



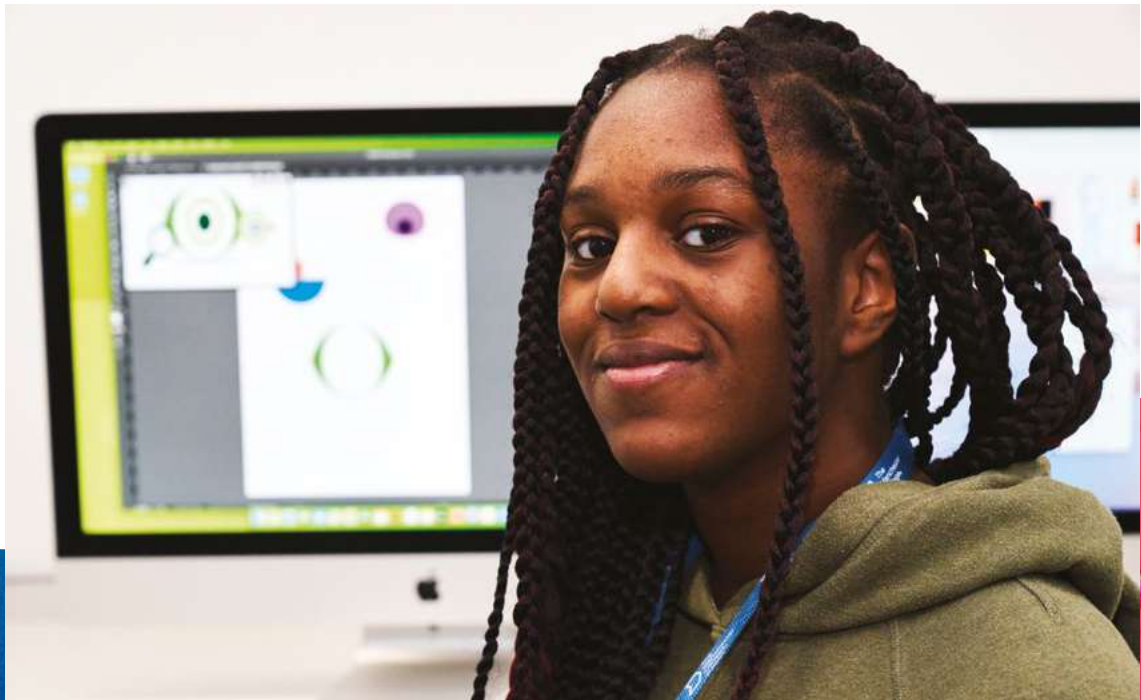
# CREATIVE + DIGITAL MEDIA





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# It starts with you

**Have you ever watched a perfectly executed film scene or played a hyper-realistic computer game and thought, “I want to do that?” It doesn’t have to be a dream – you can gain the skills you need to achieve your ambitions right here at The Manchester College.**

The creative and digital media sector is incredibly diverse – there are so many opportunities open to you if you have the talent, abilities and drive to succeed. We can teach you everything from 3D animation to graphic design and film production.

You’ll learn from tutors who are specialists in their fields and have access to industry-standard facilities and equipment in our new City Campus Manchester.

Set up as real design and production studios with industry-standard software, you’ll have the opportunity to gain practical experience in our TV studio, radio and sound studios, game production suites and infinity green wall room.

Also, you’ll be putting those new skills into practice, by working on live briefs set by broadcasters, games studios, local employers and international advertising firms.

Work experience is crucial in this competitive industry. Luckily, we have close ties to the sector, so you’ll benefit from work placements in your chosen field, as well as networking opportunities, trips out and visits from local employers.

When you study with us, you’ll benefit from courses that are co-designed and co-delivered by local agencies.

You could even progress to The Manchester Film School to study degree level qualifications with our higher education partner UCEN Manchester.

Whether you want to see your name in the credits of a hit Netflix series, create social media content that’s shared by millions, or find a job in advertising or graphic design, the first step is to choose your course.

**So let’s get started...**



# Careers information



## JOB FIGURES

There were approx. **37,249** employees working in the Creative and Digital Media sector in Greater Manchester in 2021, this is predicted to increase by 0.4% by 2025.



## AVERAGE EARNINGS

The average wage in GM is **£30,886 per annum** (2021).



## REPLACEMENT DEMAND

**11.9%** of the current workforce will be reaching retirement in the next 10 years, meaning those jobs will need replacing.



## WORKFORCE SPLIT

Currently **55.9%** of the workforce are male.

Types of jobs available	Skills needed	Examples of GM employers
Advertising Account Executive	Attention to detail	BBC
Animator	Communication	Creative Cow
Audio-visual Technician	Creativity	Crowd Imperium Games
Broadcast Engineer	Digital literacy	Electronic Arts
Computer Games Developer	Planning	Flow Creative
Graphic Designer	Project management	GPC
Media Researcher	Research	HOME
Photographer	Sales	ITV Studios
TV or Film Sound Technician	Self-motivation	N Brown Group
Video Editor	Teamwork	Pie Analysis

Data sourced from Lightcast July 2023.

