

**Southampton  
Solent  
University**

[www.solent.ac.uk](http://www.solent.ac.uk)  
023



# Art and design

2025 undergraduate courses





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## Gold-standard teaching and opportunities

Our focus on practical knowledge and employment opportunities is just one of the reasons we're rated gold in the latest Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) review from the UK government Office for Students.

TEF recognises excellence in teaching, learning and achieving positive outcomes for students - with gold status awarded only to universities offering outstanding student experience and career outcomes.



Overall: **Gold**

Student experience: **Gold**

Student outcomes: **Gold**

Teaching Excellence Framework

## Why Solent?

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.

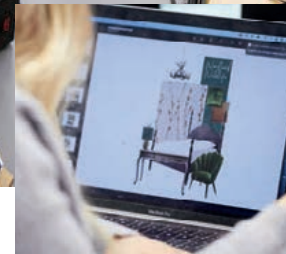
- £3 million invested to provide a modern interdisciplinary space, with facilities for a range of courses including art, design, fashion and photography.
- Strong connections with the local creative scene through our academics and our public art gallery.
- Identified as a beacon of good practice in a 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.
- Learn from highly skilled industry professionals with recent and extensive experience in research, exhibition, publications and industry-based work.
- Opportunities for work experience through live client briefs, our in-house agency, Solent Creatives, and Southampton Solent University's retail initiative, Re:So.
- You'll be assigned a personal tutor who can assist you with pastoral support to help you make the most of your learning.
- Benefit from working alongside our unique artist in residence and alumni mentoring scheme to develop your skills and stretch your imagination.

**Top 5\***  
in the UK for learning resources  
in the subject of design studies,  
out of 78 institutions  
(NSS 2024)



## Facilities

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

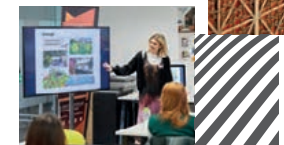


## Studio spaces

Our dedicated studios for fine art, illustration and graphic design feature a range of state-of-the-art facilities including: sculpture workshop, with metalwork, welding, woodworking and casting equipment; print-making workshop, with intaglio, dry point, etching, silkscreen, woodcut and letterpress facilities.

## Media production store

Students across our art and design courses also have access to our specialist media production store throughout their studies. This store offers specialist equipment free of charge, including high-end cameras, lenses, monitors and grip equipment, lighting equipment, sound recording equipment, plus equipment for digital, flash and analogue photography.



## Interior design decoration studio

This features specialist equipment for surface decoration, spatial design and interior styling, including a digital laser cutter and industry-standard photographic studios.





## Photography studios

The main studio complex is made up of eight private spaces, all with a full-width, nine-foot-wide Colourama backdrop. There is also a wide range of lighting options and modifiers available, along with camera boom supports and grip equipment.

In addition to the main studio area, there is a separate dedicated studio space for still life, and a white infinity cove, as well as three dedicated headshot booths. Nine mobile workstations are available for use to enable tethered workstation operation using Capture One software.

The studios are self-service after training, and trained students are employed in the evening to keep the area open until 11pm for the whole semester.

Visit individual course pages at [www.solent.ac.uk/courses](http://www.solent.ac.uk/courses) for specific facilities available for your chosen degree.





## Research at Solent

At Solent, research isn't just for academics, or for postgrads and PhDs. Research is for everyone, from undergrad up.

Studying with us, you're part of an active research community – not just learning from researchers in every field, but incorporating that research into your studies.

The way we teach, the practical projects and applied theory you'll be studying? It's informed by the latest research, inspiring and encouraging you to ask questions, investigate problems, propose solutions and create new knowledge. And ensuring you'll be at the forefront of industry thinking when you graduate.

Along with the habits, thinking processes and curiosity to become a learner for life – evaluating research and industry developments throughout your career – you'll have plenty of opportunities to develop your own research as well, or to become part of a larger project.

Solent students have co-authored papers, worked hand-in-hand with industry on knowledge exchange projects, crewed research films, and even presented their work at the UK Parliament.

It's a chance to deliver real-world impact in our communities and our society – and it's open to everyone.

### Master's by research – MRes

If you're interested in a career in research after your undergraduate studies, you may want to consider our MRes. Through this postgraduate research degree, you'll develop knowledge and skills in research methods, plan and lead your own research project, and have an opportunity to further develop your research career for a

range of different sectors. You will complete a series of real-world tasks, such as preparing funding applications, presenting research, and writing journal articles. This creates a portfolio of work for you to take forward and is a good foundation for PhD study. You might even get a chance to publish your work.

### Our areas of focus

Across all of our courses we deliver a unique curriculum shaped around inspiring industrial partnerships, ground-breaking professional insights, knowledge exchange and research, divided into four key areas of focus:

- **Environment and engineering**  
Safe and sustainable energy, transport and material systems.
- **Social research and policy**  
Improving individual and community wellbeing through practice, provision and policy.
- **Human function and health**  
The evaluation of human function, health and the social context.
- **Media, culture and the arts**  
Communication, cultural and media studies, creative arts and practice.

