



University of
Staffordshire



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

COURSE GUIDE

Your place
of possibility



WELCOME

Higher education is about investing in your future. You'll study for a degree, but you'll leave with so much more. You'll grow as a person, explore new experiences and gain the essential skills for your chosen career.

We offer a technology-led environment, where real-world, immersive learning prepares you for the future, and where our courses are shaped by professional and industry needs.

Join University of Staffordshire and find a great career or gateway to your future. You'll be part of a welcoming community, where amazing things happen. All built around you.

Find where *you* belong



Immersive and real-world learning

Step inside the future of learning, with real-world experiences. You could be going on a residential film shoot, creating sound effects with our Foley pit, or using your animation skills to develop characters from clay through to CGI. You can also access recording studio space seven days a week.

Gateway to careers

To help you become career-ready, you'll create a professional portfolio or showreel. Our students also have placement opportunities with companies like the BBC, ITV, Eurosport and Live Nation. Some have also gained industry-recognised certificates in Adobe Premiere Pro and After Effects. You'll find our graduates working across TV, film, music, animation and games, including roles as animators, directors, sound designers, music producers and cinematographers.



Personalised support

No barriers and no one size fits all. You'll study your way and find your niche. With a personalised learning journey, dedicated academic mentor and lecturers who will give you lots of support, contact time and encouragement as you explore your talents.

Inclusive community

Find a ready-made community where you can be you. A safe, welcoming and inclusive environment where you'll feel like you belong. You'll be part of a diverse student body where creativity is at the heart of everything we do.

**3RD FOR
CAREER
PROSPECTS**

Whatuni Student Choice
Awards 2025

**Our graduates are
among the most
employable in the UK**

**2ND FOR
SOCIAL
INCLUSION**

The Times and The Sunday Times
Good University Guide 2026

**You'll be part of a diverse
and inclusive community
where you can be you**

**TOP 5 FOR
FIRST
GENERATION
STUDENTS**

Daily Mail University Guide 2026

**You'll have all the
support you need to
succeed**

YOUR PLACE FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

**Animation
Film & Media
Music & Sound**

Our graduates have worked on top productions like Mission Impossible and Peaky Blinders as well as music videos for Ed Sheeran and Stormzy. They've also gone on to become writers, videographers, content creators, producers and on-screen talent.

Now you could be following in their footsteps. You can explore your creativity with our practical, real-world courses. Whether experimenting with techniques in our virtual production and motion capture studios or borrowing some of our 2,500+ production resources, you'll have access to professional-standard kit.

You'll also develop the connections that will open doors to your future career. Our students have opportunities to work with the likes of Aardman Animations, Pixar, Sony, Polydor and the Ambassador Group.

And they have a track record of winning Royal Television Society and Student Radio Awards for their innovative projects too.

As a student here, you could be making your own movie and screening it at film festivals. Composing, recording and mixing music for commercial release. Or writing stories for different platforms and packaging reports in our broadcast studios.

We'll encourage you to experiment, find your personal voice and collaborate across disciplines. You'll also develop an engaging portfolio that will be your calling card with employers.

The perfect platform for your creative ambitions.



**FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT OUR CREATIVE
INDUSTRIES COURSES**



Bringing your place
of possibility to life

WHY CHOOSE US

6TH FOR MEDIA

Guardian League Tables 2024

12TH FOR MUSIC

Guardian League Tables 2024

**TAUGHT BY LEADING
EXPERTS IN THEIR
FIELD**

**SHOWCASE TO
INDUSTRY
PROFESSIONALS**

**MANY OF OUR
GRADUATES HAVE
GONE ON TO WORK
FOR INDUSTRY
LEADING COMPANIES**

**LIVE STUDIOS • CONTROL ROOMS
• MAC LABS • ANIMATION LABS
• VIRTUAL PRODUCTION STUDIO
• MOCAP STUDIO • TV CENTRE**



STUDENT LIFE

Start building a student life that's completely yours. From your first week, you'll find new passions, unforgettable places and friends who just get you.