**FIND OUT  
MORE HERE**





“

## What our students say

I chose to study Creative and Digital Media because of my love for Japanese animation, I wanted to pursue it as a future occupation.

I've really enjoyed learning with my teacher and I feel like this course has allowed me to get a lot more confidence in creating animation and creative media in general. I've learnt a lot of skills, mostly from Adobe software, including things like Illustrator and After Effects.

I would like to go to university in order to pursue animation even more, and I'd like to learn Japanese and move out to Japan to pursue it even more.

My advice to anyone thinking of studying Creative and Digital Media is to have confidence and to believe in yourself, and you'll learn a lot of skills that you probably wouldn't be able to learn by yourself.

---

Dawson Picknell  
Level 3 Motion Design and Animation

”







“

## What our students say

I wanted to do something artsy, but I wasn't sure what I wanted to go into and then I found The Manchester College, they had such a wide range of courses.

I really like the variety that it gives you because it goes into every little area that you want to do. They have the most up to date computers so you can always work on your assignments.

I think the most important skills I've learned during my course is presentation. Learning how to present in front of a crowd is really helpful.

I plan to go to university and The Manchester College really helps you get ready for it, but also if you want to take a gap year, or go work in industry, it really does allow you to do that.

My advice to anyone thinking of studying Creative and Digital Media would be to just go for it, even if you're unsure about what you want to do. I would say just go for it because the experiences and what you learn is honestly really helpful.

---

Kylie Fung  
Level 3 Game Art and Development

”



# Meet the team

We demand a lot from our tutors. It's not enough for them to be great teachers – they also need to have creativity, technical skills, relevant qualifications and industry experience.



**Maria Foran**  
**Assistant Principal - Creative Industries**

Maria taught Visual Arts courses across our campuses for 14 years before she was appointed as Head of Department in 2019, and then became Assistant Principal in 2024. Initially graduating in Textile Design, she played a lead role in founding the ground-breaking collaborative project, Future Creatives with Manchester Art Gallery, which our students now benefit from each year.



**Vanessa Simpson**  
**Head of Department**

Vanessa is a highly experienced educator with over 15 years of expertise in teaching media in education. She holds a degree in Broadcast Media and American Studies, with a specialisation in post-production techniques for film. Her profound passion lies in the creative industries and the transformative power of education.



**Louise Orgill**  
**T Level Lead**

Louise brings a wealth of experience to the team having taught TV and Film Production at the College for almost two decades. She uses her background in TV drama and news production, as well as her community work bringing film production to disadvantaged areas, to ensure that her students receive a full and valuable creative media education.



**Craig Sharp**  
**Tutor**

Craig, a Film, TV, and Broadcast tutor and passionate musician, specialises in post-production, including video editing and sound design. With industry experience at ITV, Cartoon Network, and Lime Pictures, he incorporates the latest broadcast techniques to inspire students in filmmaking and storytelling.



**Joanne Lowes**  
**Tutor**

Jo has a multidisciplinary educational background, which includes a bachelor's degree in Graphics and Advertising and a master's degree in Socially Engaged Photography and Digital Graphics, and has been teaching in further education and higher education for over 15 years. Jo works with students on a variety of courses and brings a wealth of experience to consistently deliver varied and engaging sessions.