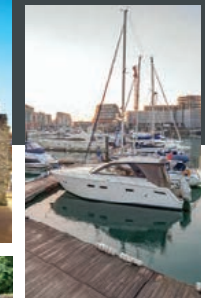
### Our research

Teaching across our art and design courses is research-led, and our academics publish, present and exhibit their research internationally and have collaborated with publishers including Routledge, Palgrave Macmillan and I.B. Tauris, and museums including the Fondazione Prada Venice and Southampton City Art Gallery. Our Art, Environment and Social Change research group meets regularly to critically explore current research in art and design, and to foster and support our growing cohort of postgraduate research students.





# 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. Big international acts come to St Mary's Stadium and the Utilita Bowl, while the O2 Guildhall hosts mainstream pop, and festivals are a regular part of our city park life.



BA (Hons)

## Animation

UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/W615](http://www.solent.ac.uk/W615)

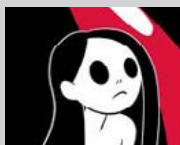
**Bring your characters to life using traditional, stop-motion or CGI animation techniques to develop your unique portfolio ready for when you graduate. Use specialist facilities to learn the full production process, from first draft storyboarding to complete productions.**

Learn professional animation principles across 2D and 3D, guided by an experienced course team who will support you to create a varied skillset and gain real-world experience, to be ready for the professional industry when you graduate.

- You'll be taught by an industry-active course team with a wealth of first-hand experience to share.
- Industry projects are embedded into the course, enabling you to gain vital experience during your studies.
- You'll access a range of specialist facilities, including traditional lightboxes, special effects workshops and green-screen rooms.
- Our in-house creative agency, Solent Creatives, provides you with the chance to pitch for paid work with commercial clients – past clients have included Bear Grylls, the BBC and Southampton Airport.
- Join our active student animation society.

### Suitable roles for graduates include:

Character animator, FX animation, rigger, background artist, storyboard artist, editor, director, technician, character designer, concept artist, sculptor, texture artist and video game artist.



## Scott Castles

Senior Designer, Industria Studios

BA (Hons) Animation, 2013

### Tell us about your current role.

Castles Create is my own creative studio which I started soon after graduating, so I was self-employed for nearly a decade. I have recently joined Industria Studios – an international content creation and multimedia marketing agency – as a senior designer.

I've taken on many projects within the marketing and communications sectors, teaming up regularly with ad agencies and content creators to deliver high-end animation and design. Most days I'm storyboarding or creating motion graphics in programs such as Cinema 4D and After Effects. I've had the pleasure of working with the likes of LEGO, Pokemon, EPIC, KING and many more.

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

Solent gave me time. Time to fail, time to grow, within a nurturing community of like-minded students and a supportive faculty. Meanwhile, Southampton provided the backdrop for an often

much-needed distraction, with plenty to explore, creating a nice lifestyle balance.

### Favourite memory from your time at Solent?

During my second year we were split into teams to work on live projects. It was great to go through the whole production pipeline and learn how the entire process worked. I think it provided great insight into the working world, and I remember learning so much from that experience.

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

Trust your own intuition. It's important to listen to the opinions of others around you, especially your tutors, but there is also a time to be confident in your own direction – the difficulty is knowing when. I believe that if you have something meaningful to contribute, and you're being honest with yourself, then you'll know to take it into consideration.





BA (Hons)

## Computer Games (Art)

UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/G450](http://www.solent.ac.uk/G450)

**Grow your artistic skills and build your professional portfolio in preparation for an exciting career in the gaming industry.**

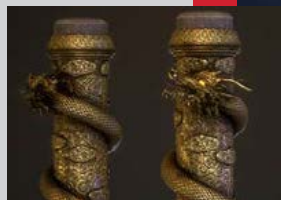
A key focus on this course is how to develop game-ready assets for computer games and real-time simulations. Using high-end facilities, create everything from character models to level design and environment rendering and textures.

At Solent, our excellent industry links help students gain opportunities to work on live briefs for real clients. In addition, our academic team is formed of professional experts who have wide-ranging experience in the gaming industry.

- Many of our graduates have gone on to work at AAA studios in the UK and across the world. These include Rockstar Games, Epic Games, Frontier Developments, Codemasters, Airship Interactive and Sumo Digital.
- Over the past five years we have had finalists in Grads in Games' Search for a Star and Rising Star competitions, including overall 'Character Art' category winners.
- Benefit from access to high-end hardware and software, including Unreal Engine 5, Maya, ZBrush, Substance Painter and Designer, and Marvellous Designer.
- Develop projects with students on other gaming courses at Solent.
- Gain industry insight from guest lecturers who are industry professionals and experts.
- Take part in a wide range of extracurricular activities with our video games academy, game jams, end-of-year graduate show and freelancing through our in-house creative agency, Solent Creatives.

