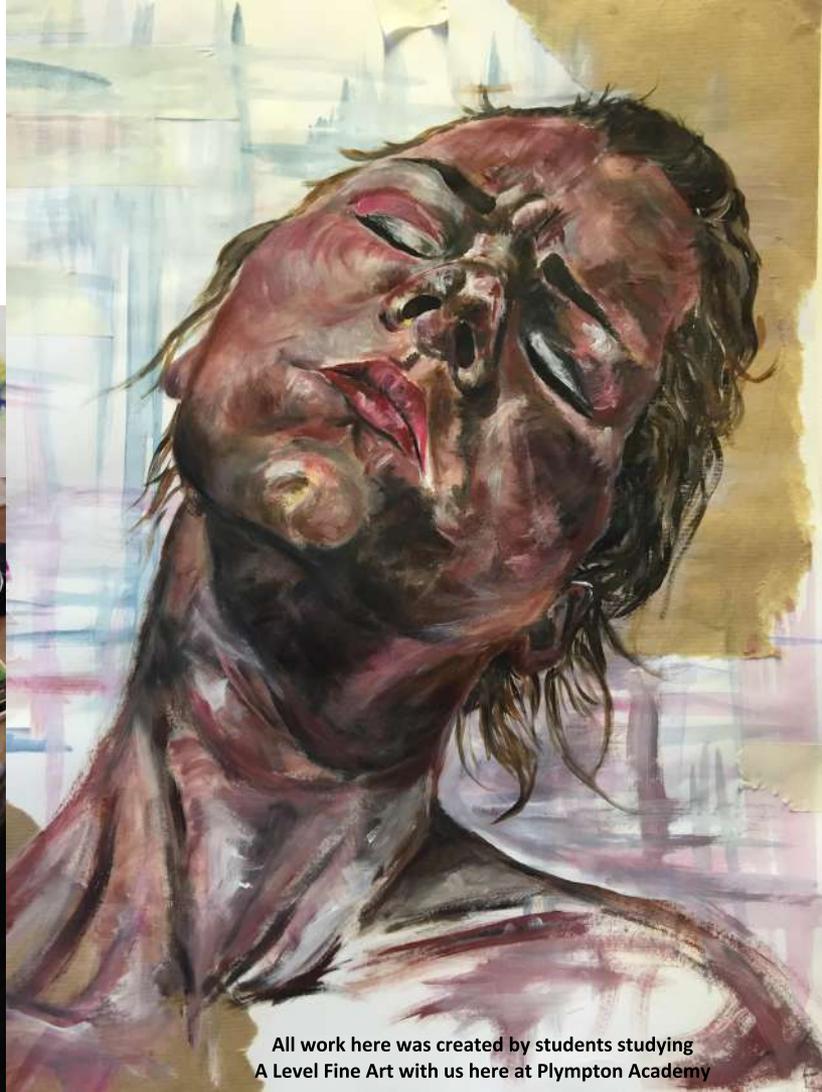
- **AO1:** Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.
- **AO2:** Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.
- **AO3:** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.
- **AO4:** Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.



By Fine artist Courtney Mattison



**"The teachers are approachable and allow us to think of our own ideas and designs. They give us freedom whilst still helping us to develop."
Sapphire Serjeant**



**"Art gives you the opportunity to develop your ideas in a creative and individual way. We are given regular feedback that helps us to improve and gain a better understanding."
Charlotte Gosling**

All work here was created by students studying A Level Fine Art with us here at Plympton Academy

Futures

Where are they now?....

