

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

**SCHOOL OF  
ARTS, LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURES**

Undergraduate courses 2017

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**ART HISTORY  
AND VISUAL  
STUDIES**

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[www.manchester.ac.uk/arthistory](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/arthistory)

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**Home to an internationally renowned creative scene - including the largest multi-arts centre outside of London and our own multiple award-winning, cutting-edge art gallery - Manchester is the perfect place to discover art history in the context of a globally significant cultural destination.**

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# ART HISTORY AND VISUAL STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

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**You'll be taught by world-class researchers. The Research Excellence Framework 2014 (a UK-wide benchmark for research excellence) placed us in the top three Art History departments in the UK.**

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What impressed me most about studying here is the amount and quality of support that the staff provided throughout my course. Whether you go to see them about personal or academic issues, they always have time for you.

Michaela Blackburn, BA (Hons) History of Art

# WHY MANCHESTER?



Enhance your employability with placements and volunteering opportunities at the University's own award-winning gallery.



Funded study trips in the UK and to overseas destinations such as Paris, Berlin or Rome.



We give two students per year exclusive access to summer internships at the world-famous Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice.



Explore internationally significant special collections as part of your studies – from the works of artists such as Francis Bacon, Dürer, Munch and Blake at the newly redeveloped Whitworth Art Gallery, to landmarks of printing spanning five centuries housed at the University-owned John Rylands Library.



Manchester is a major arts destination - home to notable galleries such as The Lowry, The Chinese Centre for Contemporary Art, and Manchester Art Gallery as well as exclusive works, including those showcased by Manchester International Festival.



Cornelia Parker.  
"Composition with Horns (Double Flat)",  
2005, on display at The Whitworth.  
Photo: David Levene

# ART HISTORY AND VISUAL STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Studying art is one of the key ways in which we interpret and understand the past. Seeking to discover how art has helped people to both define and reflect their place in the world offers a unique insight into how visual culture is intrinsic to the shape of the world in which we live today.

You'll study time periods from classical ancient Greece to contemporary and non-Western art film and photography. Throughout your course you'll explore subjects, objects and texts from different cultures and different historical periods, taught by art historians who are leaders in their field. At Manchester we are noted for our strong interdisciplinarity, and you'll benefit from our strengths in Renaissance Studies, Romanticism, modern and contemporary art, as well as architectural history, museum studies and the intersections of art and science.

Manchester is globally renowned for its arts and cultural offer. The city is home to major galleries including The Lowry, Manchester Art Gallery and The Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art. You'll also have exclusive access to University-owned cultural resources including The Whitworth Art Gallery and The John Rylands Library, a spectacular neo-Gothic building housing one of the world's finest collections of medieval illuminated manuscripts and rare books.

The Whitworth - which reopened to great critical and popular acclaim in February 2015 following a £15 million renovation - is home to world-famous collections including masterpieces by Dürer, Turner, Blake, Munch, Van Gogh, Gauguin and Picasso and is used extensively in teaching and learning.

You'll have the opportunity to travel across the world to explore renowned works first-hand. We run a dedicated field trip course unit including study in Paris, Rome, Barcelona or Berlin; offer additional second year study abroad options in Europe, USA, Canada and Hong Kong, Singapore and Seoul; and give two students per year exclusive access to a summer internship with the prestigious Guggenheim Foundation, Venice.

Our new pathway, taught in conjunction with Museology staff, focuses on curating and gallery studies, covering topics such as collecting, exhibiting, and art writing.



Lucian Freud, Man's Head (Self Portrait), 1963, on display at The Whitworth.

## How you'll learn

Teaching takes place in a variety of formats, including lectures, small seminar groups, workshops, gallery visits and one-to-one tutorials. Seminars are normally very interactive - you may be given reading in advance that will form the basis of a class discussion and you will be expected to contribute occasional oral presentations, building your skills and confidence in presentation techniques. Some course units feature group projects culminating in online content development or a physical exhibition / display. Many of our courses include fieldwork visits to galleries or special exhibitions throughout the UK. You'll also have the opportunity to experience credited placement opportunities as part of your learning. Each of our course units offers a dedicated office hour, during which you can gain advice and insight about your work from the course tutor in question.