### Suitable roles for graduates include:

3D generalist, CGI/VFX artist, 3D animator and prop artist.



## Oliver Miles

3D Artist, Mediatonic as part of Epic Games

BA (Hons) Computer and Video Games, 2010  
– now known as BA (Hons) Computer Games (Art)

### How did university prepare you for your career?

I was learning how to 3D model as a hobby before I started the course, so I already had a passion for making art for games. The course helped me to build up my skill base using industry-standard tools, and to get a better understanding of game development as a whole and how the different disciplines work together when making games. I think just being around other students was a great way to bounce knowledge around and allowed me to learn a lot faster.

### Tell us about your career story so far.

After graduating I moved back home and started applying for any graduate 3D artist jobs I could find. It was a challenge to find a role at first, but I kept working on my portfolio in my own time, really focusing on creating simple pieces of 3D art, but doing them well.

After two years I landed my first job at Jagex as a junior character artist. I was working on a game called *Transformers Universe* and it delivered on every expectation of what I thought a job in games would be like – I enjoyed it thoroughly. I worked there for two and a half years and learnt heaps. I then worked at Dambuster Studio in Nottingham for five months as an environment



artist. This involved working with existing assets rather than making new stuff, having joined quite late into development. I then moved back to Cambridge to work on brand-new IP for a new company at the time called PlayFusion, and for the last three years I have been working at a top company, Mediatonic as part of Epic Games, as a senior 3D character artist.

### In one sentence, what is 3D art to you?

Being a 3D artist is about having the ability to be artistic while understanding the technical aspects of creating game art, in addition to having a strong problem-solving mentality.

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

Focus on small, simple pieces of art to go into your portfolio, but make them as close to industry standard as possible. Websites such as ArtStation and Polycount are excellent resources to see what the current quality is for game art. You have to put your own time in – a university course will show you the tools, point you in the right direction and place you with like-minded people, but you need to spend your own time mastering your trade, because if you don't, someone else will, and they'll get the job.



BA (Hons)

## Fine Art

UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/FA01](http://www.solent.ac.uk/FA01)

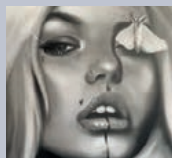


- Access to a range of dedicated specialist workshops. You will also be allocated personal studio space.
- Showcase your work at on-campus and external exhibitions.
- Strong industry links to organisations in Southampton and beyond, including the John Hansard Gallery, the Showcase Gallery, the City Art Gallery, Aspace Arts, God's House Tower and the Aspex Gallery.
- Learn from highly skilled industry professionals with recent and extensive experience in research, exhibition, publications and commission-based work.

This course embraces all possible ways of making and thinking about fine art practice. You will be taught new skills and techniques, and will learn how to use a variety of mediums in order to produce art to a very high standard. You will have the opportunity to pursue the mediums, ideas and processes that you are most passionate about.

We will nurture what is particular about you and your practice to support you to cultivate your artistic talent and grow into confident and original thinkers and makers.

**Our graduates now work as:**  
professional artists, painters, sculptors, teachers, art therapists, curators and more.



## 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](http://www.megangeorgiasmith.co.uk)

“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.”





BA (Hons)

## Graphic Design

UCAS tariff: **104–120**

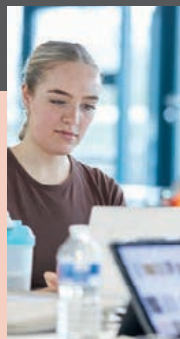
Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/GD01](http://www.solent.ac.uk/GD01)

- Enter industry competitions to gain exposure for your creative work. Past students have found success at the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) Student Design Awards, the Design and Art Direction (D&AD) Awards and the Creative Conscience Awards.
- Access to high-end printing and design facilities, including two Vandercook letterpresses, three screen-print beds and three Intaglio/etching presses for calligraphy and etching work.
- Pitch for paid work with commercial clients through our in-house agency, Solent Creatives.
- You will build a professional portfolio to evidence your experience.

This course encourages you to explore a range of professional techniques and develop your own unique visual style. Throughout the course you will create visual products for a range of printed and digital mediums, and explore academic theories and visual culture in the context of contemporary graphic design.

Your professional development is supported by a wide range of high-end printing and design facilities. Students also have access to photographic studios and darkrooms, a fully equipped workshop for metal and wood-working, and Apple Macs with the latest Adobe Creative Suite software.

**Our graduates now work as:**  
graphic designers, illustrators, multimedia designers, web/UX designers and more.



## DINES®

Co-Founder/Creative Director,  
Studio BLUP

BA (Hons) Graphic Design, 2011

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.

[www.dines.london](http://www.dines.london)  
[www.studioblup.com](http://www.studioblup.com)  
[www.instagram.com/\\_dines](https://www.instagram.com/_dines)  
[www.instagram.com/studio\\_blup](https://www.instagram.com/studio_blup)

### Tell us a bit about your career journey so far.

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.