**Scan here**  
to read more  
about our tutors

# Our locations

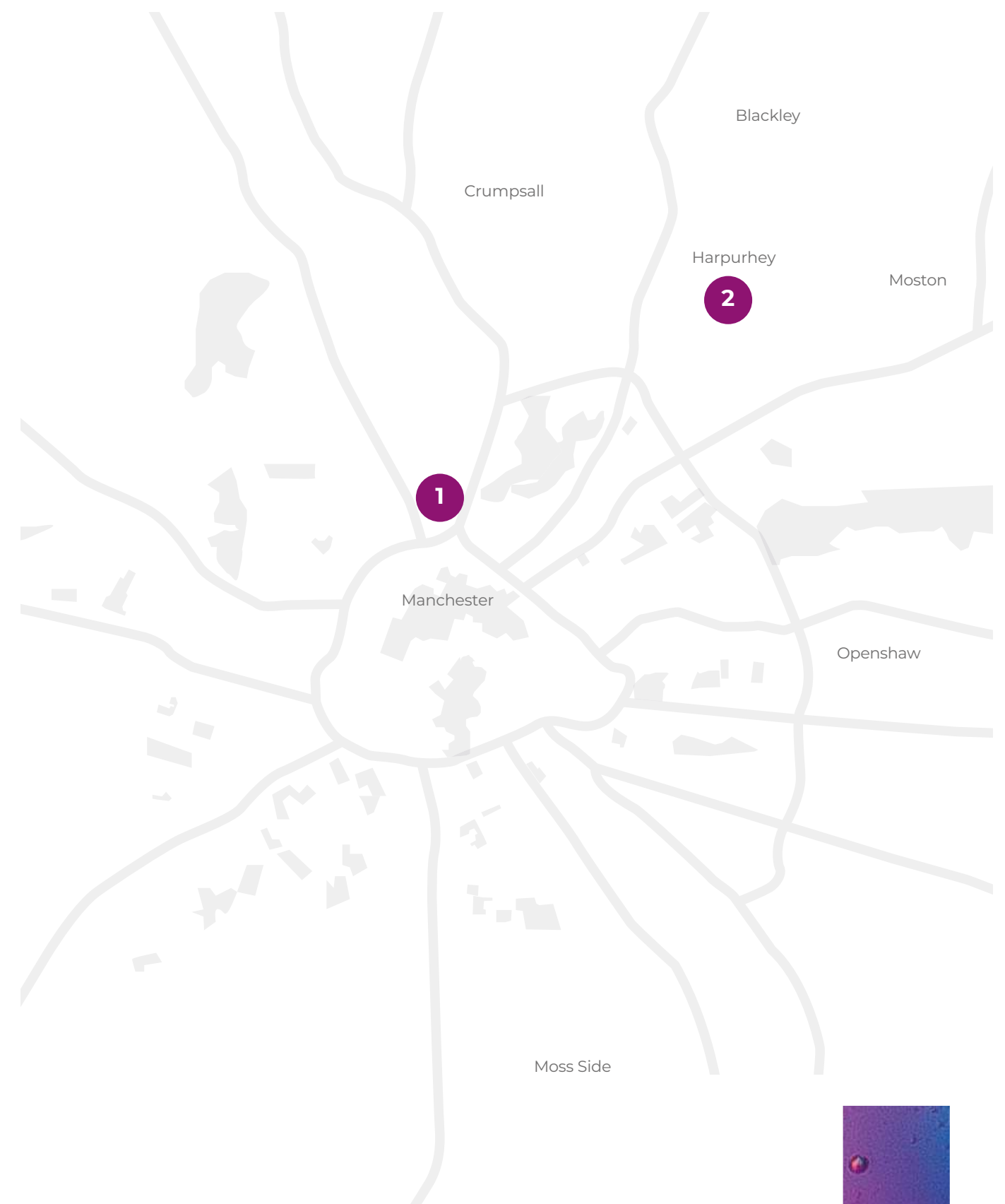
In our Creative and Digital Media department, based at City Campus Manchester, you'll benefit from industry standard facilities that have been developed specifically for your course that mirror the world of work, providing the perfect setting to help prepare you for a future career.

These industry standard facilities include:

- TV studio with production gantry
- Radio and sound studios
- Editing suites utilising the latest Mac technology
- One game design and production suites where you will use the latest technology to prepare for a career designing the games that sit at the heart of the rapidly growing e-gaming sector. You'll also have access to our dedicated library, restaurant and coffee shop.

These amazing new facilities will provide you with access to everything you will see once you enter the workforce, giving you the best possible chance to prepare for a future career.

In addition to our provision at City Campus Manchester you can also enrol on a Level 1 course at our Harpurhey campus, which is well served by public transport. So, wherever you live, you're not far from starting your journey towards a career in the creative and digital media sector.



**1 City Campus Manchester**  
60 Great Ducie Street, Manchester, M3 1PT

**2 Harpurhey Campus**  
Rochdale Road, Harpurhey, Manchester, M9 4AF



# Get career ready with us

**We passionately believe in helping you reach your ultimate goal, focusing on your future employability and developing the knowledge, skills and behaviours you will need to have a successful career.**

Many of our programmes of study have been co-developed with industry partners. Working so closely with industry partners means you'll benefit from courses that are aligned with current industry skills and demands as well as a range of industry-level activities and lessons.

Once you complete your journey with us you will have the qualifications you need to take the next steps towards an amazing career, as well as the knowledge, skills and behaviours that will help you stand out to future employers.

## Study Programmes

We offer qualifications from Level 1 to Level 3, including T Levels.

If you haven't already obtained a Grade 4 GCSE in English or maths, you'll study to work towards achieving this qualification. This is a mandatory requirement and it's also essential you achieve this for many careers.

## Employability

To prepare you for your future career, you'll take part in a range of 'employability' activities to equip you with the knowledge and experience of the careers available to you.

You'll be assigned an Employability Co-ordinator and will take part in a wide range of activities that will help you develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours you'll need to thrive in the workplace.

## Industry Expertise

You will get the opportunity to take part in masterclasses and lessons delivered by industry experts, visits from guest speakers within the sector and industry-standard projects, that will see you working on the kind of tasks you'd be completing once you begin your career in the creative and digital media sector.

