



East Park Terrace  
Southampton  
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Tel: +44(0)23 8201 3000  
[www.solent.ac.uk](http://www.solent.ac.uk)

## MA MAKE UP AND HAIR DESIGN FUTURES

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Welcome to Southampton Solent University. We are looking forward to you joining our **Master of Arts Make-up and Hair Design Futures** course in September 2026.



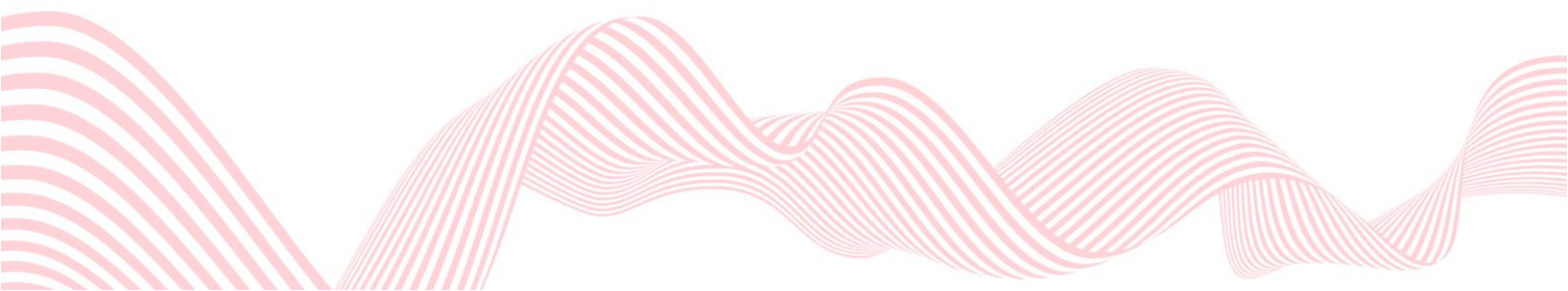
*FUTURE BEAUTY TRIBES. Figure 1. Human Evolution 3000 by Go Fujiwara, 2022*

At Solent University we pride ourselves on the support we offer our students to succeed in their academic learning, creating postgraduates who aspire to be at the forefront of their discipline. This information pack has been created by your course leader, **Donna Bevan**, to provide you with information that you will need for a successful start at Solent. Please read it carefully before you join us.

### Welcome Week

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Welcome week commences on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September and your timetable will be provided to you through SOL (our online learning space) closer to your start date once you have enrolled on the course. The course will begin with an official welcome and course induction, which will include enrolling you onto the course and a more personal welcome from the course teaching and technical team. There will be a tour of the studios and facilities and additional on-line sessions provided by the University to familiarise you with the library, learning technologies and other aspects of your studies at Solent.





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*Beauty Futures. Figure 2. 'Toshgae' by Babitha Palinaswamy, 2022. Figure 3. Capillus Temperatus by Georgia Gilmore, 2023. Figure 4. Underground people by Sima Khanimahmoudi, 2022*

During the first week there will also be several activities to help you find your feet. More information which you need will be on the [Welcome Page](#) on your dedicated SOL course page so please check that regularly.

### **About your course**

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Equip yourself with the skills and capabilities required for a cosmetic creative and beauty futurist on this programme.



*Future Beauty Tribes. Figure 5. Humelium by Vassilios Argholekas, 2022. Figure 6. Aqua shifters by Kinga Stefaniak, 2022, Figure 7. Neuro Hybrid by Emillie Fuller, 2023*





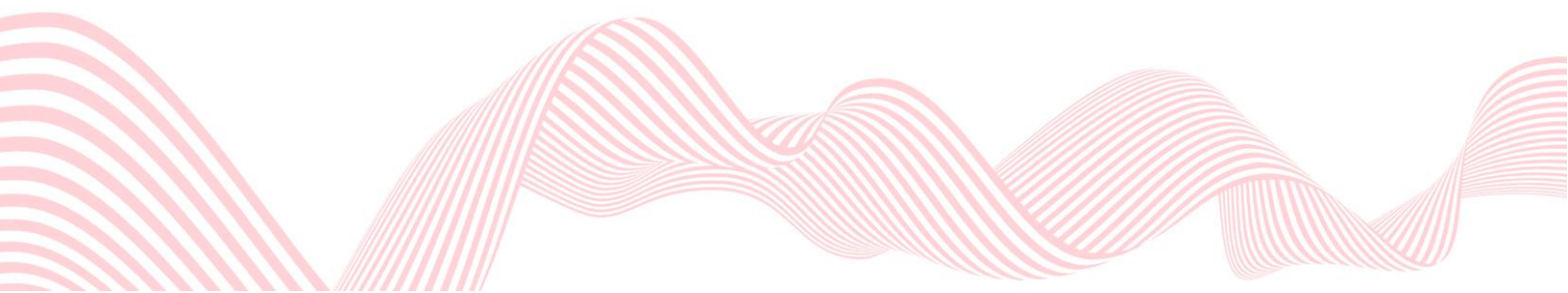
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The MA course and all your modules of study have dedicated SOL pages designed to provide detailed overviews of each module content and structure, whilst also providing study resources in the form of reading lists, assessment guidelines and advice. There are also chat forums, interactive content and guides to help you manage your learning effectively.