### 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 into 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.



BA (Hons)

## Illustration

UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/IL01](http://www.solent.ac.uk/IL01)

- Our academic team includes professionals with excellent links with industry, enabling you to work on projects from real clients.
- Access specialist print room facilities, including screen-printing, letterpress and etching presses.
- You will build a professional portfolio to evidence your experience.
- Enter industry competitions to gain exposure for your creative work.

This innovative degree explores the art of illustration and visual communication in children's and adults' narrative, together with editorial and journalistic illustration which explores new approaches to contemporary illustration.

You will be encouraged to experiment and develop your own voice in an environment where you will feel free to take risks, and be ambitious in developing your personal approach to visual art as either a practitioner or critic and theorist. Emphasis is placed on gaining hands-on practice, from working in the print room to drawing on the streets, and working on projects and case studies to gain experience of working on live briefs.

**Our graduates now work as:**  
freelance illustrators, art workers in publishing or design houses and more.



Grumpy clockmaker Hans has no time for his neighbours. He wants more time for himself. One evening, his complaints bring wise old Father Time to the workshop, and Father Time knows exactly what to do.



### Lucy Rose Turner

Freelance Children's Book Illustrator

BA (Hons) Illustration, 2020

#### Tell us about what you've been up to since leaving Solent.

I have been a freelance illustrator for three years, during which time I have illustrated two children's books and am currently working on my third. I also run my own online small business where I illustrate and press my own products such as bottles, mugs, cushions and tote bags.

#### What do you enjoy most about being an illustrator?

The thing I enjoy the most about being a children's book illustrator is creating different and unique characters, then exploring who they are within and outside the story – their likes and dislikes, and their characteristics and morals. I then enjoy forming a visual space around them, creating their day-to-day objects, pets and world.

#### What has been your career highlight to date?

One of the highlights of my career so far is seeing my illustrated book published and watching people buy and read the book and loving the characters I've drawn.

#### What's your favourite Solent memory?

My favourite memory of studying at Solent is the many evening showcases where the Art and Design subjects got together to present work or to celebrate holidays such as Halloween or Christmas. It was such fun to spend time outside of the taught lesson with my friends and lecturers.



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

My advice to anyone who wants to follow in my footsteps is to not compare yourself to others who have more experience than you, and to take time to explore your style and have fun with your art.

Facebook: LucyRose Illustrations  
Instagram: @lucyroseillustrations  
Website: [www.lucyroseillustrations.co.uk](http://www.lucyroseillustrations.co.uk)

“ One of the highlights of my career so far is seeing my illustrated book published.



BA (Hons)

## Interior Design

UCAS tariff: **104–120**

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/ID01](http://www.solent.ac.uk/ID01)

- Solent is an SBID Centre of Excellence, making us a central hub for interior design professionals in the south-east.
- You will study in a modern studio space with facilities and software including CAD stations, Revit, Vector Works, Adobe Illustrator and SketchUp Pro, as well as both 3D and large format scanners.
- Gain real-world experience and work on projects for clients, thanks to the team's industry links.
- The course has connections with staff from several New York-based interior design schools who have previously delivered guest lectures and studio crits.

This interior design programme blends aesthetics and technology, asking students to use their design, research and problem-solving skills to create amazing indoor spaces. Real-world learning is at the heart of this course, delivered through close association with industry using, where possible, live briefs and employer input to help students secure roles in industry.

Throughout the course you will be able to combine creativity with technical skills to help you understand, design, visualise and make interior spaces in domestic, retail, workplace, hospitality and commercial sectors. The course emphasises on the architectural elements of interior design, where you will learn the principles of space planning, functionality and user experience/journey, as well as sustainability, wellbeing, material selection, aesthetics and professional practice within an interior setting.

### Our graduates now work at:

Morgan Lovell  
Kelly Hoppen Studio  
Hello Flamingo  
Porcelanosa  
BoConcept  
Plus, further study at RCA



“This course is for you if you have a passion for design and want to turn your interest in interior architecture into a living.”

## Tanya Lippuner

Founder, Managing Director and Lead Designer, Vivus Interiors

BA (Hons) Interior Design, 2021

### Tell us a bit about your company and what a typical day looks like for you.

A typical day involves managing our various projects from concept to completion, delivering specifications to contractors/architects and clients, meeting tight deadlines, site visits and client meetings, as well as dealing with enquiries and quoting for new work. Key to success is listening to and fully understanding the client's needs.

### What do you enjoy most about working in interior design, and what are the biggest challenges?

I love that the projects are so varied – we enjoy working with different styles and meeting all the requirements on the projects. Working on commercial projects is very different to residential – both have their benefits and challenges, but are equally rewarding.

