



Art and design

2023 undergraduate courses



www.solent.ac.uk

**MAKE
WAVES**

Driven by a passionate team, our art and design courses help you to develop the essential skills and industry awareness required for work in the creative industries. From photography to fine art, you'll find the perfect course to develop your artistic side.

- £1.4 million invested in a dedicated art and design school.
- Strong connections with the local creative scene through our academics and our public art gallery.
- Identified as a beacon of good practice in a report by the RSA on creativity in higher education institutions.
- A creative environment which gives you the freedom to explore your craft, try new ideas and techniques, and collaborate across disciplines.

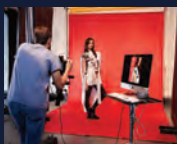






Facilities

During your studies you will have access to a range of state-of-the-art facilities to support your learning.



- Traditional silkscreens and letterpresses.
- Digital and rapid prototyping technologies.
- Colour and black-and-white darkrooms and an in-house colour film-processing machine.
- We are an Adobe Creative Campus, offering free student access to Adobe's suite of professional-grade creative software.
- Large professional photographic studios and associated make-up and styling rooms.
- Well-lit professional studios with fully equipped model-making and advanced manufacturing labs for composites, 3D printers and laser cutters.
- A digital fabric printer and laser cutter (interior design decoration).
- Re:So, our student-run retail store, offering the opportunity to gain vital work experience and the chance to sell your creative work on the high street.

Visit individual course pages at www.solent.ac.uk/courses for specific facilities available for your chosen degree.





Our great city

Southampton is a city with something for everyone. Beautiful city-centre parks, an electric night-time economy and a thriving arts and music scene all meet to offer residents something truly unique.

Southampton has one of the finest art collections in the UK. The City Art Gallery – a stone's throw from campus – houses 5,000 works spanning eight centuries. Do you want to see a Turner or a Monet? You can. And the best bit? It's free.

There are world-class and grassroots art exhibitions and performances at the John Hansard Gallery and City Eye. Get involved, or just soak up the ambience as you enjoy a latte at the Art House cafe.

It's also a city of Premier League football, world-class sailing and international cricket. Its many pubs and clubs host breakthrough bands and big names. Stadium acts come to the Ageas Bowl, while the O2 Guildhall hosts mainstream pop, and festivals are a regular part of our city park life.



Kev Munday

Artist

BA (Hons) Graphic Design, 2009



What have you been getting up to since you graduated?

After graduating I worked part-time while building up my studio practice and self-promoting my illustration and artwork. I have now been working as a full-time artist for just over seven years, primarily focusing on hand-drawn artwork on canvas and murals.

I have produced work for brands including Graham & Brown Wallpaper (wallpaper designs), Ten Skateboards (skate decks), Monster Energy (hand-painted murals) and The Hemp Trading Company (clothing designs).

What is a typical day for you?

I produce around 200 original works of art a year, which I sell via representing galleries in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, the UK and online. Some of these artworks then go on to be licensed for products or print designs.

How did university prepare you for your career?

The course taught me to experiment in a wide variety of styles, think wide, and learn digital and handmade skills.

Favourite solent memory?

A trip to London to listen to expert speakers.

What is graphic design to you?

Graphic design/graphic art gives me the opportunity to express myself creatively for a living.

What tips would you give to someone wanting a career in this area?

Work as hard outside the course as you do on it. Set yourself creative briefs when you haven't got projects coming in.





Megan Georgia Smith

Contemporary Artist

BA (Hons) Fine Art, 2020



What did you enjoy most about your studies at Solent?

I enjoyed having the full support of the Fine Art lecturers on the course – they all really do get excited about your practice and encourage you to find your individual artistic voice and language. Like students, the lecturers have their own unique and varied art practices (and therefore standpoints), so there is always someone to offer you a different perspective on your artwork, which is needed.

Tell us a bit about the characters that feature in your artwork.

I always over-emphasise the forms, behaviours and fashions of my figures, often playing upon stereotypes of British working-class folk and young people. I do this because these are the people I feel I most identify with as a working-class 21-year-old. However, these social groups have a history of being demonised by society, as evident in the 'chav' stereotype – a person who is 'council-housed and violent'. Another harmful stereotype of young people is of the

hooded criminal, skulking on street corners with little ambition. By amplifying these stereotypes, I attempt to illustrate a dark sense of humour, mocking and playing to the idea that every working-class/young person can be identified this way (when, of course, they cannot).

What advice would you give to future students?