Hanley Park - Live music



Regent Theatre, Hanley



Hanley Park



Alton Towers Resort



Peak District

Destination Staffordshire

Quirky shops and eclectic live music. Adventure sports and animal antics. Spectacular Peak District views and fascinating industrial heritage. Staffordshire has it all.

Stoke-on-Trent's latest attraction, the Goods Yard, is right next to our main campus and includes plans for a giant vaulted food hall and entertainment space. You'll also be within walking distance of 60-acre Hanley Park and the city centre's shops, restaurants and Cultural Quarter. Just a few miles away, there's one of the UK's top thrill-seeking spots - Alton Towers Resort. And as one of the cheapest places to live, you can experience more.

Life outside of lectures

Fancy presenting your own radio show? Into niche hobbies? Or what about volunteering? Our Students' Union has more than 70 clubs and societies. There's a community waiting for you, where you'll meet people who share your interests.

You can also get physical with one of our many sports activities, including BUCS league teams and our free Just Play programme.

Artistic impression, imagery is indicative and not literal.

HOME FROM HOME

New for 2026 entry



If you are looking for accommodation, our brand new sustainable Student Village is at the heart of our Stoke-on-Trent campus. With scenic views, social spaces and 24/7 safety, you'll feel secure and supported.

We have a brand new range of en-suite accommodation, including shared flats, town houses and studio flats. There is something for everyone who wants to stay on campus.

Whether you choose to live on or off campus, you'll love hanging out in our brand new Village Hub. You can catch up with friends, stage movie nights, and join other social and wellbeing activities.

The Hub is home to our ResLife team too, who will help you with any of your accommodation requests, and be your central point for assistance.



 **FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR NEW ACCOMMODATION**



STUDENT EXPERIENCE



Earn while you learn

Getting a part-time job while you study couldn't be easier. You'll find some great opportunities and high-quality roles through our recruitment agency, Unitemps. You can also work in our Students' Union venues.

Or how about using your creative talents as a student content creator or promoting the university experience as a student ambassador? Brilliant for your CV as well as your finances and providing you with the opportunity to build your employment skills.



Global experiences

Whichever course you choose, you'll have the chance to work, study or volunteer abroad. Life-changing opportunities include helping to conserve sea turtles in Central Asia, working with Sri Lankan communities on textile projects, and delivering sports coaching in Ghana.

We also offer study trips linked to particular courses. Financial support is available. For further details, please visit: www.staffs.ac.uk/student-life/go-abroad



Student support

You'll have your own academic mentor to help you stay on track. If you need extra help with research and study skills, there are one-to-one sessions too.

We have lots of activities to promote student mental health and wellbeing as well, including counselling. We'll find the support that's right for you.

For more information visit: www.staffs.ac.uk/student-support

A hub of creativity and collaboration for Creative Industries students.

CADMAN STUDIOS

Conveniently located on the College Road site of our main Stoke-on-Trent campus, the studios mirror contemporary professional practice and were recently the focus of a multi-million-pound transformation to ensure they offer the latest TV, film, media, sound and music facilities.

Whichever Creative Industries course you choose to study, you'll access a range of state-of-the-art studios and labs, featuring the latest equipment, digital technology and specialist software. Ideal for hands-on learning, ensuring you graduate with the skills and experience you need to succeed in your future career.

MUSIC LABS

Specialist computer labs for music composition and post-production.

MUSIC STUDIOS

Music recording facilities consisting of control rooms and live rooms.

TELEVISION STUDIO

High definition three-camera studio, complete with audio and visual galleries, and tiered seating to accommodate an audience of 60 people.

POST-PRODUCTION LABS

Mac and PC-based AV post-production facilities.

MOTION CAPTURE STAGE

A huge space promoting innovation and realism.



When you're surrounded by amazing people, amazing things will happen.



FACILITIES



Virtual Production Studio

Our virtual production studio combines the latest digital innovations in VFX, CGI and gaming technology with traditional film and video production techniques. Large LED panels 'project' realistic, accurately tracked, animated landscapes into a live production environment, allowing the real and virtual world to blend seamlessly together.