### How do you feel your studies at Solent helped prepare you for your career in interior design?

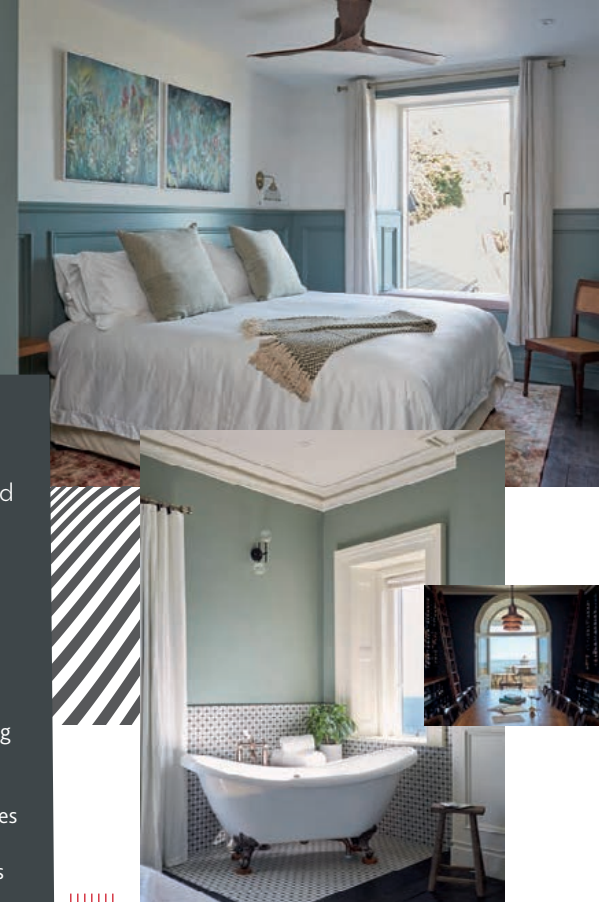
My studies helped me feel confident, when leaving university, to start up my own business and deliver plans, visuals and design proposals to clients, as well as working alongside other design and build professionals in the industry.

### What advice would you give to students who want to follow in your footsteps?

My advice would be to get as much project experience as early as possible (start while you are studying), be self-critical and reflective, always explore what you can do better, keep learning, be accurate in your work, pay attention to detail, communicate as much as possible, and be open-minded and adaptable. It is also very useful to be skilled in website design and image-led social media to promote your work and company.

### What's coming up next for you professionally?

We have just completed a very exciting restaurant on a lightship in Hampshire, are currently working on a design for a 41-bedroom seaside hotel on the Isle of Wight, and have many residential projects running alongside.





BA (Hons)

## Interior Design Decoration

UCAS tariff: **104–120**

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/IDD1](http://www.solent.ac.uk/IDD1)

- Solent is an SBID Centre of Excellence, making us a central hub for interior design professionals in the south-east. Our course is also accredited by SBID.
- The opportunity to work on a range of live briefs. Recent projects have been with John Lewis of Hungerford's, Kurt Geiger, Palace House, (Beaulieu Estate), The Clothes Show and Linden Show Homes.
- Study under the guidance of an expert teaching team who are experienced professionals with a wealth of interior and lifestyle industry experience to share.
- Access to a range of specialist equipment for surface decoration, spatial design and interior styling. These include a digital laser cutter and industry-standard photographic studios.

Whether you're interested in interior design, surface decoration, textiles or interior styling, Solent University's interior design decoration programme will help you to improve your practical skills and begin a unique career in this exciting creative industry. With an expert teaching team and a strong emphasis on the decorative elements of the interior and lifestyle industry, you'll gain the practical experience and support required to create a professional portfolio and get your career off to the ideal start.

The course places a strong emphasis on gaining hands-on experience, and students are encouraged to work on industry-led projects.

Through the course team's strong industry links, past students have had the opportunity to gain self-directed work experience in both commercial and domestic design-led environments.

### Our graduates now work at:

Tro  
Harrods  
Shelton Fleming  
Neptune  
Claydon Reeves  
Fortnum and Masons



## Jason Livingstone

Mid-weight Store Designer, Kurt Geiger

BA (Hons) Interior Design Decoration, 2017

### How did Solent prepare you for your career?

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

### Favourite Solent memory?

The moment when my friends and I handed in our final major project. This was the accumulation of three years' worth of projects, essays and presentations alongside laughter, tears and friendship. It was a huge achievement personally as I am someone who has previously struggled with education.

### Tell us a little about your career story so far.

Luckily, I am one of a few who can say they got a position before they attended their graduation. I started out in the industry at Ted Baker London, working with some of the world's finest department stores such as Harrods, Selfridges and Bloomingdales, before moving on to global store design in locations such as South Africa.

Recently I moved to luxury retailer Kurt Geiger London to join its in-house design team working on showrooms, concessions and stores globally. I work across multiple projects at once, designing, sourcing, project managing and styling our stores.

### What is interior design decoration?

This specialty degree gives a fundamental understanding of the process of design from concept to completion, encompassing everything from decoration to spatial planning.

### 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 or sustain a long career. Passion for what you do is something you can't fake – you have to absolutely love it.