Get involved in everything the course has to offer. The three years go by so quickly and you have got to absorb as much as you can while you still have the privilege of being a student. Also, take time to connect with Southampton's art scene – go to events, visit the local galleries, and network with other local artists. Opportunities that you can get involved with to further your career as an artist will arise from this, I promise you!

Megan's work contains adult content which is not suitable for all audiences. To view more of her work, visit www.megangeorgiasmith.co.uk



DINES

Co-Founder/Creative Director, Studio BLUP
BA (Hons) Graphic Design, 2011

Tell us a bit about your career journey so far, and what a typical day looks like for you?

My journey so far in the design game has been an epic one. There have been some highs, some lows, some challenges and some epic moments.

I wake up in the morning with a focus to conquer a new goal/milestone. My day always starts with a 10–15-minute meditation to clear my cluttered mind and allow more space to create ideas and solutions for the world's biggest brands.

A quick coffee is vital, then a 35-minute gym session to get the blood pumping, the dreaded email check and a quick daily plan write-up.

Once these are all aligned, I'm ready to smash my working day. I'm very lucky to have an amazing team that can inspire and motivate me to create new ideas that push Studio BLUP forward. A daily check-in with team members to see how projects are getting on is key to building a successful business.

Once the manic daily dust settles, I like to gather inspiration and ideas, and I'm constantly absorbing new creative trends that allow me to stay on top of what's happening within the industry. As the working day draws to a close, I write down new goals and visions so I know exactly what I need to achieve the following day. Once the sun goes down, it is down-time with the wife, friends and family. Life balance is vital.

At night, when it is completely silent, is my most inspiring time. This precious moment allows me to create and tap into my creative zone.

Mentor, philanthropist and entrepreneur DINES® pioneers creative change and is a coveted international speaker. Recognised for his distinctive style and vision, Dines has transformed the way brands connect with the new culture, from EA Sports, Universal Music, Nike, Adidas and Fifa to Levis, Hasbro, Sony Music and the BBC.

As Founder and Creative Director of creative agency Studio BLUP London, his insatiable desire to create cutting-edge creative and constantly evolve their approach provides brands with a much-coveted window into the new culture.

Web:
www.dines.london
www.studioblup.com

Social:
www.instagram.com/_dines
www.instagram.com/studio_blup

What has been your greatest moment in your career so far?

There have been many amazing moments but the one that stands out was right at the beginning of my career when I got invited to talk on stage at the OFFF Design Festival in Barcelona. The room was packed with over a thousand creatives. The vibe was incredible and people enjoyed my show, so this was the moment I realised that people actually wanted to hear about my work and what the journey was from uni to building a business. I felt a sense of acceptance within this guarded industry, and it is something I still hold dear to me to this day.

What do you enjoy most and what are the biggest challenges in your industry?

The biggest challenge for me is to always keep innovating and push myself to the next level. The vision that Alex and I have is to build an amazing brand that hopefully inspires the next generation of creatives and makes a splash in the creative world. We're so proud of what we've built, and there is more to come!

How do you feel your studies at Solent helped prepare you for your career?

Solent was absolutely key to my success. I had amazing tutors who supported me and helped nurture my design skills and thought process. That helped me develop in to the designer I am today and I'll be forever grateful. Uni life prepared me for the real world and made me understand that if you don't do it for yourself, then no one will do it for you. So stay focused.

What advice would you give to students wanting to follow in your footsteps?

It is key to stay patient, focus your goals and always believe in your dreams. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't achieve what you set your mind to. Make sure you build your network and get to know as many people as possible, because it only takes that one person to change your life in an instant.

Always stay inspired and have fun doing what you do, because life is too short!





Jason Livingstone

Store Designer, Ted Baker

BA (Hons) Interior Design
Decoration, 2017

How did Solent prepare you for your career?

By providing first-class teaching, access to state-of-the-art equipment/technology and real-world experiences throughout the degree.

Favourite Solent memory?

The moment when I handed in my final major project along with my other classmates – the accumulation of three years' worth of projects, essays and presentations, alongside laughter, tears and friendship. It was a huge achievement for me, as someone who struggled with education throughout my life.

Tell us a little about your career story so far.

I am one of the lucky few who can say they got a position even before attending graduation! So far at Ted Baker I have jumped straight in at the deep end, designing concessions and pop-up events for the company. Concession design is anything 'Ted' you see inside a department store – for example, Selfridges, John Lewis or even Galerie Lafayette in Paris. I've been working on projects in the UK, Spain, France, Ukraine and Germany, designing a range of store designs for both Men's and Women's. As part of the job role, each designer is the project manager for that project – so from concept to installation to the final details of props/styling onsite.