TV Studio

Our three-camera TV Studio is equipped with broadcast standard technologies, green room, vision gallery and a comprehensive racks room.

Multi-platform newsrooms

Including 76 iMacs complete with all the software necessary for multi-platform journalism (Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere Pro and Adobe Audition).

Motion Capture Studio

Capture the motion of multiple human movements simultaneously for the creation of high-quality motion sequences in games, animation and VFX. Full body and facial motion can be captured through a variety of props, a 24-camera rig with specialist Vicon hardware and Cara facial performance capture headset.



Music and sound labs

Our two music labs are equipped with 50 Macs running the latest software, including Pro Tools, Logic, Ableton Live, Ni Komplete and Adobe Creative Suite. They also house an electronic music workstation with modular analogue and digital synths.

Recording studios

Featuring five control rooms and four live rooms, all interconnected (audio and video) with an additional mastering facility. The rooms also have a range of industry-standard mixing consoles, surround monitoring, microphones, instruments and amplification.



Henrion Shoot Studio

This multi-purpose configurable production space features a range of rig-mounted creative-led studio lights, controlled via a mixing desk.

Post-production suites

Get to grips with over 50 industry standard editing suites designed to perfect the edit, colour and sound mixes on media productions.

Radio studios

Three professional radio studios house a range of specialist news production, podcast and music scheduling software (Burli, Myriad) and professional hardware (Soniflex S2 mixing desks, ISDN units).

Henrion resource stores

Home to over 2,500 individual items of portable production equipment and peripherals, available for students to hire, ranging from basic dslr cameras and wacom pens, to 4k digital cinema production kits and fully rigged DJ production decks.



TAKE A TOUR
OF OUR MOCAP
STUDIOS





OUR EXPERT TEAM

Our teaching approach

You can personalise your degree by focusing on the specialist areas that most interest you. Much of your time will be spent on in-depth projects. You could also be tackling live industry briefs

and learning about the business side of creative careers, such as freelancing and marketing. There are opportunities to hear from industry guest speakers.



Industry expertise

You'll benefit from our team's real-world experience and internationally recognised success. It means our curriculum is up-to-date, relevant, combines theory and applied practice, and reflects industry needs. Our staff include experienced filmmakers, songwriters, musicians, animation directors and concept artists.

Research expertise

You'll learn from lecturers involved in cutting-edge research in their specialist fields. Areas of expertise include experimental film, light entertainment and comedy, TV drama, immersive media and mixed media storytelling, and audiovisual composition. As well as passing on their expert knowledge, they will inspire you to conduct your own research projects.



OUR STUDENTS



My tutors all came from industry backgrounds and had amazing connections. We had some brilliant BAFTA and Oscar-winning guest lecturers visit as well as trips to studios such as Pixar and Disney. I always felt a big emphasis on what to do after we graduated, such as through modules with real live briefs, as well as creating business cards, showreels and a CV. This was invaluable upon graduating and helped to prepare me for the real world.

I worked in film and TV for a few months, making props for shows such as Arrow and Supergirl. Right now I have recently started a full-time prop making position on a stop motion short film being produced in Vancouver. ””



Cat Hayes

Animation graduate
Prop maker



In an industry of freelancers, with few job opportunities, you need the skills, experience and confidence to pick up work where you can and take advantage of opportunities when they come. I'm constantly using the skills I picked up at University of Staffordshire and it gave me a great grounding to start my career. ””



