Switching to OCR from Edexcel

Introduction

Our new AS and A Level Art and Design qualifications have received great feedback from teachers who love the structure and straightforwardness of the new course.

Why choose OCR's Art and Design?

More choice – our AS and A Level courses offer seven specialist routes for you and your learners to choose from. From Fine Art to Architecture and Games design to Contextual Studies there's an option to suit everybody.

Greater flexibility – whatever specialism they have chosen our `framework' approach where centres can design and develop courses appropriate to their own learners is broad enough in design to allow flexibility in terms of delivery.

Encourages creativity – the structure of our one component AS Level allows learners to develop their creativity without the pressure of portfolio assessment.

Straightforward assessment – our easy to use mark scheme doesn't require the use of scaling factors.

Key differences

OCR Art and Design	Edexcel Art and Design
Choice of **seven specialisms** at both AS and A Level including **Critical and Contextual Studies**.	Choice of **six specialisms** at both AS and A Level.
AS level Our **one component** AS Level gives freedom for teachers and learners from pressure.	**AS level** Restricted by course structure pressure from the assessment of **two components**. **Note, the AS qualification is intended to be withdrawn (final assessment Summer 2020).*
AS and A Level Our straightforward marking structure doesn't use scaling factors making it easier to analyse learners' results. The total mark allocation creates an even weight distribution. AS Level Portfolio 80 marks = 100% A Level Portfolio 120 marks = 60% External task 80 marks = 40%	**AS and A Level** No scaling factors applied to the component marks at AS Level. However, at A Level scaling factors are applied meaning individual marks have a different weighting depending on which component they relate to. This is in order to generate the 60% - 40% weighting distribution. Component 1 is multiplied by a factor x 1.2. Component 2 is multiplied by a factor x 1. This makes analysis of your learners' results more complicated.

Content

OCR Art and Design	Edexcel Art and Design
AS and A Level Learners must study art techniques appropriate to one area of study title; 1) Art, Craft and Design 2) Fine Art 3) Graphic Communication 4) Photography 5) Textile Design 6) Three-Dimensional Design 7) Critical and Contextual studies.	**AS and A Level** Learners must study art techniques appropriate to one area of study title; 1) Art, Craft and Design 2) Fine Art 3) Graphic Communication 4) Textile Design 5) Three-Dimensional Design 6) Photography.
AS Level **Component:** This portfolio will consist of a project, theme or course of study. It may be presented in appropriate format(s) for the specification title and area(s) of study chosen. There is no restriction on the scale of work produced or the timeframe for undertaking the work but learners should carefully **select**, **organise** and **present** work to ensure that they provide evidence of meeting all four assessment objectives.	**AS Level** **Component 1: Portfolio must include** A selection of thoughtfully presented work, demonstrating breadth and depth of the course.
	AS Level: **Component 2: Externally set assignment** Separate question papers will be provided for each title. These will consist of a choice of five questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select **one**. Students will be provided with examination papers on **1 February**. **Preparatory period** Preparatory work to be completed prior to the first period of supervised time. **Supervised time – 10 hours.**

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AS Level marks **Component 1** 80 marks total 100% of AS Level.	**AS Level marks** **Component 1 – Personal investigation** 72 marks 50% of AS Level. **Component 2 – Externally set assignment** 72 marks 50% of AS Level.
A Level: **Component 1**: **Personal investigation** Practical portfolios with supporting contextual research, learners are expected to develop a personal response based on a centre-set or learner-set theme leading to a finished realisation. Learners should carefully **select, organise** and **present** work to ensure all four assessment objectives are covered.	**A Level:** **Component 1**: **Personal investigation** The **investigation** should be 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.
A Level – written component **Related study** Enables learners to demonstrate their ability to communicate knowledge and understanding of art movements, genres, practitioners through a written and where appropriate illustrated component. This written study should be related through context to the learners chosen practical portfolio, it should be guided to a minimum of 1000 words. Discrete assessment criteria provided for ease of assessment.	**A Level – written component** **Critical written communication** will consist of a critical and analytical written piece of a minimum 1000 words continuous prose. It must be presented as a separate piece in writing. Expressions of personal interpretations and conclusions, with clear links between research, analysis and own investigations.

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A Level: **Component 2**: **Externally set task** The early release provides the opportunity to be utilised for all the areas of study. The paper consists of a choice of **seven** themes to be used as starting points. Learners are required to select **one**. Learners will be provided with examination papers on **1 February**. **Preparatory period** Learners must ***stop*** work on their preparatory work as soon as the first period of supervised time starts. **Supervised time – 15 hours.**	**A Level:** **Component 2**: **Externally set assignment** Separate question paper with one theme covering every area of study. Students will be provided with examination papers on **1 February**. **Preparatory period** Students must ***stop*** work on their preparatory work as soon as the first period of supervised time starts. Preparatory studies comprise a portfolio of practical and **written** development work. **Supervised time – 15 hours**.
A Level marks **Component 1 – Personal investigation** 120 marks 60% of A Level. **Component 2 – Externally set task** 80 marks 40% of A Level.	**A Level – marks** **Component 1 – Personal investigation** 90 Marks 60% of A Level. **Component 2 – Externally set assignment** 72 Marks 40% of A Level.

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