QUEEN MARY II *Britannia Club Bar*



ONBOARD THE QUEEN MARY II, GRANDEUR AND OCCASION GO HAND IN HAND WITH THE LUXURIOUS SURROUNDINGS OF THE *Britannia Club Bar*. TAKING INSPIRATION FROM ITS ART DECO PAST, THE PROPOSED REDESIGN OF THE SPACE WILL HAVE AN AIR OF ELEGANCE AND SPLENDOR FROM THE VERY MOMENT YOU ENTER.

Voyage of distinction



As a Ted designer, you have to be able to manage a number of projects at once, while communicating with suppliers, builders and department stores. I am so lucky to have been able to have an incredible start to the design world with such a well-known and respected brand as Ted Baker.

What is interior design decoration?

The process of design from concept to completion, encompassing everything from colour, lighting, fixtures and fittings to the finishing details.

What tips would you give to someone wanting a career in your industry?

Pick the right degree for you – a course that fits your needs, personality and interests. Without a fundamental understanding of the industry and a solid degree course, I think it would be difficult to gain access to the industry and sustain a long career. Passion for the industry is something you can't fake – you have to absolutely love it. For anyone truly interested in the field, this will come naturally.

Nisha Haq

Freelance Photographer

UK Young Freelancer
of the Year 2017

BA (Hons) Photography, 2014



Tell us a bit about what you do for a living.

I run my own business called Nisha Haq Photography, and I specialise in weddings, commercial and events. I'm based in Southampton, so it's great to be based in the city that I graduated from – I've been doing it for five years and really love what I do.

You won UK Young Freelancer of the Year in 2017 – tell us more about that.

I was still a part-time photographer when I won the award, while working full-time as a designer. I had to pitch to the judges about why I thought I should win, and to get the feedback that they wanted to give me the award – when I was up against so many other amazing people and hundreds of applicants from all walks of life – was just amazing. I almost wasn't going to apply as I felt I wasn't good enough, which I think many creative freelancers battle with. So this experience was a huge confidence boost and I feel so honoured to have been recognised nationally. The award also came with £3,000 of investment capital, as well as mentoring sessions with industry leaders to help my business grow.

What do you love about your career?

The freelancer lifestyle is certainly unique, fun and the most rewarding. Having done a degree in BA (Hons) Photography and working as a professional photographer soon after graduating feels fantastic.

What makes my job really special is when I get amazing testimonials from my clients when they receive their images, or when the mother of the bride congratulates me on how well I've documented her daughter's wedding. I also love the fact that I get to be really creative in my business – from branding, web design and marketing to video production and the photography itself, I get to build everything from scratch. A lot of people say it's getting to be your own boss, which is certainly true!

I've worked full-time in various design and marketing roles in small and big companies where I've gained so much work experience. It has allowed me to grow my business without too much risk, so I've re-invested all my profits into my business. Now, winning the award, I feel more confident than ever to take the next step and go with freelancing full-time in the near future.



How did your degree help you with your career?

Studying a subject I was very passionate about only fuelled that passion even further and made becoming a freelance photographer feel attainable. Many people questioned whether doing a creative arts degree would be a 'waste of time', or felt that there would be no jobs in the industry and that I'd be better off studying a traditional subject for better career prospects. I'm very happy that I didn't listen, and I carefully chose a university that would be able to invest in my future. While studying photography, I learnt so many technical, creative and theoretical skills that really diversified my understanding.

Would you recommend your degree to others?

Yes! The photography course was varied and had so many brand-new and high-tech resources to use, creative projects to get involved with and high-quality teaching and seminars throughout the course to keep you creatively stimulated. I particularly loved the new photography books in the library, the colour darkrooms and the Hasselblad scanners.

What's your favourite Solent memory?

I would say the Penta Prism student book launch and seeing all that hard work and creative vision come to life. When the course lecturers, the Head of Art and Design and my fellow students congratulated me, it was a great feeling – and topping it off, a special mention by the Vice-Chancellor at the graduation ceremony was a particular highlight.

What are your top tips for current students?

Although achieving a degree is a fantastic accomplishment, the industry is very competitive, especially in the creative world. To stand out, I'd recommend getting involved in as many projects, workshops and courses as you can, or start your own initiative while studying and over the holidays to increase your employability chances.

It's never too early to get ready for life after university, so build your work experience and portfolio pieces as much as you can. It's good to keep an eye out for opportunities, so keeping in regular contact with your network or joining new groups such as societies to build your contacts would be a good place to start. There are often lots of great opportunities to be found on social media, so having a good web presence is ideal.