Many of our ex students have gone on to pursue creative careers. Some examples are listed below:

Phil James: Business owner - Creative design and branding company
 Emma Barrow: Editorial Fashion and Wedding Photographer
 Michelle Kendall: Art Teacher in Germany
 Charlotte Gosling: Reporter and photographer for the Evening Herald
 Lewis Todd: Sports Photographer
 Haylie Farrell: European Tattoo Artist
 Esmee Turlej: Fine Art painter - etartfart
 Amy Cooper: Creative events organiser
 Joe Higson: Senior Graphic Designer at a global architecture company
 Lorna Pearce: Freelance Graphic designer
 Ben Cornish: Cinematographer and camera operator
 Lauren Taylor: Art Teacher - PRU
 Molly Constable: Macrame craft business - mollymakesmacrame
 Tom White: Creates and sells digital design assets to agencies and brands
 Hannah McArthur: Theatrical costume designer (won international prize)
 Kelly Vincombe: Architect tech assistant
 Katie House: Freelance Illustrator - katiesillustrationhouse
 Stacey Chapman: Illustrator and Art technician
 Jess Lawrence: International Photographer
 Lauren Treston: Freelance fine artist



Writing / Analytical

- Art Criticism Writer
- Art Historian
- Art Critic
- Arts Administrator
- Arts and Cultural Planner
- Website Owner / Blogger
- Graphic Novel Author

Fashion / Textiles

- Fibre Artist
- Accessory Designer (Shoes / Bags / Hats)
- Dressmaker
- Embroiderer
- Fashion Consultant
- Fashion Designer / Sports Apparel Designer
- Fashion Merchandising
- Pattern Maker
- Costume Designer
- Quilt / Bag / Linen Designer
- Fabric / Textile Designer
- T-Shirt Designer

Graphic Design

- Advertising Director
- Logo / Branding Designer
- Advertisement Designer
- Sign Writer
- Magazine Layout Designer
- Book / eBook Designer
- Packaging Designer
- Calendar / Stationery / Wallpaper Designer
- Typographer

Spatial Design

- Architect
- Landscape Architect
- Urban Designer / Town Planner
- Playground / Theme Park / Sports Arena / Golf Course Designer
- Interior Designer / Decorator
- Set / Stage Design

Digital / Multi-Media

- Animator
- Concept Artist
- Digital Illustrator
- Digital 3D Modeller
- Web Designer
- iPhone / Android App Designer
- Television / Film Producer
- Documentary Filmmaker
- Camera Operator
- Film Editor
- Special Effects Designer
- Video Game Design
- YouTube Video Creator

3D Product Design

- Industrial Designer / Bridge Designer
- Toy Designer / Kite Designer / Ubersell Designer
- Miniature Model Maker / Mock-up Artist
- Stained Glass Window Designer
- Prop Designer
- Food Product Designer
- Potter / Ceramic Designer
- Wood Turner / Carver
- Mosaic Designer
- Jeweller
- Weaver
- Glass Artist

Photography

- Advertising Photographer
- Fashion Photographer
- Photo Journalist
- Food Photographer
- Portrait Photographer
- Underwater Photographer
- Wedding Photographer
- Stock Photo Seller
- Director of Photography

Fine Art

- Abstract Artist / Spray Painter
- Architectural Illustrator
- Book Illustrator
- Graphic Illustrator
- Technical / Textbook Illustrator
- Story Board Illustrator
- Cartoonist / Caricaturist
- Commercial Artist
- Fine Artist (Painter)
- Printmaker / Screen Printer
- Courtyard Artist
- Art Conservationist
- Special Effects Makeup
- Mural Artist
- Tattoo Artist

Arranging / Display

- Food Stylist
- Floral Arranger
- Display and Exhibition Planner
- Art / Design / Colour Consultant
- Gallery Owner / Assistant
- Museum Curator
- Personal Stylist
- Picture Framer
- Online Curator

Organisation / People Management

- Art School Director
- Primary / Elementary Teacher
- Middle / High School Art Teacher
- University Lecturer / Professor
- Private Art Instructor
- Art Therapist
- Art Dealer
- Artists Agent
- Art Supplies Retailer

Any Other Career

Art can be great preparation for any career that requires fine motor skills, presentation skills, an eye for aesthetics and creative thinking!

Websites to support your learning

www.plymptonacademyart.tumblr.com

www.studentartguide.com

www.art2day.com (password - imagine)

www.thisiscolossal.com

www.juxtapoz.com

www.itsnicethat.com

www.hifructose.com

www.thejealouscurator.com