BA (Hons)

## Make-up and Hair Design

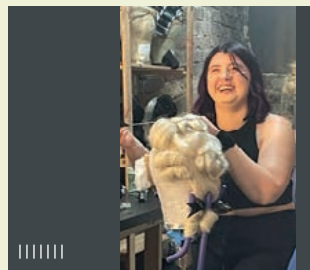
UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/MHD1](http://www.solent.ac.uk/MHD1)

- Solent was one of the first universities in the UK to offer a degree in make-up and hair design – you will learn from some of the best in the business.
- Solent was the first university to offer professional make-up teams, led by students and graduates, inside the industry.
- Solent has fantastic, industry-standard make-up, hair and prosthetics studios. The beauty room, the body lab and the prosthetics studio are just three of the areas you'll work in, while capturing your work in our specialist photography, TV and film studios. There are amazing opportunities for collaboration and friendships with students from other courses.
- You will learn from professionals and academics with specialised experience in editing, digital media, performance, journalism, film, magazines, styling, art direction, editorial, advertising, PR, and critical and theoretical studies.

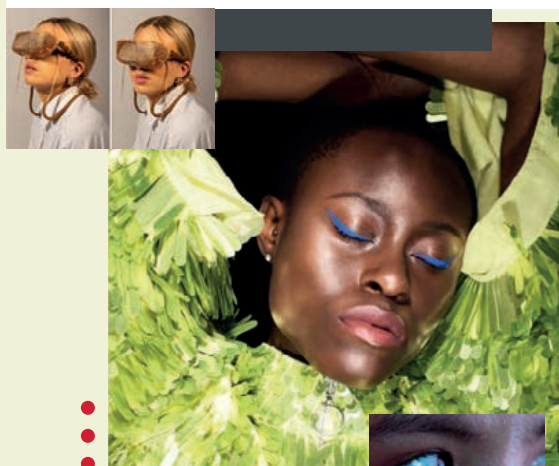
Nurture your individual design identity and develop professional artistry skills on this stimulating and creative make-up and hair design course, ready to launch a dynamic career as a make-up and hair designer.

On this course you will explore the many contexts of make-up and hair design within the creative industries. You will also be encouraged to take an experimental approach to application, materials and creative development processes to produce innovative and contemporary design work. And to enable you to operate across design platforms, you will be trained in photography, film and digital publishing.



### Our graduates now work as:

Freelance make-up artists working on fashion shows, theatre, TV and film and more.  
Wig specialists in the West End  
Sculptors



## Gracie Jai Cox

Freelance Hair and Make-up Artist

BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design, 2021

### Tell us a bit about your role and what a typical day looks like for you.

I'm a freelance hair and make-up artist currently working in TV, fashion, commercials and music. Every day at work is a shoot day for me – I'll be on set getting talent ready for either a photoshoot, a film shoot or a live studio set where I'll be on standby all day for touch-ups. Depending on the project, I also spend a lot of time prepping looks, researching trends and creating mood boards to discuss with a client or celebrity, depending on what type of job I have coming up – but this tends to happen in the evenings or on the odd day off (when I get them).

### What do you enjoy most about your role, and what are the biggest challenges?

I think what I enjoy most about my job is meeting loads of new people every day, building my network with other talented creatives, and most importantly, making people in the chair feel comfortable and amazing once they're ready. The biggest challenges I face all involve problem-solving and adapting my skills in the moment, whether this is due to weather conditions, products not complying or just the

movement of shots, all of which become easier to manage with experience and tips I've gained from other make-up artists.

### What's been your career highlight so far?

My top career highlights so far would definitely be the Lululemon campaign which was shot in North Wales, and also working on a Dua Lipa music video.

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

Solent prepared me for my career in many ways, both personally and professionally. Whether it was understanding the importance of research, trend forecasting or developing your ideas through practice, the course made these processes become habit, and it has proven to be super-important in my career when developing ideas for make-up or hair designs! As well as this, the support and encouragement from all of the tutors made a massive difference to my experience at Solent, and I definitely wouldn't have had the same transition into my career if it wasn't for them.



BA (Hons)

# Photography

UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/PH01](http://www.solent.ac.uk/PH01)

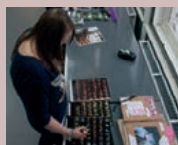
- You will be taught by a highly skilled course team, with a rich breadth of knowledge and experience, and a range of backgrounds. Staff are all active photographic practitioners, writers and researchers, and have published and exhibited widely in the UK and internationally.
- Free access to an extensive media loans programme including high-end DSLR cameras, an extensive range of lenses, 35mm cameras, medium format cameras, large format 5x4 cameras and lenses, and a full stock of accessories: light meters, tripods, flash guns.
- Industry links with agencies and establishments such as the Association of Photographers (AOP) in London, theprintsplace, East Photographic, Canon, Sony and the Association for Photography in Higher Education (APHE).

Throughout the course you will be supported to develop your creative, imaginative and critical abilities – skills that are essential in a creative career. You'll also explore a range of photographic subjects and will embed photographic skills through dynamic projects.

