

Contemporary Craft BA (Hons)

UCAS Code: Combined Honours only (Please see website for details)

Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2026/2027

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

Contemporary Craft is an exciting major focused on hands-on design and making. We aim to build a supportive community where emerging makers and designers can reach their creative potential. This leads to specialised craft works, innovative projects, and new career paths.

Liverpool Hope University offers specialized facilities in metal, ceramics, textiles, and digital design. With dedicated tutoring and technical support, it is an inspiring place to study. You'll explore materials and share ideas and goals. Masterclasses, lectures, and group seminars will explore key themes. These include the joy of making, materiality, sustainability, personal direction, collaboration, and craft identities.

We emphasize professional practice and employability. You'll work on live projects with support from university partners in Liverpool and the North West. You'll gain work experience and might even have a placement year.

A Contemporary Craft graduate can explore many careers. They might become a craft or design practitioner, a community worker, or a creative producer. They can also teach or engage in postgraduate research.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2026/2027 are £9,790 for full-time undergraduate courses.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence:
www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.



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Contemporary Craft Curriculum

Year One

The first year syllabus covers three core elements of study:

Craft Fundamentals

This module introduces students to the material areas at the heart of contemporary craft: ceramics, metals, and textiles. Students also experience workshops in wood and the digital fabrication lab.

Design and Drawing

This module strengthens the creative process within the contemporary craft course, directly supporting studio practice and project work.

Visual Culture

This element enriches the contemporary craft course by introducing students to a wide range of approaches in the field. Key examples from practitioners and communities of practice demonstrate the values, narratives, and journeys that shape contemporary making.

Tutorials

Weekly student-led tutorials bring the group together to share work, refine research, and build study skills.

Year Two

Year two covers three core elements of study, which support the development of personal creative directions and professional knowledge. These are:

Craft Directions

Based in the material areas of ceramics, metals and textiles and digital fabrication lab, Craft Directions establishes and supports the development of personal creative directions.

Professional Development

This element is designed to help students shape their emerging professional identity within contemporary craft. Students research and define their personal craft or design direction while positioning themselves

within the broader professional landscape.

Visual Culture

The weekly Visual Culture lectures broaden the students' approach to craft, elevating the students' understanding of contemporary craft research and practice within the professional field.

Year Three

The third year covers three elements which enable development of coherent craft identities, advanced material practice and professional expertise.

Craft Futures

Craft Futures enables the realisation of confident, ambitious collections of work. Students define independent project briefs, which can involve collaborative and real world scenarios.

Professional Development

The Professional Development sessions support students to synthesise professional knowledge and understanding, supporting the development of the Craft Futures project and preparing students for professional practice and/or further study.

Viva

Following the submission of work, students will be required to have a short viva examination.

Tutorial

Tutorials combine group discussion with one-to-one support, offering space for reflection, feedback, and personalised guidance.

Contemporary Craft Research Project

The Research Project has two options:

- 15-credit Research Project (aligned with Contemporary Craft Major), or
- 30-credit Integrated Dissertation, spanning both Majors.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree includes lectures, practical seminars, technical masterclasses and weekly group tutorials.

In addition to formal teaching, you are expected to spend a number of hours each week studying independently researching and practising your technical skills.

Access to studios and facilities outside of taught contact time is provided to enhance individual and flexible independent study.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Throughout your years of study, you will have formal and informal assessments where you will be given written and verbal feedback on your work.

Formal assessments are normally held at the end of each module, and you are required to complete a series of assessment tasks. These typically include a portfolio of creative work accompanied by contextual documentation. In your final year, you are also required to complete a research project/dissertation.

You will have the opportunity to discuss your work during regular one-to-one tutorials.



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