Dan Crook

Music graduate
Music Engineer and Musician at 140dB Management

OUR COURSES

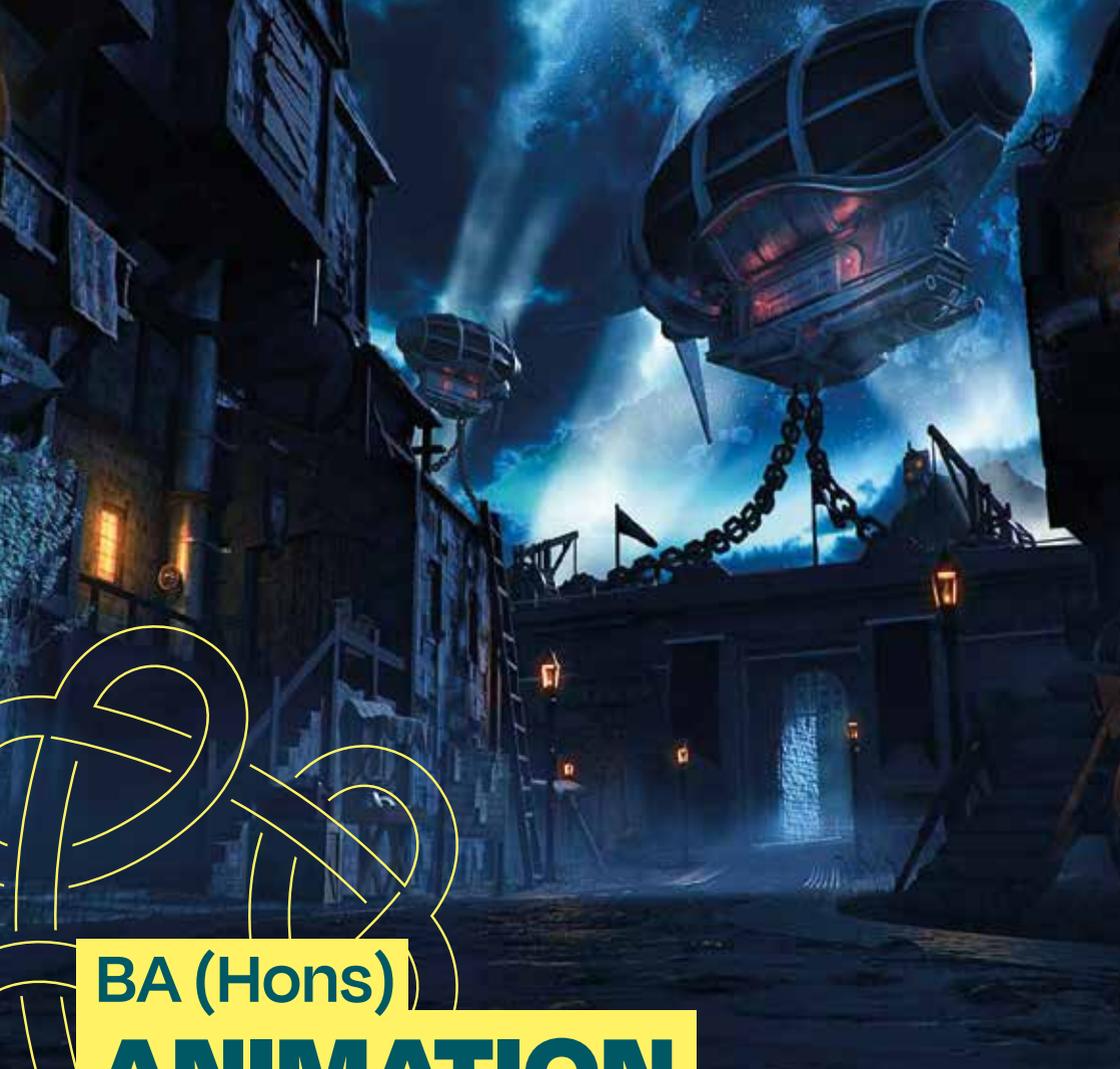
All courses are delivered at our Stoke-on-Trent campus

Course title	Award	UCAS Code	UCAS Offer	Duration in years
Animation	BA (Hons)	W616	96	3
Foundation Year in Art and Design*		W102	48	1
Creative Media Production	BA (Hons)	I780	96	3
Creative Media Production (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	I782	96	4
Film Production	BA (Hons)	W600	96	3
Film Production (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	W603	96	4
Music Production	BA (Hons)	W38P	96	3
Music Production (with foundation year)	BA (Hons)	W38Q	48	4
Music Production (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	W38R	96	4
Sound Design	BA (Hons)	W371	96	3
Sound Design (with foundation year)	BA (Hons)	W372	48	4
Sound Design (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	W564	96	4

*Our Foundation Year in Art and Design is a progression route to BA (Hons) Animation for those who might not have attained the entry requirements for direct entry onto the degree. This prepares students for Level 4 study, and allows them to work on degree related projects.