Solent's experienced teaching team will guide you in creating a rich and varied professional portfolio, and will ensure that you have the creative freedom to make a portfolio that best represents your own unique style, while at the same time demonstrating that you are a competent, adaptable and employable practitioner.

## Our graduates now work in:

commercial, editorial, fashion, portrait, documentary, photojournalism, landscape and fine art photography and more.



## 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.

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.

### 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.

### 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. particular highlight.





BA (Hons)

## Prosthetics and Special Effects Design

UCAS tariff: 104–120

Course page and UCAS code: [www.solent.ac.uk/PSE1](http://www.solent.ac.uk/PSE1)

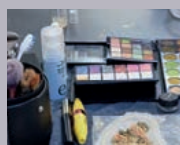
- Study in fantastic specialist facilities that include industry-focused special effects studios, a fibre glass lab, a plaster room, 3D printing labs, make-up and hair design studios and photography studios including an infinity cove.
- The course is taught by industry professionals and academics with experience in film, theatre and special effects for film, TV and speculative design, who will help you develop a professional portfolio.
- Work on projects for real clients; get involved in brand competitions (for example, Kryolan Zombiefied); take part in professional events such as the Isle of Wight Terror Island Event or the International Make-up Artists Trade Show (IMATS) in London; collaborate with The Grange and The Mayflower theatres.
- Special effects design challenges and competitions to celebrate talent and innovation.

Push the limits of your creative boundaries on this dynamic prosthetics and special effects degree. With a hands-on approach to design for a range of contexts, you'll be supported to develop the skills and experience to enter a range of careers in the creative industries after graduation.

You will be encouraged to take an explorative and technical approach to prosthetics application, use of materials and creative development processes to produce innovative and contemporary special effects design work. This will include sculpting, moulding and casting for character and creature effects, refined application of make-up and hair effects, and designing with 2D and 3D modelling.

### Suitable roles for graduates include:

special effects make-up designer, prosthetics artist, prosthetics sculptor, mould-maker, creature concept and character designer, casualty simulator and more.



## Thomas Pitt

BA (Hons) Prosthetics and Special Effects Design, student

“This course is for you if you have aspirations and dreams for the creative industry of special effects. There's a wide range of opportunities at Solent, where you can become involved in the world of SFX and get to know its ins and outs.”

### What was your favourite part of the course?

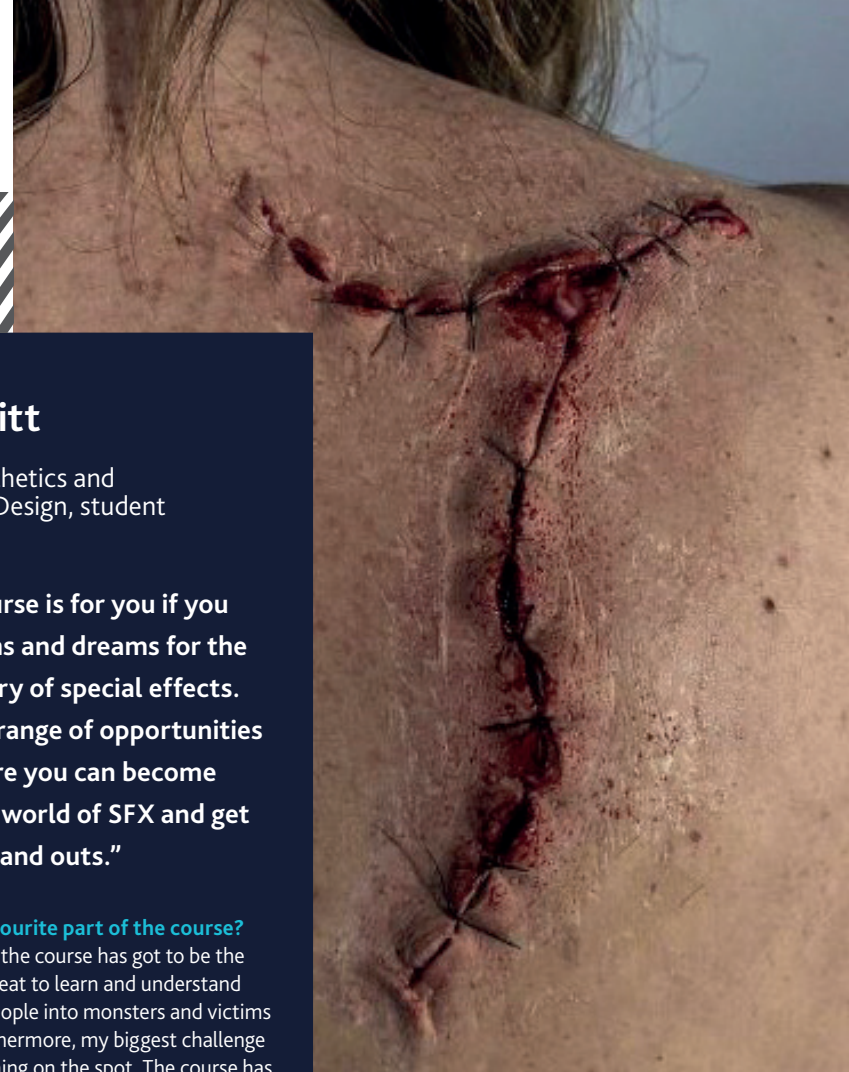
My favourite part of the course has got to be the practical side. It is great to learn and understand how to transform people into monsters and victims for the camera. Furthermore, my biggest challenge is adapting and learning on the spot. The course has helped me to understand how reliant the industry can be, and how you should always make back-up plans just in case.

