# *MA Fine Art Birmingham School of Art*

**Additional costs**

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**

Material costs are dependent on the work you make and varies from student to student. You will be able to purchase materials such as plaster, wax, metal, wood, printing inks and paint at cost from our workshops.

Depending on your project you will need to set aside a budget for materials. As a guide, previous students have spent money on large format framed photographs; specialist printing costs (including paper and inks), large scale casts using resins, wax, plaster and fibreglass, and large scale paintings using specialist paints, canvas and wood.

On average a budget of £1,000 for the duration of the course is sufficient, although some students may spend more and others less.

The School of Art pays for the cost of the build for final shows and has a good resource with regard to lens based media, video projectors and digital equipment which you can book out during your course and for final presentations.

**Written work and dissertations**

Normally for the submission of written work during your course you are required to submit one digital copy and two hard copies for modules that require written work. You’ll usually submit your written work in a ring-bound folder and you should budget up to £100 for the year for printing and presentation.

If you are opting to submit a dissertation you should have at least one copy perfect bound and this costs about £60 depending on the quality you opt for. In previous years, students have budgeted up to £250 for printing and binding.

### **Equipment/tools**

Whilst there is no requirement for you to provide your own equipment as we have very good workshop resources, it all depends on the work you make. It is best to budget about £500 as this covers such things as specialist printing tools, brushes, external hard drives (video), lenses or hand tools.

## **Laptops**

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: Margaret Street, Curzon, Millennium Point, Parkside and the Jewellery Quarter. 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.

Microsoft Office 365 and 1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space is provided free to all students.

### **Books/magazines**

We have an extensive reading list on our course, the vast majority of which is available for free from the university library and our [digital library](http://diglib4.bcu.ac.uk/webgate/dlib/templates/UCEEL/index.asp).

There are art theory books that you may be required to purchase. The overall budget is likely to be about £100.

It is advisable you subscribe to specialist art magazines such as [Art Monthly](http://www.artmonthly.co.uk/) from £48 per year and [Frieze](http://friezelondon.com/) from £37 per year, although they are available in the library.

### **Printing**

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

You’ll develop reflective journals throughout the course and often download colour images to print and paste in. In previous years, students have budgeted for up to £250.

**Field trips**

Students are encouraged to visit exhibitions on a regular basis both in the city and further afield. Many students travel to London and to other cities to see exhibitions, some of which are free and others have entrance costs. We recommend a budget of about £300 for travel and £100 for entrance fees. You may also wish to buy exhibition catalogues from your visits.

As a Fine Art student you are provided with a [National Art Pass](http://www.artfund.org/get-involved/buy-a-national-art-pass?gclid=CIjkypXO-8gCFSEGwwoda-sOxQ&utm_expid=38678267-5.cHU9IlXvQK-M6ypQTTKJdQ.0&utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.co.uk%2F), which allows you to have freeentry to many museums and shows.

### We also organise a three to five day optional international trip either to Venice or Berlin. Students are invited to join in although this is not mandatory. A budget of about £500 covers travel and accommodation. New York is another optional trip organised and on average you’ll spend £700.