Thomas Pitt

BA (Hons) Prosthetics and
Special Effects Design, student

"I decided to enrol on this course at Solent as I have a drive and motivation to explore the world of special effects in the film and media industry. Therefore, I feel that all the knowledge and practicalities of the course will help me to reach my aspirations and dissect what it means to be an SFX artist.

My favourite part of the course has definitely got to be the practical side, although I enjoy all of the contextual research and theory. It is great to learn and understand how to transform people into monsters and victims for the TV screen. Furthermore, my biggest challenge is adapting and learning on the spot. The course has helped me to understand how last minute the industry can be, and how you should always make back-up plans just in case.

The COVID pandemic has taken away much of university life and what we expected. However, I've seen light through the darkness – virtually, I've met many new faces from across the country on my course, and it feels like a family rather than a class, as we are all so welcoming, with many unique cultures, accents, make-up backgrounds and more.

In the future, I will endeavour to become an SFX make-up artist – as it has been my aspiration for many years – so Solent was the best option to help me with that."

"This course is for you if you have aspirations and dreams for the film and media industry. There are so many opportunities at Solent, where you can involve yourself in the world of SFX and get to know its ins and outs."







Ted Jennings

Designer and Illustrator

BA (Hons) Illustration, 2019

What did you enjoy most about your time at Solent?

I feel that my final year on the illustration course was my most enjoyable time at Solent. From day one, the course challenged my ways of working, exposing me to new processes and building me up as an artist.

The third year was when all of this important work culminated and I was allowed to make whatever I liked and follow my own briefs. The freedom – as well as the challenge – of this was really stimulating as a creative, as I was left to my own devices to solve my own problems and really delve into the way I like to work and the things I enjoy illustrating.



What's next for you?

I feel that I'm currently in a great position in regards to the future, simply due to the sheer amount of good options I have moving forward, including freelancing or going on to do an MA in either illustration or visual communication.

I've often thought about trying to find a career in design as it has become a great passion of mine throughout university.

I was also lucky enough to go on a work placement at Egmont Publishing which gave me lots of insight into being a designer on a day-to-day basis. The placement really opened my eyes to areas of the industry that I previously thought

were closed to me, as well as professional industry standards and practices, all of which I feel is great knowledge to have as a graduate.

What advice would you share with future illustration students?

My advice to a new student would be to definitely be open to new methods of working – even ones that you don't immediately like the look of. Before studying at Solent I only worked with pens and pencil, but since exploring digital methods and print-making, I feel I've developed my very own way of working. Try everything out while you can – it might just change your whole outlook on art.

Course list

Course	UCAS tariff points	Work placement opportunity	Foundation Year available
BA (Hons) Fine Art	112–128	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Graphic Design	112–128	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Illustration	112–128	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Interior Design Decoration	112–128	-	Y
BA (Hons) Photography	104–120	Y	-
BA (Hons) Prosthetics and Special Effects Design	104–120	Y	Y
Design Foundation Year	48	-	-

How to apply

Solent University code name: **SOLNT**
Solent University UCAS code: **S30**
www.ucas.com



1

Research universities
March – September



2

Work on your UCAS application
September – January



3

Apply online via UCAS
By 26 January



4

Check UCAS Hub
This is where you'll see if you have an unconditional offer (the place is yours) or a conditional offer (based on exam results or other evidence), or if your application has been unsuccessful.



5

Reply to your offers
Select your firm choice. Select your insurance choice – this is a back-up choice in case you don't meet the conditions for your firm choice. Decline your other offers.



6

Find out if you've got your place
You'll see in UCAS Hub if your place is confirmed. BTEC results are published from July onwards and A-level results will be published in mid-August.

52 things to do

Prepare for university in less than an hour each week with our tips, guides and quizzes.
www.solent.ac.uk/52-things



Solent University, East Park Terrace, Southampton SO14 0YN

Course enquiries: +44 (0)23 8201 3039

Main switchboard: +44 (0)23 8201 3000

Email: admissions@solent.ac.uk

www.solent.ac.uk

-  [solentuniversity](https://www.facebook.com/solentuniversity)
-  [@solentuni](https://twitter.com/solentuni)
-  [solentuniversity](https://www.instagram.com/solentuniversity)
-  [solentuni](https://www.youtube.com/solentuni)
-  [Solent University](https://www.linkedin.com/company/solent-university)
-  [@solentuniofficial](https://www.tiktok.com/@solentuniofficial)