

Template C4



Programme Specification

Title of Course: *MA Illustration*

Date first produced	21/09/2023
Date last revised	09/05/2025
Date of implementation of current version	01/09/2025
Version number	2
Faculty	Kingston School of Art
Cross-disciplinary	
School	Design School
Department	Illustration Animation
Delivery Institution	

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes and content of each modules can be found in the course VLE site and in individual Module Descriptors.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Award(s) and Title(s):	MA Illustration
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	PGDip PGCert
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	PFILL1ILL20
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	

Award(s) and Title(s):	MA Illustration with Professional Placement
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	PGDip PGCert
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	

Awarding Institution:	Kingston University
Teaching Institution:	
Location:	Kingston Hill
Language of Delivery:	English
Delivery mode:	Primarily campus based (up to 20% of scheduled L&T hours delivered online)
Learning mode(s):	Full-time Part-time With Professional Placement
Minimum period of registration:	Full-time - 1 Part-time - 2 With Professional Placement - 2
Maximum period of registration:	Full-time - 2 Part-time - 4 With Professional Placement - 3
Entry requirements	Kingston University typically uses a range of entry requirements to assess an applicant's suitability for

	<p>our courses. Most postgraduate taught course requirements are based on having been awarded a relevant undergraduate degree and are normally coupled with minimum grades expectation of 2:2, specific courses in certain areas may have a stricter grade requirement. We may also use interview, portfolio and performance pieces to assess a person's suitability for some courses. We recognise that every person's journey to a postgraduate taught education is different and unique and in some cases we may take into account work experience and other non-standard pathways onto University level study. Additionally, all non-UK applicants must meet our English language requirements. Please see our course pages on the Kingston University website for the most up to date entry requirements.</p>
Regulated by	The University and its courses are regulated by the Office for Students
Programme Accredited by:	N/A
Approved Variants:	N/A
Is this Higher or Degree Apprenticeship course?	No

SECTION 2: THE COURSE

A. Aims of the Course

The aims are to:

- Enable students to acquire in-depth knowledge and understanding of research contexts, critical debates and historical practices by providing an inclusive environment in which to challenge and question parameters of contemporary illustration.
- Support students in situating their own practice and ambitions by examining the professional, social, and political context in which illustration currently operates globally.
- Support students to independently design, undertake, situate and evaluate their own research enquiries using robust methodologies by applying an understanding of theory and ethics to practice-based projects.
- Support the development of creative, imaginative and innovative responses to challenge-based projects.
- Enable students to critically reflect upon their own practice and analyse that of other practitioners.
- Facilitate an experimental and explorative approach to illustration practice by providing opportunities for students to acquire and apply relevant technical and practice-based research skills and processes.
- Enable students to develop the diverse communication skills needed to articulate their ideas and intentions so they can interpret and translate knowledge or experiences into illustrative outcomes by considering audience and public impact.
- Support students to develop a range of graduate attributes and skills that will enable them to thrive in a professional environment including relationship building and project management.

The 2-year programme with integrated placement(s) provides students with an opportunity to further enhance their professional skills within an industrial or commercial workplace/environment.

B. Programme Learning Outcomes

The programme learning outcomes are the high-level learning outcomes that will have been achieved by all students receiving this award. They have been aligned to the levels set out in 'Sector Recognised Standards in England' (OFS 2022).

Programme Learning Outcomes					
	Knowledge and Understanding On completion of the course students will be able to:		Intellectual Skills On completion of the course students will be able to		Subject Practical Skills On completion of the course students will be able to
A1	Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of contemporary and historical practice, theoretical discourse, ideas, and debates.	B1	Design and undertake informed, sustained, and rigorous research, investigations and/or enquires and critically evaluate their effectiveness.	C1	Utilise individual practice-based research methodologies and/or critical making practices.
A2	Challenge and question parameters of contemporary illustration discipline and practice.	B2	Apply theoretical understanding, intellectual reasoning, and ethical positioning to an individual practice.	C2	Produce ambitious and critically challenging work by developing practice, through experimentation, risk, play and open exploration.
A3	Communicate and articulate critical ideas, reasoning, and intentions effectively and through appropriate visual, written and/or oral presentation skills.	B3	Respond to new and complex challenges with individual creativity, imagination, innovation and vision.	C3	Interpret information, narratives, and/or experiences and through illustration practice seek out and communicate with diverse audiences.
A4	Apply an understanding of the professional, social, political, and global contexts in which illustration operates to situate own practice and future ambitions.	B4	Reflect and analyse own achievements and those of others in diverse personal and professional contexts.	C4	Apply attributes and skills required to operate as a professional, including collaboration, self-advocacy, agency, autonomy, effective communication, relationship building, and project management.

