# *MA Interior Architecture and 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.

We have provided you with a detailed list of the essential costs that you’ll incur whilst studying on the MA.

You should budget about £300 for 3D modelling, laser cutting and a portfolio folder for the duration of the course.

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 £300, although you can find cameras for less than this amount. We do recommend you purchase insurance for your camera – on average it’s between £40- £80 per year.  
  
**Books**

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

Most books needed whilst studying on 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](http://www.amazon.co.uk), ABE Books ([www.abebooks.co.uk](http://www.abebooks.co.uk)) and the Book Depository ([www.bookdepository.co.uk](http://www.bookdepository.co.uk)).

*Optional*: We recommend that you budget £250 for the purchase of books and journal/magazine subscriptions:

* Cereal
* Frame
* [Icon](http://icon.org.uk/)

**Laptops and software**

On the course we use blogs for design studio to cut down on printing during the design development process. It’s faster and cost-effective, meaning you can store your work online and collate it for tutorials and design presentations.

Therefore, having your own laptop is highly desirable. On this course, it is essential for you to purchase your own laptop (PC or Mac), but you may wish to hire a laptop from the university or use one of our shared computer rooms. Laptops may be hired out for free for up to six hours and may be found at the following buildings: Curzon, Millennium Point, Parkside, School of Jewellery and School of Art. Most students prefer to have their own laptops, so we suggest you budget around £400 to £1200 for this dependent on your preferences and budget. Also, we would recommend you buy one with over 1GB memory.

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).

There will be individual licence costs for software programs such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, AutoCAD, InDesign, Vector Works and Microsoft Office. We recommend a [student subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud for these applications](http://www.adobe.com/uk/creativecloud/buy/students.html#close).

The above are also available on campus in computer suites.

You’ll also be provided with a free account for [Lynda.com](http://www.lynda.com/) worth £227.40. You’ll also get free Vector works software.

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).

You’ll gain offline 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. **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.

**Optional – Field trips**

Whilst studying you’ll be given the opportunity to travel to a European country. We recommend budgeting about £600 for international travel – this will cover accommodation, travel and food during your visit.