## How you'll be assessed

Assessment is broadly divided equally between coursework and examinations. Coursework can take a variety of forms including traditional essay writing, oral presentations, group projects and the final year dissertation.

Written feedback is provided in the form of essay and exam cover sheets and, in the case of orally delivered seminar papers, a verbal report from the tutor. We provide feedback on both the content of your writing and the construction and clarity of the argument posed. As a student here you'll gain both academic writing skills and insight into the development of arts-specific composition, such as catalogue entries, gallery interpretation, exhibition reviews and journalistic articles.

Course tutors are available without appointment in their office hours twice a week outside scheduled teaching hours, allowing you to gain advice and feedback on your work.

# STUDY ABROAD

In your second year you'll have the opportunity to explore key international collections through a five-day study trip to a leading European destination such as Rome, Paris, Berlin or Barcelona. Combining guided tours, talks and independent research, the fieldtrip culminates in an extended essay on return to the UK.

Each year, we offer two second year students the opportunity to access a summer internship at the world-famous Peggy Guggenheim Collection, situated on the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy. One of the most visited attractions in the city, this internationally significant collection of modern art features works by artists such as Picasso, Duchamp, Pollock and Ernst.

Study abroad is an excellent opportunity for you to see the world, experience new cultures and study at one of our partner institutions overseas. Most of our undergraduate courses allow you to spend time – usually a semester – at one of our partner institutions outside the UK. Study abroad periods are available either in Year 2 of a three-year course, or in Year 3 of a four-year course.

**Find out more:**  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/studyabroad](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/studyabroad)

“”

Interning at The Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, was an incredible experience that enabled me to work amongst world-renowned artworks in a beautiful location. I was asked to stay for a second month and was selected as one of two interns to assist the intern co-ordinators. The internship programme offers many opportunities - from exploring Venice with fellow interns to giving private tours of the collection. It was a wonderful experience!

**Tuesday Knowles, BA (Hons) History of Art**

[www.manchester.ac.uk/arhistory](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/arhistory)





# OUR COURSES

For full entry requirements search our course listings:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate)

How to apply:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applications](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applications)

Please note that the course units listed in this brochure only represent a sample of the full breadth of available units for each course. For course listings, including course unit detail in full, visit our course finder:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate)

We also offer Art History and History BA. Please visit our course finder for details: [www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate)

Please note that course units are reviewed on an annual basis and as such may vary slightly to those advertised. Please visit the online course listing for up-to-date information.

## FLEXIBLE HONOURS

Flexible Honours may allow you to study an additional arts, languages or cultures subject.

Find out more:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/flexiblehonours](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/flexiblehonours)

## History of Art BA

UCAS code V360 (3 years)

Gain a broad-based foundation in art history, before exploring specific fields of interest within Classical, Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, Victorian, modern and contemporary art, and architectural history and theory. Learn how to situate artworks within social and historical contexts, and in relation to issues of gender and sexuality, class, ethnicity, patronage, connoisseurship, scientific, religious beliefs and systems of display. For those interested in gallery careers, our museums and curating pathway will provide hands-on insight.

**Year 1:** Explore key art concepts and methods of analysis and interpretation as well as gaining skills in academic writing. Study core units exploring art from the Ice Age to Baroque and Rococo to the present day.

### Sample course units include:

- Art Spaces
- Ice Age to Baroque: Artworks in History
- Rococo to Now: Artworks in History
- Art History Tutorial

**Year 2:** Develop your critical thinking and understanding of theories and approaches in the study of art history via a combination of core and optional course units. Start to explore specific artforms and periods of interest, and study collections first-hand courtesy of a dedicated fieldtrip to a European cultural destination.