You will develop the necessary skills for speculative and critical design in a beauty led context through lectures, seminars and practice led workshops. Each session is informed by active research and opportunities to gain important research related competencies.

*Key features:*

- Learn from staff and research active academics with professional and industry experience, as well as keynote speakers from industry.
- **Future facing design approach.** The course curriculum will ask you to look beyond current beauty boundaries to predict potential future requirements, desires and challenges within the cosmetic industries.
- **Deepen your knowledge.** By studying a range of modules that cover keys areas such as the critical role sensory design plays within beauty futurism, you will explore the body as material, develop colour cosmetic and hair tech applications strategies, advance and articulate design propositions.
- **Embedded focus on inclusivity.** Using design practice as a platform to critically interrogate our equitable futures is a core component of the course.
- **Industry links.** MA Make-up and Hair Futures continues to develop links with co-creators and collaborative partners across the beauty sector. The course values the value of live industry briefs, as well as encouraging opportunities for students to gain external exposure and professional practice experience.
- **Multi-disciplinary and collaborative learning.** The course encourages a multi-disciplinary approach through the exposure to cosmetic practices that are naïve, experimental, and expert, as well technologies that are high-tech smart and interactive.
- **Join a diverse student body.** This course appeals to both recent graduates who wish to enter the beauty and media industries as well as those working in the makeup and hair industry who wish to gain further critical knowledge and strengthen their employment prospects.
- **Interdisciplinary.** Benefit from small group teaching with a focus on practical applications and interactive learning.
- Add value to your professional development by combining academic knowledge and rigour and build important work-related skills and competencies.





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## Your course kit

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As Solent postgraduate students you have access to purchase make-up and hair products and tools. The items have been carefully selected by the technical instructors in make-up and hair to include several essentials required for studio practice. The contents have been selected to be inclusive and align with all professional standards, as well as the skills taught, and projects set during your MA studies. Please note – the items in the kit are not mandatory to purchase but are indicative of a professional make-up kit. You do not have to purchase all the items we have available. We have negotiated hard to get the best possible price for the items. Each supplier has given a significant reduction below their normal student discount.

***The kit ordering forms and individual ordering instructions will be available on the MA Make-up and Hair Design Futures Course Page on SOL.***

You will be taught how to clean and maintain your kit, which will ensure it lasts as an initial investment for your career as a professional designer. You may wish to add further products to your kit as the year progresses. You will be expected to regularly replenish your products each time they run out.

There may be financial support to purchase items for study available to you via the Access to Learning Fund. Please note that you cannot apply to this fund until you have enrolled and commenced studies. There are also restrictions on who can apply for this fund.

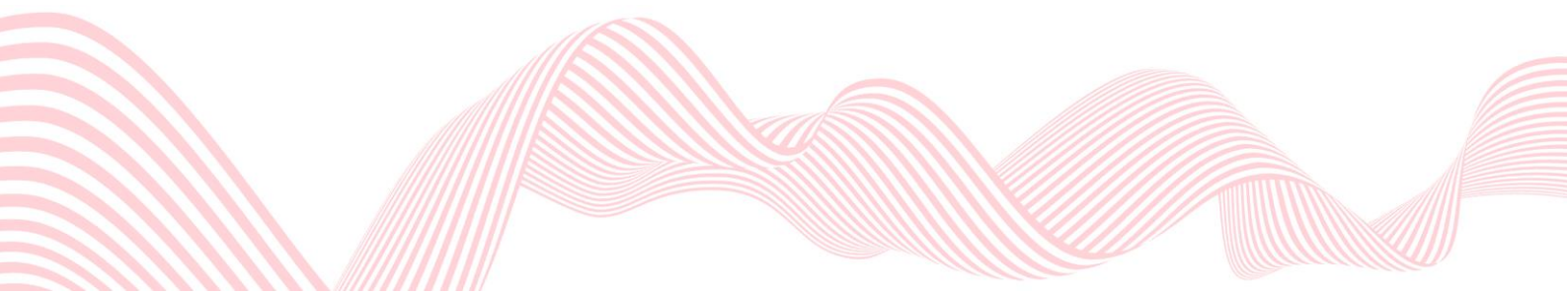
**Further information and guidelines on applying for the Access to Learning Fund.**

## PRE-WORK

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Your course will build upon and add to things that you have studied or experienced before (education, hobbies / interests, work experience) so collect any important information, such as relevant notes, books and examples of your work. You will also need to keep abreast of beauty news; what is happening in the beauty industry environment right now and what might be its future implications.

