# *BA (Hons) Interior Design Birmingham School of Architecture and Design*

## **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**

### Whilst many facilities are provided, you’ll need to budget for materials throughout the course. You are required to obtain your own set of basic tools. Those materials/tools include both studio and workshop items. You will be advised on what to buy during the first few weeks on the course.

### An average budget of about £150 will cover 3D modelling, cutting and a portfolio folder for the duration of the course.

### **Equipment and consumables**

### An average budget of about £200 will cover the purchase of your own tools: good quality pencils, scale ruler, cutting mat, crayons, colour wheel and masking tape, although some students spend more or less depending on the tools required.

### You may also want to buy your own digital camera to use during the course. Budget about £250 and we recommend you purchase insurance for valuable equipment such as cameras – on average insurance costs about £75 per year.

### However, most of the equipment you will need to complete the course, including cameras, is provided by the university and the Hires and Loans department within the School of Media.

### **Books**

We have a well-stocked university library with both physical and digital resources for you to use.

Most books needed whilst studying the course are available in the university library (although you may want to purchase a few of your own books, particularly core texts).

You can buy some books on online stores such as Amazon www.amazon.co.uk, ABE Books (www.abebooks.co.uk) and the Book Depository (www.bookdepository.co.uk).

It is also suggested that you invest or look at some of the following journals/magazines:

- Design Milk (online)

- Frame

- Icon

You may want to budget about £200 for the purchase of books and journal/magazine subscriptions.

## **Laptops and software**

It is not essential for you to purchase your own laptop (PC or Mac), as you can also 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 locations: Curzon building, Millennium Point, Parkside building, the School of Jewellery and Margaret Street (Birmingham School of Art). Most students do prefer to have their own laptops, and we suggest you allow about £300 to £1200 for this, dependent on your preferences and budget. 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).

We recommend you buy one with over 1GB memory and a large hard drive to access relevant software: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, AutoCAD, Vectorworks and Microsoft Office.

You’ll gain free access to AutoCAD from our university Autodesk service.

You’ll also require a USB stick and an external hard drive – on average a budget of £60 is sufficient.

We recommend [a student subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud for these applications](http://www.adobe.com/uk/creativecloud/buy/students.html#close), along with [Google Earth](https://www.google.co.uk/intl/en_uk/earth/) (free), [SketchUp](http://www.sketchup.com/education) (discounted for students) and [AutoCAD for students](http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/autocad) (free for students). The above are also available on campus within the computer suites.

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.

### **Printing**

Our on-campus print shop can produce high-quality prints for your portfolio and assignments on an at-cost basis.

In previous years, students have budgeted up to £200 for printing, although you can reduce print costs by submitting assignments online.

[More information on printing and laptop costs may be found on our school website](http://www.bcu.ac.uk/)

### **Field trips**

While studying you’ll go on trips throughout the three years, from London day trips to international study trips. UK trips average about £50 per trip and international trips average £400 per trip; that includes accommodation and travel.