

FACULTY FOR THE CREATIVE & CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

WORKSHOPS & STUDIOS

The Faculty has a range of workshops and computing suites providing for work with diverse materials and processes. The activities which are supported span from digital technologies to craft practices.

STUDIOS

Studio based schemes are allocated study spaces in which each student has a desk and display area whilst digitally based students have a base room where they can display work, hold seminars and tutorials and work as individuals or in groups.

All students are booked into Faculty workshops by staff running particular activities and individual students can also book themselves into particular facilities by negotiating with local technical officers who will ascertain their competence to undertake a particular task and will undertake health and safety checks to ensure safe working practices.

WORKSHOPS

The workshops are organised into discrete areas. All workshops are run by specialist technical officers who offer support and advice as well as administering equipment hire commensurate with undergraduate study. The various workshop areas across the Faculty have been organised to give all students access to a variety of media and disciplines.

2D Workshop

Textiles

Has specialist areas for construction, and for print work with facilities to support transfer and screen printing. It has a dye lab and a baking oven for dye work, an area is dedicated to paper making and the workshop has a steamer for felt making. A stitch room uses sewing machines and specialist embroidery software has been acquired to support the area. The silkscreen area has frame stretching, a developing area for photo sensitive emulsions, it has drying racks for prints and a pressure wash bay for screen cleaning.

Printmaking

Has areas dedicated to litho, lino, etching and screen printing process. It has a fume extract system, acid baths inking tables, aquatint box, guillotine, hot plates, drying racks and three presses for etching. The lino/litho area has one offset and three direct presses for printing from litho stones and plates, as well as three lino presses. Four specialist screen printing tables are supplemented by two adaptable work / print table. The area also has drying racks and its own pressure wash facility for cleaning screens.

Fashion

There is a workspace devoted to Fashion with machining and pattern cutting areas to facilitate the design and construction of clothing. This includes industrial sewing, overlocking and multiple thread machines as well as presses for hand finishing used alongside computers running design and presentation software.

3D Workshop 1 / Shaping, Forming & Finishing

Machine Shop

Gives access to centre lathes and milling machines [including a CNC Mill] for machining plastics, metals and timber. Band and circular saws are used for cutting and shaping bulk materials. Vacuum forming and line bending can be operated with plastic sheet, whilst sanding and finishing machines are for fine finishing.

Casting Room

Facilitates plaster mould making, the room has fettling benches and is set-up to produce castings in various resins and rubbers.

Spray & GRP Booth

The 'Dry Back' spray booth gives access to a large scale industrial standard paint spraying facility linked with fume extract and work bench for fibre glass work

The Rapid Prototyping Unit

handles **Laser Cutting** of acrylic, MDF and paper/card, the machine will also etch on glass and stone or any of the above materials.

The **3D Printer** has a build volume of 200 x 250 x 200 mm and will create models in plaster from 3D STL, IGES, and DXF files with an accuracy of + or - 0.07mm.

The **Vacuum Casting** chamber enables moulds to be made from silicon rubber.

This equipment can then be used for batch production in a variety of resins which can be flexible rigid, transparent or opaque

The facility also has one seat of ClayTools software linked to Rhino for organic modelling

Glass Workshop

This houses equipment for working sheet glass and uses abrasives and water cooled drills including a growing provision for flame work. It shares the kilns for forming and fusing glass.

Ceramics Area

Slab and thrown work is supported in this area which has a glaze area and damp room. The kiln room houses a variety of kilns providing a range of firing facilities.

3D 2 Workshop / Construction, Carving & Installation

The second 3D workshop gives access to construction and carving facilities and has bookable areas set out for installation work. It has workshop areas dedicated to :-

Small Metals / Jewellery

This facility has fine work benches and hand tools for cutting, bending and forming sheet materials linked with soldering and heat treatment equipment for jewellery and small metals work.

Metals Area

Has a forge, anvil, heavy duty mechanical saw, guillotines, fly press, rolling bars and a buffing machine.

Welding Bay

The welding facility gives access to gas, mig and spot welding and flame cutting of metals

Frame Bay

The bay provides band and circular saws for cutting timber to width and to length as well as a guillotine for mitring frames and stretchers.

Wood Machining

Has equipment for cutting and shaping timber for later conversion into various types of artwork.