Cosmetic investigations enable critical dialogue, contributing original insights to the world of beauty ideals, gender politics and the changing face of identity.





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**Recommended reading prior to joining us:**

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How to use design to speculate about possible futures?

**Beyond Speculative Design: Past – Present – Future**

Following the initial Value of Beauty report in 2019, the British Beauty Council commissioned Oxford Economics to refresh its analysis of the economic contribution of the beauty industry and how it has evolved over the last three years. Also, more recent overviews.

**The Value of Beauty 2023**

**Recommended listening prior to joining us:**

With a background in material science and design, Lauren Bowker, Founder of The Unseen Beauty, entered the beauty market to help transform how people see, think about and express their beauty.

**Listen at [TheIndustry.beauty](https://theindustry.beauty)**

**Recommended viewing prior to joining us:**

Evolving Beauty is a project scoping the future of fashion and beauty. Looking at today's fast-paced, on the move lifestyle, the film questions 'Can beauty be Automated?'

**Can beauty be automated?**

**A Practical Guide to Academic Writing for International Students**

We look forward to working with you soon!

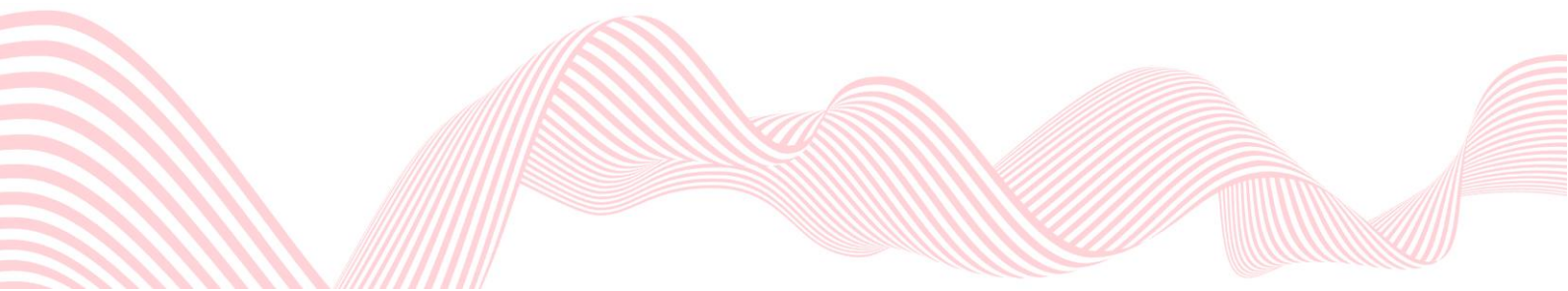
Best,

Donna Bevan

FRSA

Course Leader: MA MUHDF

E: [donna.bevan@solent.ac.uk](mailto:donna.bevan@solent.ac.uk)



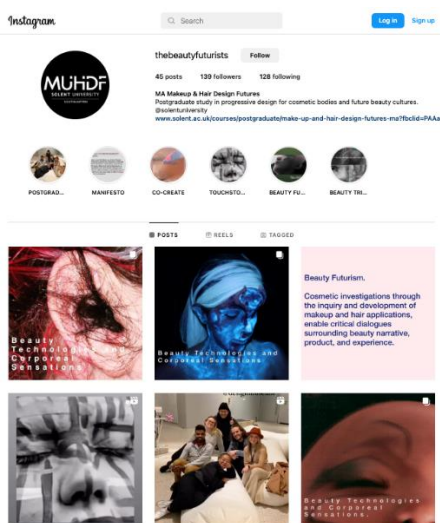


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## FOLLOW US!

Before you arrive to start your course at Solent University, why not check out our social media feeds to see what we are doing.

You can keep up with what is happening on Instagram [@thebeautyfuturists](https://www.instagram.com/thebeautyfuturists)



## Discounts and benefits

As a Solent student you have access to a range of educational discounts to assist with your studies. Read your MA [course page](#) to find out more.

## Funding your studies

You may be eligible for a scholarship, bursary or loan to help with the cost of your studies. [Read more about funding](#). Students can also apply to receive assistance with equipment costs through the University's [course costs support grant](#).

## Support and advice

For any other questions regarding student support and welfare please contact The Student Hub.

Telephone: +44 (0) 23 8201 5200

Email: [student.hub@solent.ac.uk](mailto:student.hub@solent.ac.uk)

Twitter: [@Solent\\_Hub](https://twitter.com/Solent_Hub)