

Programme Specification

A Programme Specification provides a concise summary of the main features of a programme and its intended learning outcomes. It is intended to be used by prospective students, current students, academic staff and potential employers.

Programme Title:	
FdA Kitchen Design	
Programme (AOS) Code(s):	FD1KDN9
UCAS Code:	W24B
Name of Final Award:	Foundation Degree Arts, FDA
Level of Qualification:	Level 5
Regime of Delivery:	Flexible & Distributed Learning: Blended Learning
Mode(s) of Delivery:	Part Time
Typical Length of Study (Years):	3
Professional Body Recognition / Accreditation (including specific requirements where applicable):	N/A

Brief Description of the Programme

This course is about the future of Kitchen Design, whether you are already working within this essential sector, or aspire to we are offering a unique and innovative hybrid curriculum, which combines part time virtual learning with intensive residential experiences.

This course is suitable for those currently working in the Kitchen, bedroom or bathroom design industries, or those applicants with an interest in sustainable domestic futures as well as those with a desire to work within the Kitchen Design Industry. As a Hybrid part time course, the teaching and learning takes place around other commitments such as work or family.

The course aims to produce graduates who can confidently work in a truly transdisciplinary way, effectively solving kitchen design problems through purposeful making, doing and enquiring. We want to develop creative and knowledgeable practitioners who understand and appreciate the impact of technology and the wider social and political issues impacting the design and production industries today.

The course builds on students' existing skills and knowledge, developing critical and creative approaches and broadening students' Kitchen Design perspective to a more sophisticated level.

Applicants should demonstrate that they are a creative thinker, interested in three dimensional design and able to benefit from a broad introduction to the furniture and interior design industries through challenging projects. They will need the support of their workplaces to

undertake the programme, if in full time work as it requires attendance three times a year on a short residential block.

Taught through a combination of online and face to face lectures, seminars and workshops, Industry speakers, academic speakers and masterclasses. Teaching strategies will focus on the most up to date and effective hybrid learning strategies and pedagogies, including debating, lectures, divergent/convergent thinking, sand box thinking, and live briefs coupled with traditional academic methodologies thus ensuring credibility and weight.

The unique course content, flexibly delivered in conjunction with the intensive residential events, combine into a lively and contemporary study of this key industry, which can fit around students' employment and other commitments. The course is designed so that students can relate their studies to their existing role and working environment, facilitating a synthesis of learning and development.

Programme Aims

1	Progress students' knowledge, skills, and abilities within kitchen design and extend their understanding of the contemporary and future of the kitchen design industry
2	Enhance students' creativity, design methodologies and professional practice within contemporary kitchen design contexts
3	Establish and build upon an ethical, conceptual and critical understanding of kitchen design and its wider local, national and global contexts in students
4	Provide a context for students to develop an understanding of their own creative identity and potential within the contemporary global kitchen design industry
5	Foster students' self-management skills to enhance their kitchen design career trajectory through an entrepreneurial and future facing approach
6	Develop students' abilities in the communication and dissemination of ideas to a range of stakeholders

Programme Learning Outcomes

The Bucks Graduate Attributes focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens. The attributes are developed through the programme.

ID	Learning Outcome
On successful completion of the programme a graduate will be able to:	
Graduate Attribute: Knowledge and its application (K)	
K1	Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of well-established themes within contemporary global kitchen design and how these have been developed
K2	Recognise and deploy the synergies between theory and practice effectively
K3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the relevance of theories such as critical design, spatial sciences, human needs and health and well-being to the practice of kitchen design
K4	Apply knowledge and critically engage with practices, concepts, and skills from a range of disciplines and apply these to problem solving within Kitchen Design

K5	Demonstrate independent thought and an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of Kitchen design within the workplace and the wider society
Graduate Attribute: Creativity (C)	
C1	Demonstrate skills in design ideation strategies, constructing arguments and problem-solving
C2	Demonstrate skills, understanding and a developing confidence in the dissemination of ideas through a variety of media for specialist, non-specialist audiences and in the workplace
C3	Demonstrate ability to select, analyse and critically evaluate a range of ideas, materials and resources
C4	Demonstrate the application of creativity and reflection in own learning and professional development, evidencing awareness of the limitations of their own knowledge
Graduate Attribute: Social and ethical awareness and responsibility (S)	
S1	Analyse and critique the cultural, social, political, environmental, and other contexts associated with a chosen research project
S2	Demonstrate awareness of the responsibilities of a designer, the impact of design decisions in the wider social, cultural, and environmental context
S3	Understand and apply knowledge of academic protocols and scholarly responsibilities
Graduate Attribute: Leadership and self-development (L)	
L1	Work collaboratively within a team, through collective engagement and collegiate approaches
L2	Demonstrate skills in the planning, prioritisation, and management of personal workloads to meet deadlines
L3	Effectively source and synthesise information and data independently having utilised the most appropriate information retrieval skills
L4	Plan, design, manage and execute design solutions using appropriate techniques and procedures whilst demonstrating the acquisition of new competencies applicable in the workplace

Programme Structure

Programmes are structured in stages. The number of stages will vary depending on the mode (e.g. full-time, part-time), duration and location of study which will be detailed in the Programme Handbook.