Plaster Room

Provides a facility for clay modelling and mould making in plaster linked with casting in plaster and wax

Photography Workshops [see also digital print]

The photographic facilities provide dark rooms for developing B&W film and includes a processor for colour work. There are also 'class sets' and a project room with enlargers and sinks for manipulating and printing B&W images. There is a finishing area adjacent to a photographic and video studio which allows for film making as well as photo shoots. It has ceiling mounted floods and a stock of portable red heads and other lighting units. Coloured back drops as well as green screening for chroma keying and compositing work.

The Therapies Workshops

These areas support a variety art therapy activity and have private areas for the development of confidential work alongside group spaces for interaction and discussion.

The Music Centre

The centre has seminar rooms equipped to support music teaching and has specialist computer suites [noted below] to support the discipline. It also has performance spaces for particular instruments i.e. the Gamelan and has access to university rehearsal rooms and an anechoic chamber and a campus TV studio for recording. It also has a performance space in the centre that is supplemented by use of the 150 seat Prince Edward Hall on the Hatfield Campus and the 250 seat Weston Auditorium on the DeHavilland campus for more formal performances.

Computing Suites

All of the A&D computing suites are dedicated to particular functions and positioned as close to their user groups as possible. [see separate listing of units and their facilities]

FACULTY WORKSHOP BOOKING

The Faculty facilities have been divided into discrete bookable locations which can be reserved firstly by staff who can, at the beginning of each semester, block book particular spaces for work with student groups. They can also book one off sessions in unreserved space at any time by noting it in the timetable log which is held and administered by the Faculty Receptionist.

Individual students can also book particular pieces of equipment or space by negotiation with the technical staff in each area. The technicians will advise on the necessary equipment and time needed to undertake a particular function whilst also ensuring that health and safety procedures are maintained.

The music centre is timetabled by an academic member of staff outside of these block booking Student Proctors are employed to keep the building functioning until at least 7.00pm each night so that individual students can access equipment and spaces.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Appropriate Health & Safety training is given to appropriate student groups as part of their academic study. In higher risk areas such as the 3D machine shop graded training is in place, ensuring appropriate access to processes and equipment, this is supplemented with an internet competency tutorial and questionnaire. All students are encouraged to develop an independent approach to negotiating the use of resources outside timetabled hours.

THE LEARNING RESOURCES CENTRE

The Faculty resources are supplemented by the LRC's on the College Lane and de Havilland campuses, The Faculty on the College Lane site and has a £16M LRC, opened in September 1998. This houses a collection of 500,000 books, a range of subject related databases, 6000 journal titles including 3,500 Electronic journals. It keeps the reserve collection of key materials as well as videos, CDs, tapes and slides which are housed alongside the book stock. The internet is available from the 800 workstations which run the basic software needed by each Faculty. All of the computers give access to StudyNet [the University's Managed Learning Environment] which continues to develop the student intranet. This is complimented by a similar facility on the adjoining campus. These buildings are open 24 hours a day from Monday to Friday closing only 23.00 on Saturday until 11.00 on Sunday and 23.00 Sunday until 8.00 on Monday.

The LRC will provide new discipline related journals and a book stock dedicated to the new area of study.

FACULTY FOR THE CREATIVE & CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

COMPUTING SUITES

INTRODUCTION

The Faculty has a range of specialist computer suites dedicated to particular functions. These are positioned in locations which link them as closely as possible to their user group. We have focused each suite on a particular set of software activities and linked each to their relevant output and input devices.

Currently we have suites dedicated to the following :-

1] Animation and PC Multimedia / Two suites with 45 and 38 Pcs, each with a copy of Studio Max and Photoshop. 10 Machines run Combustion and 40 have a copy of Maya, The students can also use the two copies of the ClayTools sculpting packages we have running nearby on 2 PC's with Haptic arms attached.

3Ds Max 8.0 for 91 pc's

Combustion 3.0 for 10 pc's

Combustion 4.0 for 10 pc's

Maya for 38 pc's

ClayTools for 3 pcs

PhotoShop 7.0 for 52 pcs

2] Image and Graphics I & 2 / 40 Macs in two suites running Adobe Creative Studio software for Graphics and Imaging

InDesign 2.0 for 40 macs

PhotoShop 7.0 for 40 macs

Illustrator 10.0 for 30 macs and 10 pc's

Acrobat 6.0 for 40 macs

GoLive for 40 macs

FontoGrapher 4.1 for 2 macs

Quark Xpress for 10 macs

3] 3D Model / 23 PCs in one suite running Pro Engineer, Solid Works software and Rhino for product modeling and rapid prototyping work