We are refreshing our curriculum to better prepare you for your career and build on our exciting, immersive education experiences. It means you'll have more time to devote to developing your professional skills. It's all about designing teaching and learning around you and your needs.





BA (Hons) ANIMATION

**TOP 10 FOR TEACHING
QUALITY IN ANIMATION
AND GAME DESIGN**

Guardian University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT
THE COURSE
HERE**



Pencil, pixel or puppet? The choice is yours. Transform yourself into a character creator, give life to inanimate objects, and leave us with an industry-relevant showreel in your chosen specialist area. Master course content that is challenging, exciting and completely industry-focused.



Why choose us...

- Our global connections with brands like Aardman, Carse & Waterman, Pixar, Walt Disney, Nickelodeon and CalARTS mean you'll be on the right track to a flourishing career in animation when you graduate.
- Well-equipped studios include Cintiq suites for 2D and 3D digital animation, a 4K edit suite, sound recording booths, access to motion capture technology and a dual screen PC suite with access to software including Maya and Toon Boom.
- Personalise your course with optional pathways in 3D, 2D, stop motion and computer games animation. Tailor your studies to reflect your personal interests and professional goals.
- Learn through specialist lectures, technical demonstrations and seminars that focus on character animation and animated performance, acting methods and the principles of animation.
- Explore creative topics collaboratively with other year groups in our 'Creative Intervention Workshops', helping you to build networks that could last a lifetime.

What you'll learn...

Learn to develop narrative and character to strengthen and support visual imagery, investigating every aspect of storytelling from concept to published works. Explore 2D digital, 3D digital, computer games animation and stop motion production, combining the new technology of motion and performance capture with the traditional principles of animation.

Module examples:

- Anatomy of Animation
- Drawing for Animation
- Character Animation
- Story Art
- Pitch. Present. Collaborate

What you could do next...

As a character animator, your skills will be relevant to a range of industry opportunities including feature and short film production, computer games, commercial work, VFX and beyond. You'll have a network of contacts and creative collaborators built during your time as a studying professional.



BA (Hons) CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION

This multi-skilled degree will equip you for the broadcasting, media and journalism jobs of the future. Learn how to write, edit and produce a wide range of multimedia content. Create everything from TV dramas and documentaries through to podcasts and news reports.

6TH FOR MEDIA

Guardian University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT
THE COURSE
HERE**



Why choose us...

- Develop a breadth of practical experience and skills. Write, produce, and edit a variety of visual and audio media. We'll nurture your talents whether you want to work in journalism, documentary or drama production, podcasting or digital media.
- From day one, you'll build a portfolio of work to help kick-start your future career. Use our professional facilities, including an industry-leading virtual production studio, multi-camera TV studio, newsroom, radio studio and post-production labs.
- Learn the tricks of the trade from our panel of graduates and set yourself apart from the competition with a media placement.
- Draw on our extensive film and media expertise. Our students regularly win Royal Television Society and Student Radio Awards. Some of our graduates have also worked on TV series like Peaky Blinders.

What you'll learn...

Gain technical and creative skills to work on a range of broadcasting projects. Tailor the course to your career ambitions, where you can specialise in TV or other small screen work, broadcasting and online journalism, or podcasts and radio.

Module examples:

- Television Production
- Journalism and Digital Storytelling
- Media Production: Drama and Documentary
- Multimedia Writing and Presenting
- Media Regulations

What you could do next...

The skills you learn can lead to exciting careers within the media and TV industries. Typical jobs include a location scout, director, producer, studio floor manager, researcher or multimedia journalist. Our students have won numerous awards. Graduates have also worked on top TV shows like Sex Education and EastEnders, become news presenters, and have set up media production companies.