Modules are set at a specific academic level and listed as either core (compulsory) or optional. The level indicates the relative academic difficulty which will increase through the programme. Passing modules will reward you with academic credit. The amount of credits will depend on the complexity of the module and the level of effort required, which is measured in 'notional learning hours'.

Our [Academic Advice webpages](#) provide more information on the structure of taught awards offered by the University.

Level Four

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
FU481	Materials, Technologies & Kitchens	30	Yes	Yes
FU484	Kitchen Design Principles and Worlds	30	Yes	Yes

FU485	Kitchen Industry Context & Project management	30	Yes	Yes
VM401	Kitchens in Context	30	Yes	Yes

Level Five

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
FU584	Kitchen Industry Innovation (Live brief)	30	Yes	Yes
FU585	Kitchen Industry Marketing, PR & Communications	30	Yes	Yes
FU583	Personal Kitchen Design Project	30	Yes	Yes
VM501	Kitchen Design Philosophies, Theories & Polemics	30	Yes	Yes

Learning and Teaching Activities

Please see the [Academic Advice pages](#) for a description of learning and teaching activities that are recognised by the University. Detailed information on this specific programme is outlined below:

This blended model of delivery strategically deploys a combination of virtual and face to face sessions, with lectures, seminars and discussion taking place virtually throughout the term and consolidated at the residential weekends. The fundamental approach to learning in art and design is a dialogic one, where students and tutors engage in discussion and debate, using exemplars of professional practice, exploration of materials and processes and visual means to enhance communication. Students will need good quality internet and IT equipment for virtual distance learning activities.

Lectures

Provide opportunities for the visual presentation of themes, concepts, ideas and theories. Students may be asked to engage with interactive tasks which have some of the characteristics of seminars below.

Seminars

A discussion or classroom session focusing on a particular topic or project. Seminars will be used to support lectures offering the opportunity for students to engage in more detailed discussion in order to practice the articulation of ideas, question, test their knowledge and listen to other's points of view, thus enabling the development of critical perspectives and thinking.

Small group work

Develops collaborative and communication skills, networking, sharing and supporting each other to learn.

Tutorials

Individual and small group tutorials help to focus students on evaluating their own work and in identifying directions for study and research enquiry. Tutors will question and advise students, presenting alternatives and challenging decisions, guiding students in realising their full potential and developing critical and evaluative thinking skills.

Intensive Residential Blocks

Industry speakers, masterclasses and academic talks enable the development and awareness of current practice in design related disciplines. This is essential to developing an understanding of current research, production, culture, and life of the discipline, as well as preparing students for working life as a practicing design professional. Opportunities for the cross dissemination of ideas networking, collaboration and consolidating our community of practice are inherent in these residential events.

Online Community of Learning

The course philosophy is the dynamic online community of learning, set within the context of the wider academic community at BNU. Blackboard offers a full virtual learning platform, and this combined with the intensive residential blocks provides a comprehensive student journey through their studies. Blackboard offers facilities for all aspects of teaching and learning including assessment and feedback and will be a key element of all modules.

Guided Independent study

Aimed at developing students’ independent working, autonomy and self-awareness, the ability to work independently outside of scheduled teaching is essential to learning at this level. This hybrid model of delivery offers formal and informal support opportunities throughout. The ability to manage projects, meet deadlines and identify own learning needs is key to successfully managing work life balance and achieving the course learning outcomes.

Additional Course Costs

There are costs associated with all studies, additional to the tuition fee, which require consideration, when planning and budgeting for expenditure. Costs are indicative and for the total length of the course shown unless otherwise stated and will increase with inflation; depending on the programme they may include equipment, printing, project materials, study trips, placement activities, DBS and/or other security checks.

Books / Journals

£50-£100 for any additional books or journal articles that may be needed for the research project

Printing

Up to £50 per year for printing costs

Residential Blocks

Travelling expenses to and from conference centre

Graduation

Graduation costs of £100 - £200. This is an optional cost as attending graduation is not a requirement in order to have a degree conferred.

Contact Hours

1 unit of credit is the equivalent of 10 notional learning hours. Full time undergraduate students study 120 credits (1200 hours) and full-time postgraduate students study 180 credits (1800 hours) per year or ‘stage’ of the course.

Course Stage	Scheduled Activities (Hours)	Guided Independent Study (Hours)	Placement / Study Abroad / Work Based Learning (Hours)
--------------	------------------------------	----------------------------------	--

Year One	78	822	-
Year Two	74	826	-
Year Three	48	552	-

Assessment Methods

The [Assessment and Examination webpages](#) provide further information on how assignments are marked and moderated, including a description of assessment activities. These also include further information about how feedback on assessed work is provided to students, including our commitment to ensure this is provided to students within 15 working days (the ‘three-week turnaround’).

