FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH INTEGRATED FOUNDATION YEAR

Dear [NAME]

Welcome to Graphic Design with Integrated Foundation Year at Falmouth.

The Graphic Design staff team are all excited to meet you and help you begin your creative exploration of the subject. You have a wonderfully dynamic and rigorous three years ahead, full of creativity, problem solving and Graphic Design joy.

In this letter you will find information about your course that will help you as you prepare to join us. Do please read it carefully.

A list of basic equipment is included as well as some potential other costs that you are likely to incur throughout your course. Each module has a recommended reading list and these are made available either in the library (multiple copies) or online, when you join us in September.

Our course is studio based and delivered in person with a small amount of online access to support your learning. We have Mac suites on campus but you will hugely benefit from owning your own laptop to work on and access the platforms and software we use in Graphic Design.

You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) and receive the student discount on the industry standard Adobe Creative Suite, that includes Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere and After Effects.

If you are eligible for a loan from Student Finance and have not yet applied, please do so immediately to ensure the loan is approved before you enrol. Once you enrol you are liable for the tuition fees. You can find more information from the Student Loans Company at: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company

Advice on managing your finances whilst studying can be found on the University's website here: falmouth.ac.uk/study/student-funding/how-much-does-it-cost

Over the summer, you can join our Step into Falmouth Sessions. These online workshops are designed to provide advice and guidance on settling into university life.
They are scheduled to take place across three weeks in July and August. Some of them will also be also recorded so you can watch them back at a time that suits you. More information can be found at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth

Over the summer, if you have any questions, you can join the Student Mentor team on Discord to talk about the course, living in Cornwall and what to expect at Falmouth. Our mentors are already studying on your course, so ask them anything you like. Find them at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring. Alternatively, email your name and your course to: studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk and they will be in touch.

Over the next few weeks, we'll email you more important information about your course and life at Falmouth. If you're going to be away or out of contact, make sure you ask someone to check your emails and reply on your behalf.

We know there is a lot to think about before you start at university. So, we're here to help. If you have any questions, just get in touch with Applicant Services on 01326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantservices@falmouth.ac.uk

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer and the graphic design staff look forward to welcoming you in the studio in September to begin your creative journey with us.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Gill
Course Leader, BA Graphic Design
The School of Communication

Getting started

Your offer

If you have a conditional offer, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. This means we're waiting to receive your results or some more information before your place can be finalised. You can see these conditions on your UCAS Hub
https://accounts.ucas.com/account/login

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or
email applicantservices@falmouth.ac.uk

Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions

You'll get an email two weeks before the start of term telling you how to enrol online. You'll need to enrol before the first day of term to officially register as a student of Falmouth University and receive your undergraduate student loan.

When you enrol, you'll need to agree to and comply with the University's Student Terms & Conditions. These Terms & Conditions are important, and we encourage you to read them carefully, before enrolling. You can find them under 'Student Terms & Conditions' on our website www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations

Tuition fees (per year)

2023-2024 full-time UK: £9,250
2023-2024 full-time International: £17,460

Term dates

You can find our term dates on the website at
falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2023-24

Teaching and assessment will be throughout the full 15 weeks of the study blocks.

Study Block 1 starts on Monday 18 September.

Your timetable

Your academic timetable shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be published in early September. After you've enrolled, you can view it via the Student Portal at falmouth.myday.cloud/ or the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store.

Welcome Week

 Your timetable will show you where you need to go and when on Monday 18 September and throughout the week.

This is the week when you'll meet your course mates, course tutors and University staff. There will be important inductions to both your course and the wider University facilities and services, in addition to social activities organised by the University and Students' Union.

IFY - Pre-Course preparation

We would like you to keep a **Summer Journal** – this could take the form of a sketchbook of course but sketching isn't the only way you could develop a journal over the summer. You could buy a hardback journal, or re-purpose an old book or hand-make and stitch one together? You might consider sticking in newspaper cuttings, tickets, stickers, receipts, and other material to capture news and events. You could record visits to galleries or museums, draw from graphic novels, Film/TV shows, games, fashion, or other creative practices that inspires you. You might work on types of patterns, rubbing of textures, photographs, collages, imagine monsters and concept characters or explore bold *posca pen* designs? You might focus on a specific thing – drawings of people, typography, maps, costume, logos, observed locations, natural history or fantasy characters and places– **it's up to you.**

This is an opportunity to show us what you like to do and for you to capture your own creative interests and ideas and to then be able to share these with us when you arrive. We're look forward to seeing what makes you tick.

Additional Note: You might also consider starting a Creative *Instagram* feed or *tumblr* blog. It's also a good idea to perhaps start collecting creative inspiration on *pinterest* boards.
- You can see the IFY Instagram feed here as an example *@falmouthify*

Pre-course preparation

Attend some exhibitions:
We recommend you experience a range of exhibitions, events, and performances, ideally in person.

Do some pre-reading, watching & listening:
Raising your awareness of art and design history, particularly originating from the 20th Century is a key aim of the course and you may wish to begin this process before you start.
The Tate Shots series on You Tube offers bite-size introductions to the lives and work of some of the most ground-breaking artists, both British and international:
www.youtube.com/user/tate/videos

Reading list (Graphic Design specific)

Below are the books we recommend for year one of the BA programme but you can of course get ahead of this during your Integrated Foundation Year. You will be given further reading lists for the rest of the course as you progress. All of the books are available in the University library (many can be found new/used online). You may wish to buy some of these books and should allow up to £300 for this across the duration of the course.

- Baines, P & Hasla, A., 2005. *Type & typography*. Laurence King. RRP £30.
- Hollis, R., 2002. *Graphic design: a concise history*. Thames & Hudson. RRP £10.

Johnson, M., 2012. *Problem solved* (second edition): a *primer in design, branding, and communication*. Phaidon. RRP £30.

Equipment and costs

Essential

As mentioned earlier, a laptop is a fairly essential piece of equipment for Graphic Design. You will need either Windows or Mac capable of running the Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop and After Effects). This is likely to be one of the bigger investments you will make whilst studying design and could cost between £300 and £1800 for the computer. The system requirements to run the software can be found here:

helpx.adobe.com/uk/creative-suite/kb/cs6-system-requirements.html

You will also need a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in university accommodation you will have this already).

You should allow at least £200 for the studio kit outlined below:
(* You may have some of these materials already and will of course add to this list depending on your preferences and ways of working)

- Academic year diary.
- A3 layout pads or sketchbooks.
- Scalpel and blades such as Swan Morten (10a blades most useful).
- 12-inch metal ruler.
- Selection of graphite pencils (3B to HB).
- Retractable pencil (basic).
- Pritt Stick.
- Masking tape.
- Plastic eraser.
- Memory stick (USB).

You will also need to allow for ongoing annual printing costs for projects and experimentation undertaken.

Optional

If you own a 35mm SLR or digital camera, you will find this useful. Falmouth also has photographic equipment, which can be booked for free. If you wished to purchase your own camera, the approximate costs can be between £300 and £1000 plus, depending on your preference for camera choice.