BA (Hons) FILM PRODUCTION

Be part of the future of film and media production with our specialist, practice-focused degree. Gain the real-world experience and technical knowledge needed to corner the market and launch your career in the creative industries.

6TH FOR MEDIA

Guardian University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT
THE COURSE
HERE**



Why choose us...

- Our graduates have gone to work in industry productions as well-known as Star Wars, James Bond, Dr Who, House of the Dragon, and Peaky Blinders.
- Learn in the exceptional surroundings of our £11.5m Cadman Studios, which feature our pre and post-production facilities, Virtual Production Studio, sound recording equipment and a fully kitted out TV centre with control rooms.
- Gain hands-on experience and build a portfolio of creative work, with the chance to work for a range of companies on live briefs.
- Learn how to research, develop, write, produce, direct, shoot, edit and promote your own creative portfolio of short films to become a successful a multi-disciplinary practitioner.
- Tailor your filmmaking and specialise in a chosen field, including drama, documentaries, music videos, experimental films, branded content, and commercial projects.

What you'll learn...

You'll learn about film production by making films, through 100% coursework and no exams. You'll graduate with industry-ready creative and technical skills, along with an expansive portfolio of work to showcase your talent to future employers.

Module examples:

- Fiction Filmmaking
- Non-Fiction Filmmaking
- Client Filmmaking
- Interactive Filmmaking and Virtual Production
- Creative and Experimental Filmmaking
- Film and Media Professional Development
- Media Employment Portfolio

What you could do next...

Graduates go on to work as directors, producers, cinematographers, editors, camera operators, and sound designers. They have secured work across a broad range of Film and TV productions for companies such as the BBC, ITV, Sky, Warner Brothers, Universal Studios, Disney, Netflix and Amazon Studios.



BA (Hons) MUSIC PRODUCTION

Gain the knowledge, practical skills and creative flair needed to succeed in the music industry. Learn to compose, record, mix and master music for commercial release and be guided by lecturers who work as songwriters, producers and live performers.

TOP 5 FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION IN MUSIC

Complete University Guide 2024

 **FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE COURSE HERE**



Why choose us...

- Learn in the exceptional surroundings of our £11.5m Cadman Studios, which feature five fully equipped recording studios, all with surround sound and consoles from SSL, Avid, Audient and API.
- We're an approved Avid and Apple training centre and we offer official Pro Tools accreditation at a very low cost.
- Complete a foundation year and industry work placement. Previous placements have included recording studios, major and independent record labels, games development companies and theatres.
- Learn the technical skills essential for working in professional studio environments from lecturers who work as songwriters, producers and live performers.
- Graduate with a practical portfolio in an area of your choice.

What you'll learn...

Learn about creative musical processes and practices, including performance, listening, improvisation, recording and composition.

Module examples:

- Music Business and Marketing
- Creative Applications Of Digital Audio Workstations
- Editing and Mixing Audio
- Studio Practice
- Experimental Music Composition
- Multi-Channel Audio Production and Mastering

What you could do next...

This degree will give you the skills and knowledge to go into a variety of areas from music production, performance, song writing, broadcasting and internet streaming, music distribution, event management and live sound, artist management and many more.



BA (Hons) SOUND DESIGN

TOP 5 FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION IN MUSIC

Complete University Guide 2024



FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT
THE COURSE
HERE



If you are interested in creating sound and music for film, games, television or theatre, our Sound Design course is perfect for you. The course is highly flexible, so you can personalise it to match your interests.



Why choose us...

- Learn in the exceptional surroundings of our £11.5m Cadman Studios, which feature five fully equipped recording studios, all with surround sound and consoles from SSL, Avid, Audient and API.
- We're an approved Avid and Apple training centre and we offer official Pro Tools accreditation at a very low cost.
- Produce a practical portfolio during your final year studying with us.
- Choose modules that match your interests or future career aspirations.
- Grow your network by collaborating with film and media, games, and animation students, as well as other music and sound students..

What you'll learn...