The following assessment activities are used on this programme:

- **Design Portfolio**
- **Research Portfolio**
- **Presentation**
- **Written Assignment**
- **Alternative Format Written Assignment**
- **Reflective Journal**
- **Technical Report**
- **Formative Assignments**

The course ethos is one of relevance and currency within the industry and across the HE sector, and the teaching strategies will continue to evolve and innovate in line with current practice. Summative and formative assessment strategies will be used to validate student achievement and encourage progression.

Classification

Calculation of final award: Level 5 – 100%

For full details of assessment regulations for all taught programmes please refer to our [Results webpages](#). These include the criteria for degree classification.

Admissions Requirements

Please see the [Application webpages](#) for more information on how to apply, including a statement on how we support students from a variety of backgrounds. Please also see our [general entry requirements](#) for taught programmes. Applicants who do not meet our published entry requirements are encouraged to contact our admissions team for further advice and guidance.

Typical applicant profile and any programme-specific entry requirements

Aimed primarily but not wholly at those already working within the kitchen design industry the course is part time and studied primarily online, it is suitable for those who are already employed, in the kitchen design industry, as well as those that aspire to working within the kitchen design industry.

The Kitchen Design course is also aimed at those who have successfully completed A-Levels, a National Diploma or similar, and who wish to develop the skills, knowledge and employability

profile that will provide them with the opportunity to gain employment in the kitchen design industries. The course is oriented towards kitchen design and so we encourage applications from students with technical and making skills.

An aptitude for design and a willingness to commit to the level of personal study required can be considered on an individual basis.

Individual applications and relevant circumstances can be discussed in interview.

On successful completion of the FdA Kitchen Design allows for automatic progression into the level 6 BA (Hons) Kitchen Design top-up course.

Do applicants require a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check?

No

Opportunities for students on successful completion of the programme

As the only Foundation degree in kitchen design, students will join an elite group of uniquely qualified kitchen design professionals. Graduates will be creative, critical thinkers who are thoughtful, and entrepreneurial in their approach and contribute to the field in a variety of ways and through a range of career paths including but not limited to...

Independent Kitchen Designer
Commercial Kitchen Designer
Contract Kitchen Designer
Product Designer
Interior & Spatial Designer
Retail Designer
Project Manager Design
Project Manager Installation
Marketing & PR

Recognition of Prior Learning

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules. Please refer to our [Credit Accumulation webpages](#) for further guidance.

Student Support

During the course of their studies, students will be supported in the following ways:

- At the start of their studies all students will receive a full **induction** to the programme which will include introduction to the staff responsible for delivering the course, and access to library and IT facilities
- The **Programme Handbook** will outline the exact nature of the course and how it is structured, including the availability of option modules
- Each student will be allocated a **Personal Tutor** who will support their academic development, be able to advise and guide them with their studies and, where necessary, give advice on study options

- Students will be able to access our full range of **support services**, including the Learning Development Unit for skills and study support, the Library, the Careers and Employability Team, Student Finance Team, Accommodation and Counselling Services

Appendices

Quality Assurance

Awarding Body:	Buckinghamshire New University
Language of Study:	English
QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s):	Art & Design, The Quality Assurance Agency, 4 th edition QAA2552, December 2019
Assessment Regulations:	<i>Academic Assessment Regulations</i> , accessible via the Academic Advice webpages (https://bucks.ac.uk/students/academicadvice)
Does the Fitness to Practise procedure apply to this programme?	No
Ethics Sub-committee	Art & Design
Date Published / Updated:	September 2021

Other awards available on programme (Exit Qualifications)

Please refer to the *Academic Qualifications Framework* for Exit Qualifications recognised by the University and credit and module requirements.

Name of Exit Qualification:	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
Full name of Qualification and Award Title:	CertHE Kitchen Design
Credits requirements:	120
Module requirements:	ALL 120 Credits at Level 4
ID	Learning Outcome
K1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the underlying concepts and principles within contemporary global kitchen design
K2	Recognise and deploy the synergies between basic theory and practice effectively
K3	Identify, evaluate and present relevant theories such as critical design, spatial sciences, human needs and health and well-being to the practice of kitchen design
K5	Demonstrate independent thought and an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of design within society, evidencing sound judgements
C1	Demonstrate skills in design ideation strategies, constructing arguments and problem-solving
C3	Demonstrate basic ability to select, analyse and evaluate a range of ideas, materials, and resources
S1	Analyse and critique the cultural, social, political, environmental, and other contexts associated with a chosen research project

S2	Demonstrate awareness of the responsibilities of a designer, the impact of design decisions in the wider social, cultural, and environmental context
S3	Understand and apply knowledge of academic protocols and scholarly responsibilities
L2	Demonstrate skills in the planning, prioritisation, and management of personal workloads to meet deadlines and exercise some personal responsibility
L3	Effectively source and synthesise information and data independently having utilised the most appropriate information retrieval skills