## Work Experience or Industry Placement

As part of your course you are required to take on external work experience. We will help you find a suitable placement. While there, you'll help with day-to-day tasks and shadow staff to develop your skills, learn behaviours that are expected in the workplace and broaden your knowledge of the industry.

Previous students have worked with:

- BBC
- Flow Creative
- Hartshead Productions
- Ideas Foundation
- The Game Production Company
- TBWA Creative Agency.

You may be able to apply for an industry placement offering a longer period of experience with a leading employer, depending on your course.

An industry placement gives you in-depth knowledge of the industry, allows you to gain hands-on experience and gives you an insight into career pathways.

With a placement, you're taking that all important first step onto the ladder; many of our students even go on to gain paid employment with their industry placement employer at the end of the year.

## Work Related Activity

There are so many careers in the creative and digital media sector and we want to help you explore as many as possible during your studies.

We organise lots of work-related activities to help you discover more about the opportunities that might be open to you. You could soon be taking part in activities such as:

- Visits and Q&As with experts in their field
- Masterclasses from leading employers
- Trips to employers to find out what it's like to work in the industry
- Putting your skills into practice with live briefs
- Work experience placement.



## Study for a Technical Level (T Level) qualification in Media, Broadcast and Production

**T Levels are a new two year technical programme that provide you with a high-quality alternative to A Levels.**

They have been developed in collaboration with employers, and combine theory, practical and classroom learning with a minimum 45 day industry placement. If you opt to take a T Level, you will spend 20% of your time on an industry placement and 80% in the classroom.

After completing the course you can progress directly into work, on to a Higher Apprenticeship or even move on to study a university degree, as T Levels are awarded UCAS points.