### Sample course units include:

- Renaissance and Discovery: Florence, Rome, Venice and Beyond
- Collecting, Museums, Display: The Afterlife of Objects
- Art in Britain from Turner to Whistler
- The Neo-Avant-Garde

**Year 3:** Continue to pursue specific areas of interest through optional courses spanning modernism, romanticism and more. You'll explore subject matter in small groups to encourage participation and active learning, whilst an optional work placement offers you the chance to directly engage with cultural organisations across the city. Choose an area of research for your final year dissertation project.

### Sample course units include:

- History of Art Dissertation
- Prometheus Unbound: Art, Science and Technology in the Renaissance
- Making Art Public
- Romanticism

### Entry requirements

**A-level:** ABB-BBB

**IB:** 34-31 including 5s in three Higher Level subjects



William Blake. 'Europe' Plate I Frontispiece, 'The Ancient of Days', 1827, on display at The Whitworth

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In the summer after my second year I applied for an internship at Sotheby's. I spent the summer working in their auction house in London. My job included researching many of the works that came to Sotheby's for forthcoming auctions. This enabled me not only to experience some of the world's finest art first-hand, but also opened up areas of research previously unknown to me. The experience of working in an auction house opened my eyes to the commercial art world and helped me with my studies.

**Katie Zeitlin,**  
 BA (Hons) History of Art

“”

Interning at the Whitworth was a fantastic experience and one that I am most grateful for. The internship offered a unique learning environment in which I gained extensive training in the organisation, processing and management of the gallery's print collections. Throughout the internship I was constantly encouraged to learn, whether it be from the staff who generously shared their expertise with interns or from visits to other local art spaces. The internship allowed me to gain invaluable experience working in a leading UK gallery and through my time at the Whitworth I have developed my professional skills, furthered my academic knowledge of prints and expanded my understanding of the organisation of a gallery's collections.

Tuesday Knowles, BA (Hons) History of Art

Cornelia Parker: 'Cold Dark Matter, An Exploded View', 1991, on display at The Whitworth. Photo: David Levene



# FEES AND FUNDING

Please search our course listings for up-to-date tuition fee information for UK, EU and international students: [www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate)

## Bursaries and scholarships

Approximately a third of our students will receive cash bursaries which can be used to support living costs whilst studying. UK students are not required to submit an application for any of the University's means-tested awards. We will automatically identify eligible students on the basis of the household income data provided by the Student Loans Company.

The **Manchester Bursary** is available to any UK student who is registered on an eligible undergraduate degree course at The University of Manchester and who has had a full financial assessment carried out by Student Finance. This bursary is additional to the government package of maintenance grants and is based on students' household income.

The University's **Undergraduate Access Scholarships** are generously funded by our alumni community and donors. These scholarships are in addition to any other bursaries students may receive from the University. Students must have successfully completed the Manchester Access Programme and started an undergraduate course at the University. Students who have experienced time in local authority care may also be eligible for these awards.

UK students can apply for **Disabled Students' Allowance** to cover study-related disability support. Our Disability Advisory and Support Service (DASS) can help you to apply and can also discuss any alternative sources of funding for your disability-related needs.

[www.manchester.ac.uk/dass](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/dass)

Full details of our scholarships and bursaries can be found at:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/scholarships)

As an Art History and Visual Studies student you'll also have access to:

- Funding to support European fieldtrips, including air travel, accommodation and museum entries - equivalent to a bursary of up to £700
- The Lady Chorley Fund, which offers bursaries to support final year students with their dissertation research - recent students have used funding to undertake research in Vienna, Rome, Athens, Paris and London
- Funding to support accommodation and travel costs for students undertaking a summer internship at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice (provided in conjunction with the Guggenheim)
- The Adam Kay Prize - awarded to the student with the best academic record in Year 2

# CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

Our degree programmes have produced a number of high-achieving graduates, many of whom have gone on to outstanding international careers.