Sound Design involves preparing all aspects of a soundtrack including dialogue, ambience, sound effects, Foley and music.

Module examples:

- Sound Design in Context
- Editing and Mixing Audio
- Multi-Channel Audio Production and Mastering
- Sound Design in Visual Media
- Synthesis and Sampling
- Experimental Software Tools

What you could do next...

Our graduates enjoy a wide range of different careers from sound and music for video, TV, film, games and theatre to alternative careers such as radio commercial production, freelance sound designers/composers, teachers, lecturers and many more.

OUR STUDENTS

“ The University has a big link to the games industry, that was a big attraction for me, alongside the course not solely being focused on music, giving me the freedom to explore the process and technical aspects that were important to me.

One day I'd like to open my own studio, but I've been working in the games industry for five years now and I'm enjoying my path and trajectory. ”



Lewis Williams

Music graduate
Lead Audio Programmer at
Rocksteady Studios Ltd

“ My proudest post-university achievement was getting a job at Dissident creative agency as full time work within my industry can be quite competitive. My journey has been a steady incline thanks to the skills learned from university but also from the opportunities I got through the uni post graduating, such as my internship, allowing me to never be out of work. ”



Thomas Millington

Film Production graduate
Content Producer at Dissident creative agency

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We're always striving to deliver the most current and relevant degrees, both by creating new courses and regularly reviewing our current offering.

Each time we make changes, the course goes through a rigorous approval process to ensure that it's the perfect fit for our students, employers and other relevant stakeholders.

Some of the courses inside this guide may be marked as 'subject to approval' or 'subject to validation', but don't worry, this just means some of the details of the course won't have been finalised yet. As

soon as new courses are approved and validated, up-to-date information will be provided on the online course pages at www.staffs.ac.uk/courses

If you have been offered a place and there is a significant change to the course, or for any reason, the course doesn't run – we will contact you immediately and fully support you in finding the best suitable alternative.

At the time of printing in January 2026, the courses listed in this guide represent those we intend to offer for the 2027/2028 academic years. Very occasionally, however, we need to make changes to our courses, including their content and the way in which they are delivered. In some instances, courses can be discontinued or combined with other courses.

Reasons for withdrawing courses can include insufficient student numbers and courses not receiving the necessary accreditation or approval. Changes to course information may include operational and academic reasons.

If circumstances beyond our control mean we cannot provide particular educational services, all reasonable steps will be taken to minimise any disruption to those services. However, the University will have no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any prospect or student as a result.

As a prospective student of University of Staffordshire, it's your responsibility to ensure you have fully reviewed up-to-date course information before you apply,

and that your chosen course fully meets your requirements. You should also check the course still meets your requirements before accepting an offer to study with us.

Student satisfaction scores have been provided by Unistats and are correct at the time of going to print. For more information, visit: discoveruni.gov.uk

If we discontinue a course or programme and you're not happy with the alternative offered, or if a programme is changed and you're not happy with the changes, you'll be given the opportunity to withdraw from the programme. Up-to-date course information can be found on our website (www.staffs.ac.uk), or by calling us on **01782 294400**.

If you're offered a place at University of Staffordshire, your offer will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Offer. If you become a student of University of Staffordshire, you will enter a contract with us and be bound by our rules and regulations. These, too, may vary from time to time (www.staffs.ac.uk/rulesandregs).



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3RD IN THE UK FOR CAREER PROSPECTS

Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2025

2ND FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

The Times and The Sunday Times Good
University Guide 2026

TOP 5 FOR FIRST GEN STUDENTS

The Mail University guide 2026

1ST IN THE UK FOR GAMES EDUCATION

Rookies Games Design and Development
2023, 2025

TIGA Best Games Institution 2024, 2025

68% OF RESEARCH IS "INTERNATIONALLY EXCELLENT" OR "WORLD LEADING"

Research Excellence Framework 2021

For more detailed information
on courses or studying at the
University of Staffordshire
visit: [www.staffs.ac.uk/
undergraduate](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/undergraduate)

Find us on:
www.staffs.ac.uk/socialmedia