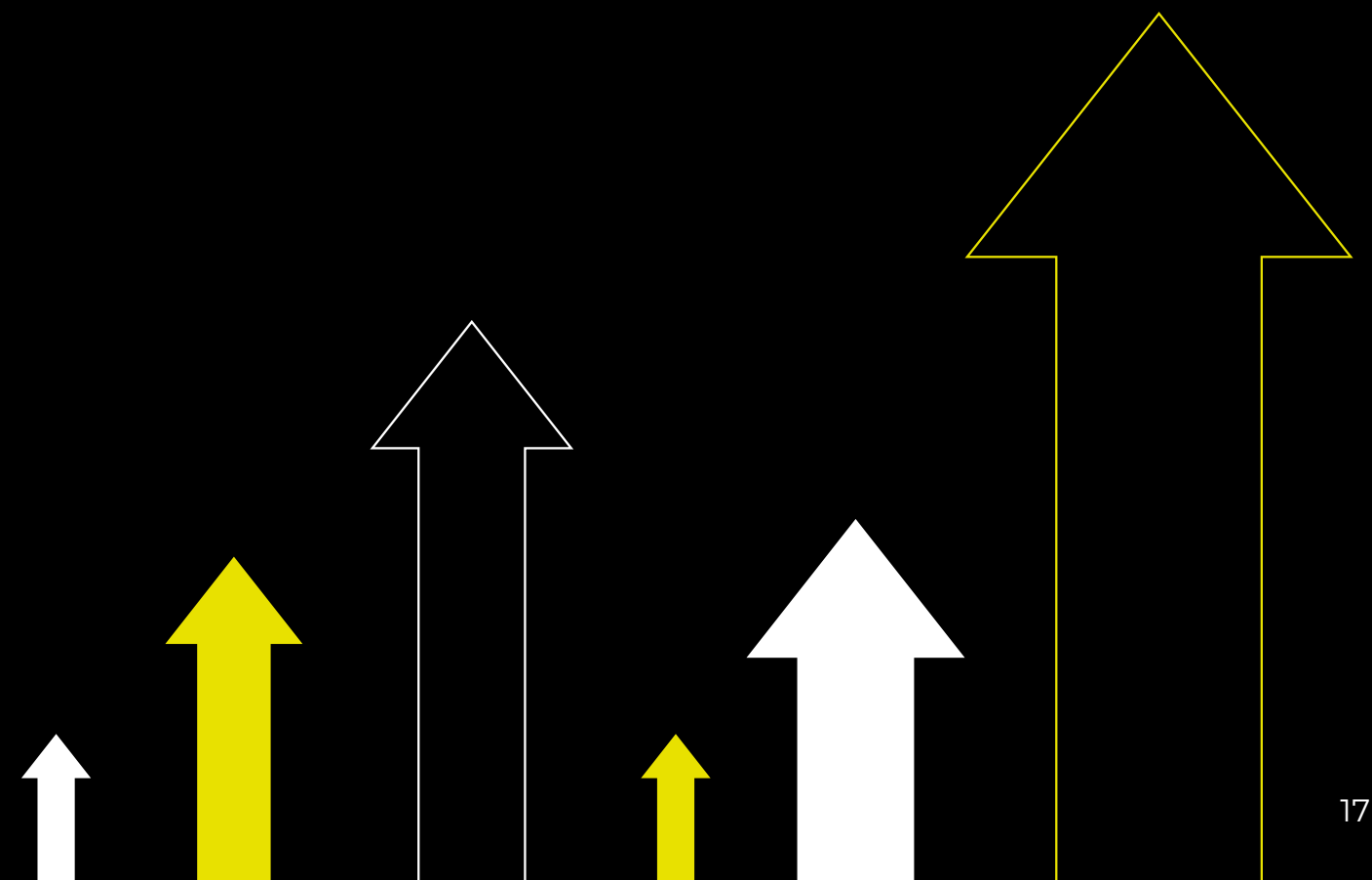


## T Award

Those successful in gaining a place on a T Level will be eligible for the 'T Award', a package of benefits that includes:

- £300 per year bursary\*
- Access to industry standard laptop\* (as appropriate)
- Opportunity to take part in exciting college-wide competitions
- Minimum 20% delivery by industry experts
- Minimum 45-day industry placement
- Free branded work wear
- Masterclasses
- Digital upskilling
- Bursary incentive if progressing to UCEN Manchester
- Guaranteed progression to a higher education course at UCEN Manchester
- Use of industry based software
- And much more.

*\*Subject to requirements including 95% attendance, positive attitude and grade profile.*





# Courses

## Level 3 | T Level | Media, Broadcast and Production (Content Creation and Production) City Campus Manchester | Two Years

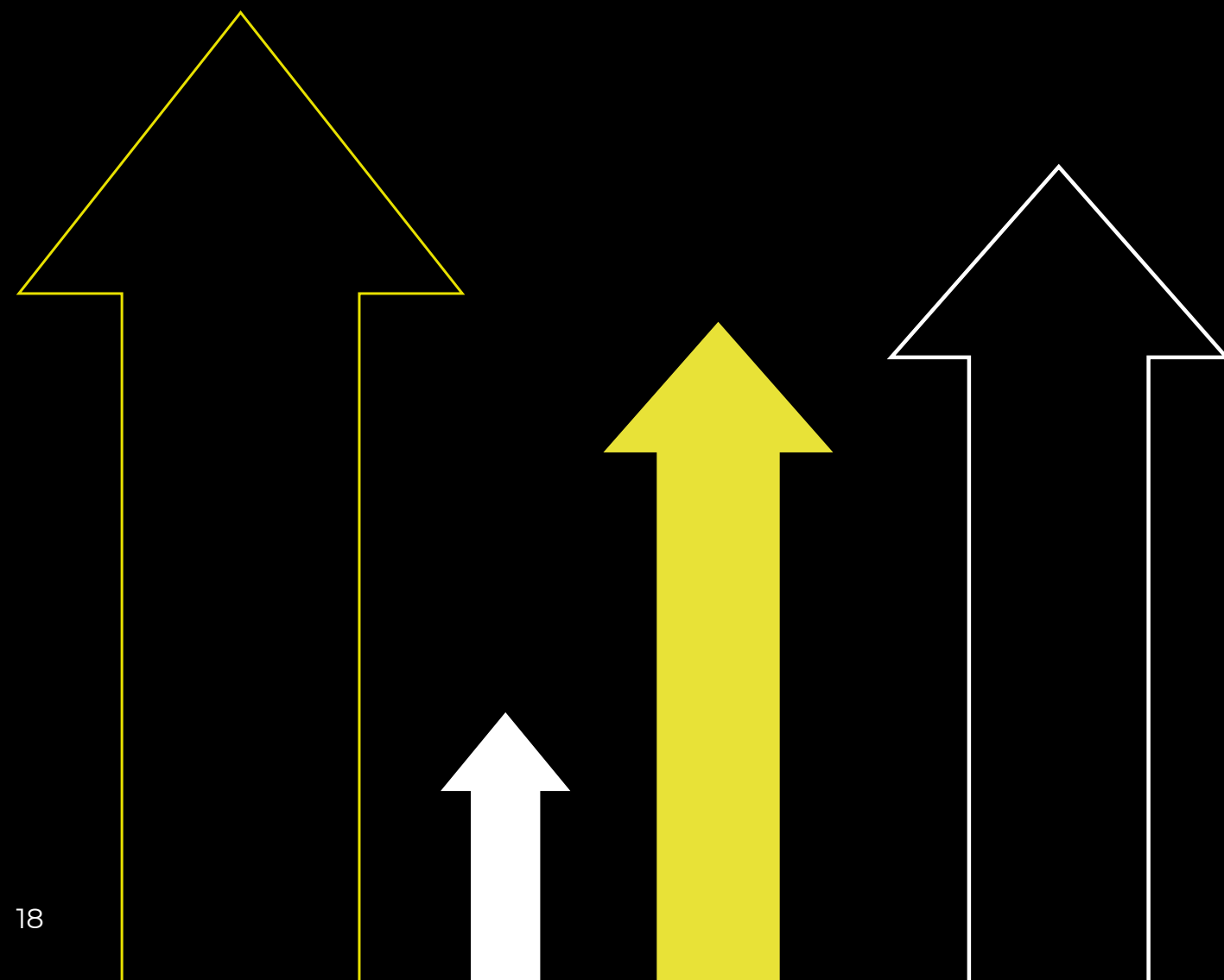
If you have a keen interest in content creation and want to develop your digital skills, then this T Level could be the right course for you.