A degree in art history prepares you for careers in the art world, but it also equips you with intellectual and practical skills applicable to many different spheres of employment. We live in an image-saturated world where understanding the power of images, and having the skills to interpret and write about them, can lead to a satisfying job.

One in 11 jobs or 8.8 per cent of all UK jobs now fall within the creative economy, and one in six of all UK graduate jobs are also creative economy positions. The number of UK jobs in creative occupations rose to 1.9m in 2014, an increase of 6.4 per cent or three times the average job growth rate across the economy.

Through your study you'll develop key analytical and reflective skills, such as the ability to manage, communicate and deploy evidence; independence of mind and initiative; team-working; empathy and social insight; and intercultural awareness.

Our graduates go on to work in a breadth of sectors, from media, creative and cultural to advertising, marketing and sales, from hospitality, sport and leisure to heritage, museums and galleries. Recent graduate career destinations include: Royal Collections Exhibitions Curator, Archivist at Tate Liverpool, Education Officer at Watts Gallery and Art Officer at English Heritage.

A number of our course units involve exposure to curatorial practice, and you'll have the opportunity to explore the practical side of exhibition curation through your studies courtesy of The Whitworth Art Gallery. You'll also have the chance to undertake a work placement in your third year, gaining hands-on experience of a gallery / museum role and credits which will count towards your final degree.

Our award-winning careers service provides a wealth of tools, advice, development opportunities, and industry links specific to your subject. You'll have access to dedicated support throughout your studies and up to two years after graduation.

Find out more: [www.manchester.ac.uk/careers](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/careers)

“”

My degree sparked an interest in learning, art and social history, which I have never lost. I can't emphasise enough how important curiosity is for an art historian and a journalist.

Rebecca Atkinson, Art History and Visual Studies alumna, Online Publications Editor, Museums Association



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# FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

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Manchester has been voted as a top global destination for two years running (The New York Times – 52 Places to Go in 2015, Lonely Planet – Best in Travel 2016) largely down to the city's ever-expanding, internationally significant arts and cultural offer, which includes the largest multi-arts centre outside of London and brand new £110m creative development The Factory.

Study here and you'll benefit from unrivalled access to the resources and rich collections of some of the city's key cultural destinations, including the Whitworth Art Gallery, The John Rylands Library and Manchester Museum – all part of The University of Manchester.

## The Whitworth Art Gallery

The Whitworth Art Gallery is the University's own multi-award winning gallery, housing an eclectic collection of art and design of international significance. The gallery reopened in 2015 to popular and critical acclaim following a £15m development which incorporated additional galleries, study areas and outdoor exhibition spaces.

Opening with a major programme including works by Cornelia Parker, Cai Guo-Qiang and Sarah Lucas, the gallery has been quick to scoop major prizes including Art Fund Museum of the Year 2015. The gallery offers a remarkable environment for collection-based learning, hands-on curation and valuable volunteer opportunities. Study with us and you'll explore masterpieces by Dürer, Turner, Blake, Munch, Van Gogh, Gauguin and Picasso, nationally designated watercolours and textiles, and the most significant collection of outsider art in the UK.

[www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk)

## The John Rylands Library

You'll also have unparalleled access to the Special Collections of The John Rylands Library – a spectacular neo-Gothic building in the heart of the city, which is home to one of the world's finest collections of medieval illuminated manuscripts and rare books. The collections encompass almost all the landmarks of printing, from magnificent illustrated books to key historical texts, alongside manuscripts spanning more than five millennia.

The University of Manchester is also home to The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama – a purpose-built performance space at the heart of campus, and Manchester Museum which houses important ethnographic and classical collections.

**Find out more about our unique study resources:**  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/university](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/university)

**Find out more about the arts in Manchester:**  
[www.creativetourist.com](http://www.creativetourist.com)



The Whitworth. Photo by Alan Williams.

