*BA (Hons) Illustration  
School of Visual Communication*

## **Additional costs for this course**

We have provided you with a breakdown of the essential costs and the optional costs which are dependent on your budget.

Please note that your marks are not a reflection of how much you spend, so a student who spends less than the estimated costs won’t be marked down, compared to a student who spends more.  
  
**Materials for technical modules**  
You’ll need to budget the following amounts for materials and equipment such as sketchbooks, paint, pencils, paper, printing and framing.  
  
First year - £275  
Second year - £325  
Final Year including Degree Show & External Shows - £400  
  
As a way of further reducing costs you also have the option of presenting your creative process, research and developmental work in digital form where appropriate.  
  
In the final year students tend to spend about £150 (included in the price above) towards final printing for various shows and their portfolio.  
  
**Equipment and consumables**  
Most of what you need to complete the course is provided by the university and the Hires & Loans department within the Faculty of Arts, Design and Media.  
  
**Books**All essential books needed whilst studying the course are available in the university library or our [digital library](http://diglib4.bcu.ac.uk/webgate/dlib/templates/UCEEL/index.asp), but a number of our students prefer to buy their own books and these cost may vary.  
  
**Laptops and software**  
It is not essential for you to purchase your own laptop (PC or Mac), as you can borrow a laptop from the university or use one of our shared computer rooms. Laptops may be borrowed for free for up to six hours and may be found at the following: Curzon, Millennium Point, Parkside, Jewellery Quarter and Margaret Street. Most students do prefer to have their own laptops, and we suggest you allow about £300 to £1000 for this, dependent on your preferences and budget.  
  
We recommend [a student subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud for applications](http://www.adobe.com/uk/creativecloud/buy/students.html#close) such as Photoshop and InDesign.  
  
You’ll also be provided with a free account for [Lynda.com](http://www.lynda.com/) worth £227.40.  
  
Microsoft Office 365 and 1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space is provided free to all students.  
  
Apple also offer a discount on laptops for UK students: [go to Apple for Education for more details](http://www.apple.com/uk_edu_5000618/shop).  
  
**Printing**  
We try to keep printing costs on as low as possible but if you choose to follow specific methods of working this may result in additional costs. For example, if you decide that the use of traditional printmaking is an area you wish to engage with within your practice, further cost will be incurred but these are kept to a minimum and specific costs are detailed. All materials used during workshops are free of charge.  
  
**Optional – Field trips**There are no mandatory trips organised as part of the course but there are a number of optional educational trips that aim to add richness to the student experience, but these are not part of any formal course assessment. We also put on a number of free trips over the three years open to all Illustration students.  
  
In the past we have offered the following across all the Visual Communication courses, but they are all optional and based on recent prices, so these will probably fluctuate from year to year. Examples include:  
  
Berlin - £320  
Venice Biennale - £397  
Paris Photo - £280  
New York - £650  
Thailand exchange - £1200  
  
We encourage you to attend as many free events as you can around the city and will frequently offer guidance and advice on these.