Developed in partnership with industry experts, it prepares you for a career in content creation and production in the diverse and fast-paced media sector.

You'll learn about the production process, beginning with ideation and leading into research and an appreciation of how cultural, historical, technological and social contexts influence the development of media platforms and your own productions.

We'll also help you develop your technical skills so you can visually communicate a narrative to engage specific audiences.

Throughout the course you will continuously develop your professional profile and portfolio through live client briefs. This will include pitching your concepts, engaging with audiences and showcasing your work.



For those who don't meet the entry requirements and would still like to pursue a T Level, there is the option of a one-year Level 2 T Level Foundation Year.

This Foundation Year will allow you to gain a qualification and move on to study one of our T Levels the following year.

## Level 2 | T Level Foundation Year | Creative Media Skills City Campus Manchester | One Year

Do you want to find out everything the media industry has to offer, develop the key knowledge and skills required for a successful career and explore your own creative ideas? On this Level 2 T Level Foundation Year in Creative Media Skills, you'll do just that.

Using industry-standard software and equipment, you'll discover how to create everything from sound to TV and film productions. You'll be set challenging briefs to really get your teeth into and take your projects from research and idea development, right through to experimentation, creation and editing.

You'll learn a huge variety of skills, including TV and film production, marketing, and how to plan, pitch, present and promote your work. The abilities you'll develop will lay the foundations towards a future role in one of the largest and most exciting industries in the world.

Upon successful completion of the Foundation Year, students can progress onto the Level 3 T Level in Media, Broadcast and Production the following year.

## Jump Start to T Levels

Both our T Level and T Level Foundation Year require you to complete our Jump Start to T Levels programme as an entry requirement.

This programme is a two-week introduction to our T Level and Foundation Year programmes, where you can meet your tutors and experience what studying a T Level at The Manchester College is like.

To apply or find out more about our T Levels and T Level Foundation Year programmes, visit our Industry Excellence Academy website: [industry-excellence.tmc.ac.uk/t-levels](https://industry-excellence.tmc.ac.uk/t-levels)



# Courses

The programmes of study for Creative and Digital Media are designed to help you kick-start your journey to any one of a number of careers in this exciting industry.

## Level 1 | Introduction to Creative Media

### Harpurhey | One Year

Working with industry-standard tools and software at our Harpurhey campus, this course will help you develop the all-round technological skills required to move onto further study of media or visual arts. You'll explore a variety of transferable and sector-specific skills such as organisational skills, research, progression plans and teamwork as well as studying creative media, business and digital industry-based projects. Once you've completed this qualification you'll be all set to progress onto our Level 2 qualification at City Campus Manchester.

## Level 2 | Creative Digital Media Production and Design

### City Campus Manchester | One Year

Do you want to find out everything the media industry has to offer, develop the key concepts and skills required for a successful career, and explore your own creative ideas? Our Level 2 Diploma in Creative Digital Media Production and Design is the perfect place to begin.

Focusing on all the tools and techniques you'll need to create everything from 2D animations to graphic design, you will be using industry-standard software and working to live briefs across a number of different areas, taking projects from research and idea development stages, through experimentation, to full creation of products.

You'll learn a huge variety of skills, including graphic and games design, digital photography, marketing and how to plan, pitch, present and promote work. The abilities you'll develop will lay the foundations towards a future role in one of the largest and most exciting industries around.

## Level 3 | Creative Media - Film, TV and Radio Production

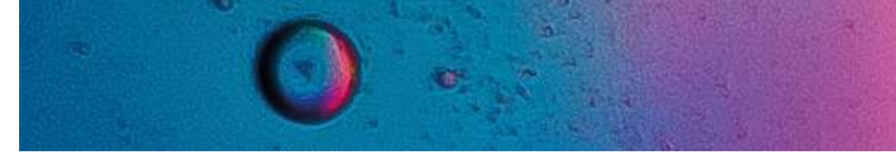
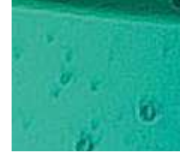
### City Campus Manchester | Two Years

If you're looking for a career in the film and broadcast industries, then this course will give you the skills you need to succeed. With our experienced team you'll explore production techniques using industry standard equipment both in the studio and out on location. You'll stretch your creative abilities to explore the kind of creative practitioner that you would like to become so that you are able to successfully bring your ideas to the screen.