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# LEARNING SUPPORT

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We'll provide individual learning support to help you take control of your learning and develop your confidence.

## Peer support scheme

Our peer support scheme is one of the largest in Europe. Peer mentors are higher-year students on the same degree programme as you, who will help you find your feet when you arrive here and adjust to student life. As they'll have already been a student at Manchester for at least a year, they should be able to help you with anything you might be worried or unsure about.

## PASS (Peer Assisted Study Sessions)

Led by volunteer students, PASS sessions will often be based around a specific area of study. You'll have the opportunity to consolidate and build on your existing knowledge through discussion with other students in an informal and supportive environment, where you can compare notes, analyse, ask questions and talk through ideas in an informal, friendly environment.

## Societies

The Manchester Art Group is an exciting undergraduate collective based in Art History and Visual Studies. It organises social events, talks and exhibitions and aims to link study with contemporary art practice in Manchester and the North West more broadly. In addition, we offer study sessions for University students, curators and members of the general public in partnership with organisations such as Manchester City Art Gallery, the Whitworth Art Gallery, the Walker Art Gallery and the Lady Lever Art Gallery.

## Academic advisers

Study with us and you'll be assigned an academic adviser who is there to give advice about any academic issues throughout the duration of your course. Your adviser will be able to help you with the transition from school / college to university – and can help you get to grips with studying and learning more independently. They'll also be able to help you develop your skills in academic writing or research, or any other skills that are specific to your degree programme.

Find out more about the personal and academic support available to you throughout your studies:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/study/experience/student-life/university/student-support/](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/experience/student-life/university/student-support/)

## Disability support

If you have additional needs arising from a medical condition, physical or sensory disability, specific learning disability such as dyslexia, or a mental health difficulty that affects your study, we can provide support. Contact or visit our Disability Advisory and Support Office before you apply, to discuss your needs and support available.

[www.manchester.ac.uk/dass](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/dass)

# FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

## ACCOMMODATION

Discover your new home:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation)

## ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Everything you need to apply:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/howtoapply](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/howtoapply)

## ALAN GILBERT LEARNING COMMONS

Our hi-tech 24/7 independent learning space:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons)

## CAREERS

Take control of your career:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/careers](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/careers)

## DISABILITY SUPPORT

Talk to us about any support you need:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/dso](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/dso)

## FUNDING AND FINANCE

Fees, loans, scholarships and more:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/studentfinance](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/studentfinance)

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Prepare for life at Manchester, UK:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/international](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/international)

## IT SERVICES

Online learning, computer access, IT support:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices)

## LIBRARY

One of the UK's largest and best-resourced:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/library](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library)

## MAPS

Campus, city and accommodation:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps)

## PROSPECTUS

Download or order a copy:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/prospectus](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/prospectus)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us online:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/connect/social-media](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/connect/social-media)

## SPORT

Get active with clubs, classes, leagues and facilities:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/sport](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/sport)

## SUPPORT

Help with academic, personal, financial and administrative issues:  
[my.manchester.ac.uk/guest](http://my.manchester.ac.uk/guest)