ProEngineer 2001 unlimited site licence for pc's and for student machines

Solid Works for 23 pc's

Rhino two lab packs for pc's

4] Mac Interactive Media / 20 Macs in one suite running Macromedia packages such as Director, Flash and DreamWeaver, these machine also run Premier and iMovie for video work

Flash MX for 30 pc's and 20 macs

Dreamweaver MX for 40 pc's and 20 macs

Director MX for 10 pc's and 25 macs

After Effects 5.5 for 20 macs

Premier for 20 macs

iMovie for 20 macs

5] Video and Sound / 13 machines, 6 Macs 7 PCs with Premier on both the Macs and PC's, Final Cut Pro on the Macs, Cubase

Premier 6.5 for 22 pc's and 11 macs

After Effects 6.5 for 8 pc's and 1 mac

After Effects 5.5 for 6 macs

Final Cut Pro 4.0 for 6 macs

Sound Forge 5.0 for 2 pc's

Cool Edit Pro for 4 pc

Bias Peak 3.0 for 6 pc's

CuBase 5.1 4 pc and 1 mac

Deck 3.5 for 20 macs

Hallion 2.0 for 5 pc's

Studio DV Pro 1.5 for 6 pc's

Adobe Encore DVD for 12 pc's

6] Fashion / 6 Macs with Adobe Creative Studio software

PhotoShop 7.0 for 6 macs

Illustrator 10.0 for 6 macs

7] The Music Centre

20 Apple PowerMac G5 workstations, with a dual-monitor setup for the video workstations

20 Apple Powermac G4 workstations

We have a large range of many different software packages, from high-end DAW packages like Logic Pro 7 and Digital Performer 4.5 to virtual studio-type emulators like Reason 2.5 to high-end video packages like Final Cut Pro and DVD Studio Pro, to full development environments like Max/MSP 4.5. Industry-standard applications designed for heavy-duty use.

Logic Pro 7

Digital Performer 4.5

DVD Studio Pro

Final Cut Pro

Reason 3
MAX/MSP 4.5
Pro Tools Le 6.4 and HD
Adobe Premiere
Peak
Audacity
Finale 2006
Flash, Director, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, Freehand (MX)
ReVision
Praat
Modalys-Er
Audiosculpt

We have a full range of audio interfaces, effects units, mixers, samplers and media players/recorders. Our outboard is also often pre-configured for use with the workstations, enabling easy use of the whole range of operations available

MOTU 828 MkII
Digidesign Mbox
TVR Video Card
AKAI S300XL
Lexicon Effects
Tascam DA-20 DAT Machine
HHB CD Burners
MIDI Express XT
Midisport 2x2
Yamaha 01V Mixing Desks
Yamaha PROMix01 Mixing Desks
Roland XP-10 Keyboards
Roland PC-200 MIDI Controllers
Mackie 1202 Mixing Desks

Linked to these suites listed above we have particular facilities :-

The Print Shop

handles print output, on four A2 inkjet printers and an industry standard prepress machine capable of high quality print and photographic output onto a variety of papers, films and fabrics. It will print up to 1100 mm wide on rolls that can be up to 10 metres long.

The Fashion Suite

has a A3 scanner and printer within the workshop.

By organising facilities alongside work areas we are able to maintain the links with other aspects of the Faculty which is so much a part of art and design project work, in this way we also ensure that the computing facilities remain an active part of cross faculty functions.

MACHINE SPECIFICATION

All Macs are G4 and 5's

All PC's are multimedia specification

INPUT / OUTPUT

All suites now have a data projector

The Graphics and Print suites have A4 and A3 scanners with A4 B&W and an A3 Colour Laser for proofing prints

The Animation Suite has a Render Farm set up which links machines for overnight rendering of complex images and animations.

3D Modelling downloads files to the Rapid Prototyping Unit

All machines have full internet access

We have recently set up a student file storage system on the Faculty server.

We have a license for various Font Libraries

We are currently making all Macs and PC the same with concurrent software licenses managed by the Faculty Server

All suites include display facilities for prints of work in progress, etc.

BOOKING COMPUTER SUITES

We have instigated a 4 session day for computer booking 9.00 - 12.00, 12.00 - 3.00, 3.00 - 6.00 and 6.00 - 9.00 which allows for our foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate programmes as well as our open studies courses. The bookings system permits block booking for teaching groups at the start of the year with individual bookings by staff and students for self directed study and one off sessions entered on an ongoing basis.