It's a highly competitive industry, so we'll be focusing on strengthening your CV and equipping you with everything you'll need to land that crucial first job. You'll work on a range of challenging briefs that reflect the demands of life in this fast-paced sector. You'll also gain valuable work experience – previous students have collaborated with a range of organisations on a number of exciting projects.

Whether you're planning to progress to higher education, or get straight out into the workplace when you've finished at the College, you'll soon have the confidence and ability to follow your goals.





### Level 3 | Digital Art and Visual Effects

City Campus Manchester | Two Years

If you are looking for a career in the creative and digital sector which is focused on the production of digital art and animation for film, video FX and games then this course will give you the skills you'll need to succeed.

The skills covered by the course have been chosen to reflect the demands of working in the sector and topics covered include media production methods and techniques, audience research, digital illustration, 3D modelling and film production including green screen, camera tracking and compositing.

### Level 3 | Game Art and Development

City Campus Manchester | Two Years

If you have a passion for gaming, a keen interest in technology and an artistic flair, look no further than this Level 3 Game Art and Development course, which is focused solely on developing all the relevant skills you'll need to become a games developer.

You'll be learning a variety of 3D techniques in modelling, texturing, rendering and sculpting, as you design, animate and develop your games. You'll create characters, assets, environments and large-scale levels. Whether your interest is hyper-realistic management sims, pulse-raising racing games or immersive RPGs, you'll have the state-of-the-art software to progress your skills and abilities to industry standards.

### Level 3 | Graphic Design and Digital Communication

City Campus Manchester | Two Years

Do you want to see your designs on social media campaigns or gracing the pages of websites? This course offers hands-on experience with live briefs and projects reflecting current industry work. You'll gain specialized skills in graphic design, print, digital design, branding, motion graphics, UX design, and social media campaigns. The course is employment-focused, preparing you to apply confidently for creative and production roles after College.

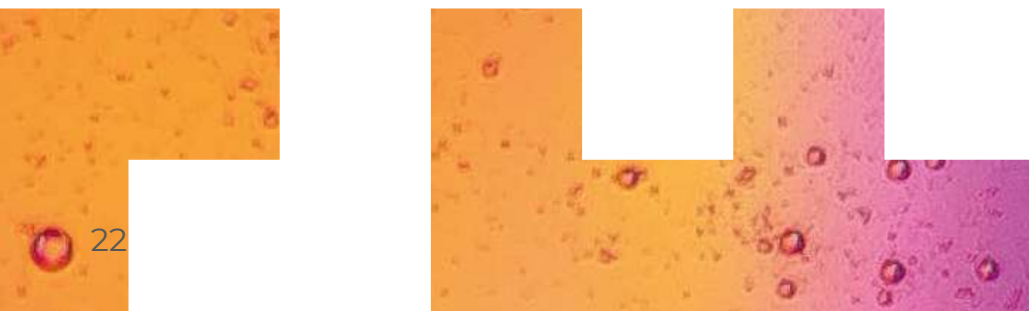
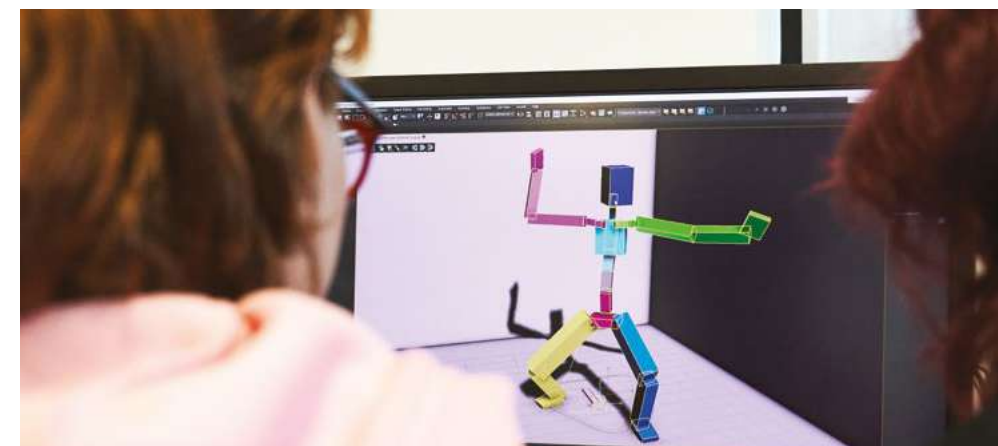
Designed and delivered with industry experts, it equips you with practical skills that employers seek. Whether your dream is to see your designs featured online or in print, this course helps make that a reality. Upon completion, you'll be ready for degree-level study or to enter the workforce.

### Level 3 | Motion Design and Animation with Flow Creative

City Campus Manchester | Two Years

Digital animation is crucial to so many sectors. You could use this course as a springboard to working in animation, motion design and advertising. You'll master the software you need to bring your 2D ideas to life and gain skills that you'll use throughout your career.