### How has this course helped you prepare for your future career?

The course has helped me to look at myself as a designer rather than someone in the background – a person who can challenge, think and adapt. I believe the course has guided me into a future career by not only the practices of prosthetics; but by selling yourself and your work, putting yourself out there and taking risks. From a student to a designer, the past three years have shown growth and confidence in what to believe in and how to be a good creative.

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

The advice I would give anyone, doesn't even have to be for creatives, but always believe in the things you want to say or ask. There are always times, where we stop and think, but through my time at Solent, I've learnt to optimistically ask questions and that's a great quality to show. As for prosthetics design, it's always trial and error; it's how we all learn. Keep believing in the process; sketching your ideas is always a great way to start, it shows variety.





# SOLENT CREATIVES

## student talent for industry

Solent Creatives is Solent University's student-powered freelancing agency, helping students to embark on freelance work experience and build a portfolio by introducing you to real, paid creative assignments from businesses of all sizes.

You'll be supported by the Solent Creatives team to collaborate with clients, create amazing work and belong to a community of creative students.

The team also provides training, advice and expertise to enable you to start your freelancing career alongside your studies. Opportunities include: videography, photography, graphic design, animation, post-production, web design, content creation for social media, writing, and more.

For more information visit:  
[www.solentcreatives.co.uk](http://www.solentcreatives.co.uk)



Re:So's clothes  
swap in spring 2024  
saved almost  
200 items from  
landfill.

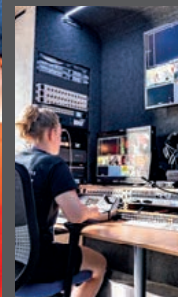


## Re:So

The Retail Solent Initiative

Re:So is Southampton Solent University's retail initiative, showcasing student and graduate talents across a range of creative disciplines. Our creative students and graduates can use the store as a platform to sell their creations in the campus store or online (Teemill and Etsy), gain work experience, or take up mentoring opportunities to help boost their skills and experience.

The initiative derives from the University's work-based learning modules, providing students with the experience of applying for a placement or job, being interviewed, and ultimately working in roles such as merchandising, social media, marketing, and product photography. Students also get the experience of working as a team on pop-up and community events.





## Course list

| Course   | UCAS tariff points | Foundation Year available | UCAS code |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| BA (Hons) Animation                              | 104–120            | Y                         | W615      |
| BA (Hons) Computer Games (Art)                   | 104–120            | Y                         | G450      |
| BA (Hons) Fine Art                               | 104–120            | Y                         | FA01      |
| BA (Hons) Graphic Design                         | 104–120            | Y                         | GD01      |
| BA (Hons) Illustration                           | 104–120            | Y                         | IL01      |
| BA (Hons) Interior Design                        | 104–120            | Y                         | ID01      |
| BA (Hons) Interior Design Decoration             | 104–120            | Y                         | IDD1      |
| BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design                | 104–120            | Y                         | MHD1      |
| BA (Hons) Photography                            | 104–120            | Y                         | PH01      |
| BA (Hons) Prosthetics and Special Effects Design | 104–120            | Y                         | PSE1      |
| Art and Design Foundation Year                   | 48                 | –                         | –         |

## Art and design Foundation Year

The foundation year provides all the creative, technical and study skills needed for entry onto one of our degree-level art, built environment, design, or fashion courses.

## Postgraduate study at Solent

Solent University also offers a range of postgraduate courses in art and design, meaning that if you decide to continue your studies after your undergraduate degree, there are many options available to you.

| Course                             | Course length    |                   |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| MA Fine Art                        | 1 year full-time | 2 years part-time |
| MA Make-up and Hair Design Futures | 1 year full-time | 2 years part-time |
| MA Visual Communication            | 1 year full-time | 2 years part-time |

## How to apply

Solent University code name: **SOLNT**  
Solent University UCAS code: **S30**



\* Applications to Solent University are open until 30 June, after this point you will be automatically entered into Clearing.

## 52 weeks to go

Thinking about university but not sure what's next? Cut through the confusion and get ready for uni with our friendly weekly breakdown, offering advice and tips on every step of the way - from picking a course that's right for you to applying, enrolling and moving in.

Follow along at [www.solent.ac.uk/52-weeks](http://www.solent.ac.uk/52-weeks)





Discover our courses

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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](mailto:admissions@solent.ac.uk)

[www.solent.ac.uk](http://www.solent.ac.uk)

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