C. Future Skills Graduate Attributes

In addition to the programme learning outcomes, the programme of study defined in this programme specification will engage students in developing their Future Skills Graduate Attributes:

1. Creative Problem Solving
2. Digital Competency
3. Enterprise
4. Questioning Mindset
5. Adaptability
6. Empathy
7. Collaboration
8. Resilience
9. Self-Awareness

D. Outline Programme Structure

Full-time

TEACHING BLOCK 1	TEACHING BLOCK 2	TEACHING BLOCK 3
<p>Studio: Critical Making For Illustration</p> <p>DE7604 30 Credits</p>	<p>Studio: Situating Practice For Illustration</p> <p>DE7605 30 Credits</p>	<p>Studio: Extended Research Project For Illustration</p>
<p>Reading: Critical Positions</p> <p>IA7002 30 Credits</p>	<p>Presentation: Future Directions</p> <p>IA7003 30 Credits</p>	<p>DE7606 60 Credits</p>

Part-time

Year 1

TEACHING BLOCK 1	TEACHING BLOCK 2	TEACHING BLOCK 3
<p>Studio: Critical Making For Illustration</p> <p>DE7604 30 Credits</p>	<p>Presentation: Future Directions</p> <p>IA7003 30 Credits</p>	

Year 2

[illegible]

MA Illustration							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Presentation: Future Directions	IA7003	30	7	TB2	None	1	1
Reading: Critical Positions	IA7002	30	7	TB1	None	1	2
Studio: Critical Making For Illustration	DE7604	30	7	TB1	None	1	1
Studio: Extended Research Project For Illustration	DE7606	60	7	TB3	None	1	2
Studio: Situating Practice For Illustration	DE7605	30	7	TB2	None	1	2
Optional Modules							
Professional Placement (Design)	WP7001	120	7	TB1, TB2, TB3	None	2	3

Exit Awards at Level 7

Students exiting the programme with 60 level 7 credits are eligible for the award of Postgraduate Certificate.

Students exiting the programme with 120 level 7 credits are eligible for the award of Postgraduate Diploma.

MA Illustration with Professional Placement

E. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

This course uses a range of teaching and assessment methods which have been designed to support students' learning and achievement of the learning outcomes. The course has been developed with reference to the Kingston University Academic Framework which sets-out core principles relating to Course and Credit Structure (including Module delivery Structure and Pattern, and Learning Hours and Learning

Formats); Curriculum Design (inclusion Learning Design Principles and Inclusive Curriculum); and Future Skills.

Teaching and Learning on the course consist of Scheduled Learning and Teaching and Guided Independent Study (self-managed time). Scheduled Learning and Teaching includes the following, and the format for each module is set out in the module specification:

- Laboratory Sessions
- Lectures
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Workshops
- Placements

Guidance for students on the use of independent study time is communicated through the 'Succeed in your module' section on the Canvas Virtual Learning Environment and through other communications during the course.

In addition to the core Scheduled Learning and Teaching activities for the course, the University may offer students additional optional opportunities for learning. Examples of these include Study abroad and Work-based learning.

The course will provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills relating to at least two United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). We are committed to empowering students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and address the UN SDGs: each course is thus also required to prepare students for at least two of the SDGs (not including Quality Education, which all courses must deliver).

F. Support for Students and their Learning

Students are supported through a range of services that provide academic and wider support. These include:

- A Module Leader for each module
- A Course Leader to help students understand the course structure
- Personal Tutors to provide academic and personal support
- Technical support to advise students on IT and the use of software
- Student Voice Committee – to ensure the views of students are heard
- Canvas – Kingston University's Virtual Learning Environment
- Student support facilities that can provide advice on issues such as finance, regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support
- Disabled student support
- The Kingston Students' Union
- Student Development and Graduate Success

G. Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Course

The University has policies and procedures for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:

- Continuous Monitoring of courses through the Kingston Course Enhancement Programme (KCEP)
- Student evaluation including Module Evaluation Questionnaires (MEQs), the National Student Survey (NSS)
- Internal and external moderation of graded assignments

H. External Reference Points

External reference points which have informed the design of the course. These include:

- QAA Subject benchmarks
- Other subject or industry standards

I. Development of Course Learning Outcomes in Modules

This table maps where programme learning outcomes are **summatively** assessed across the **core** modules for this course. It provides an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the course aims, a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses and a checklist for quality assurance purposes.

Module Code		Level 7					
		DE7604	DE7605	WP7001	IA7002	IA7003	DE7606
Knowledge & Understanding	A1				S	S	
	A2				S	S	
	A3			S	S		
	A4		S	S	S		
Intellectual Skills	B1		S				S
	B2	S					
	B3	S		S		S	
	B4	S		S			
Practical Skills	C1	S					

	C2		S				S
	C3		S				S
	C4			S		S	S

Students will be provided with formative assessment opportunities throughout the course to practise and develop their proficiency in the range of assessment methods utilised.

Additional Information