We've partnered with Flow Creative to design and deliver this Level 3 course. The award winning creative studio specialises in animation and moving image production, so will make sure you're gaining the exact skills and abilities that the industry is looking for.



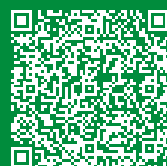
# SUPPORTED LEARNING

Promoting independence  
through accessibility and  
Inclusion

Have you received learning support in the past? Do you have an Education, Health and Care Plan or an identified Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) need? Our Supported Learning team can help students with SEND to achieve their aspirational career goals.

We provide a highly personalised offer for students to create a supportive learning environment for all. Whatever course you choose to study, our provision is specifically designed to support you on your journey to independence and into further education or employment.

Find out more about how we can help you:  
[tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning](https://tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning)





# We'll help you Accelerate2industry

As soon as you enrol on a Creative and Digital Media course, we'll start talking to you about the opportunities that could be open to you in the future. To guide you through the process and help you achieve your aspirational career goals, we've teamed up with our higher education partner, UCEN Manchester, on an exciting initiative.



Ultimately, the aim of Accelerate2Industry is to help you progress into either higher study, higher education with UCEN Manchester, or your chosen career.

The initiative runs throughout the academic year and there are three distinct phases:

## Step 1 - Plan >>>

Find out about the options available to you at the end of your study programme.

## Step 2 - Pass >>>

Your tutors will speak to you about what you're planning on doing next year and support you to secure the grades you need to move on to the next phase of your journey.

## Step 3 - Progress >>>

Your tutors will ensure that you have all of the information and support you need to re-join us in September or progress on to university, employment or an apprenticeship.

## Progressors Award >>>

Do you want to study with a higher education provider that offers something a little bit different and delivers courses that are career focussed and lead you straight into employment? If so, our Progressors Award is just for you.

The award is open to all Level 3 students at The Manchester College that, upon completion of their course, enrol onto a higher education course at UCEN Manchester. The Progressors Award is currently £200. Please check the amount, eligibility, and terms and conditions ahead of making your progressors application to UCEN Manchester during your final year of Level 3 study.

Book a campus tour, taster session or other support session with the UCEN Manchester Outreach Team by contacting [HEfutures@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:HEfutures@ucenmanchester.ac.uk).

Scan for more information, advice and guidance.



## DEGREE LEVEL

Once you've completed one of our Level 3 Diplomas, you'll have the opportunity to progress onto our degree level qualifications through our higher education partner – UCEN Manchester.

**BA (Hons) 3D Game Art & VFX**

**HND Art and Design Fashion**

**BA (Hons) Graphic Design and Branding**

**BA (Hons) Photography and Social Practice**

**BA (Hons) Film Production and Content Creation**

“

When I came to an open day I absolutely fell in love with UCEN Manchester. Thanks to the new building with massive workshops, we were able to collaborate with people on other courses and I was able to produce something so big here.

Studying at UCEN Manchester has been the best time I've ever had. I've never experienced so much in my life and I've never felt so confident before. Now I feel like doors are open for me.

*Deena Nasser*

*Former Art, Media Make-Up Student*

”

For more information or to apply  
visit [ucenmanchester.ac.uk](https://ucenmanchester.ac.uk)





# How to apply

Applying to study at The Manchester College is really easy. Just follow these steps and you will be on your journey to amazing in no time.



## Step 1

Visit **tmc.ac.uk**



## Step 2

Choose a course, apply at an open event, online or mobile



## Step 3

Receive a conditional offer - you must accept this within 12 weeks



## Step 4

Book to attend an interview



## Step 5

Register to attend our New Student Welcome Day on 30 June (16-18 only)



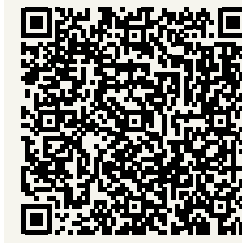
## Step 6

We will invite you to enrol in August or September after you receive your results (if applicable)

# What's next?

## Find out more and apply

To find out more about Creative and Digital Media at The Manchester College and to apply scan the QR code or visit: **tmc.ac.uk/creative-digital-media**



## Visit us

Join us at one of our open events throughout the year to learn more about our courses, tour our facilities, speak to our tutors and much more. To find out when our next open event is taking place and to register your place visit: **tmc.ac.uk/events**

## Stay in touch

Follow us on our social media channels:

 **The Manchester College**

 **@TheMcrCollege**

 **@TheMcrCollege**

 **@themcrcollege**

## Contact Us

Got a question about one of our courses, about The Manchester College or just need to get in touch? Contact us:

 **enquiries@tmc.ac.uk**

 **03333 222 444**



*The Manchester College is committed to equality of opportunity, non-discriminatory practices and supporting individual learners. This information is also available in a range of formats, such as large print, on request.*