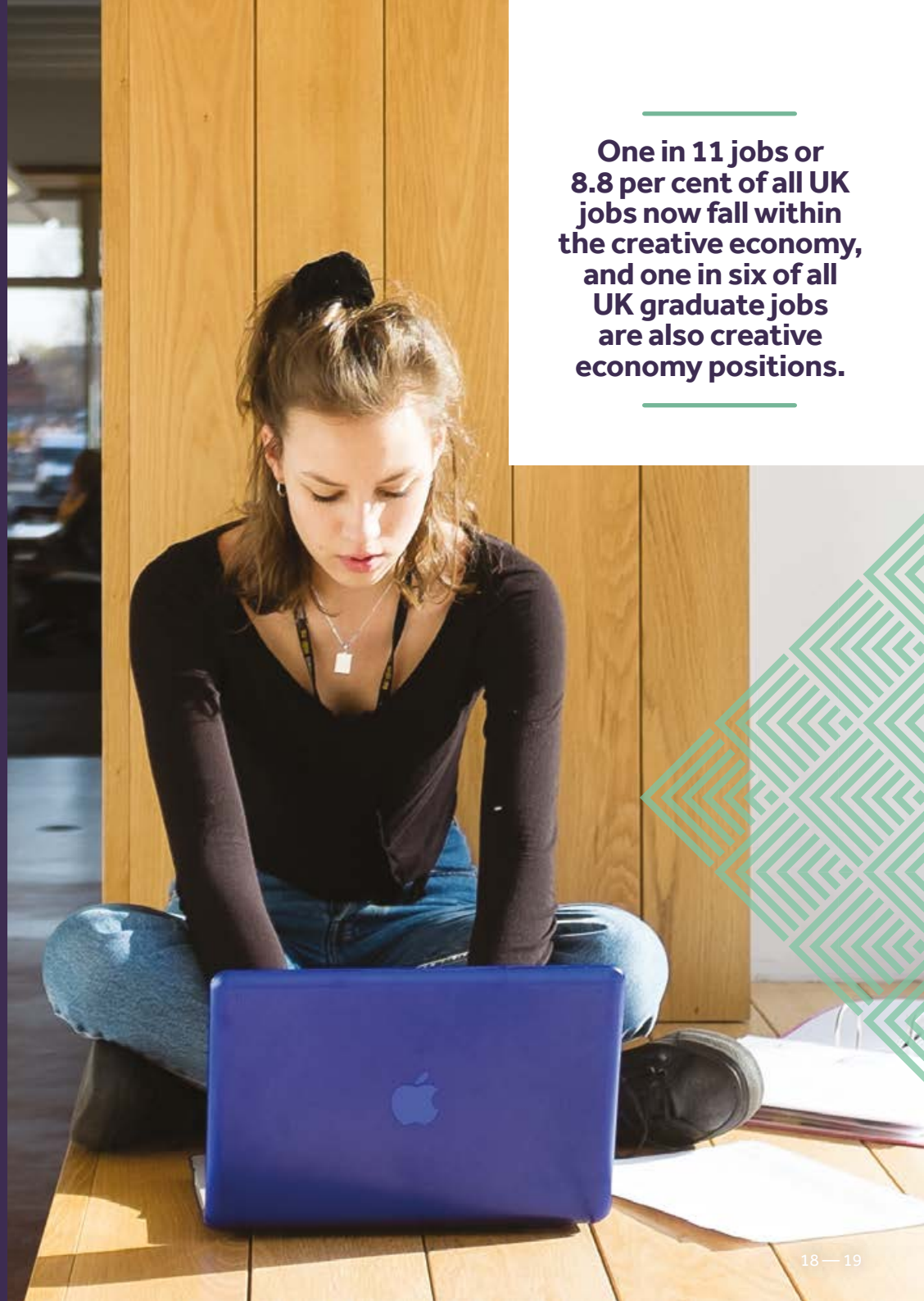
## STUDENTS' UNION

The UK's largest student hub:  
[manchesterstudentsunion.com](http://manchesterstudentsunion.com)

## VIDEOS

Our University on YouTube:  
[www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester](http://www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester)

One in 11 jobs or 8.8 per cent of all UK jobs now fall within the creative economy, and one in six of all UK graduate jobs are also creative economy positions.



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## THE SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is the largest grouping of arts, languages and humanities scholars and students in the UK. Study with us and you'll benefit from multidisciplinary learning opportunities and world-renowned cultural resources as well as the creative fabric of Manchester itself.

[www.alc.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk)

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### Contact details

Admissions Office  
School of Arts, Languages and Cultures  
The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9PL

**e:** [ug-ahvs@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:ug-ahvs@manchester.ac.uk)

**t:** +44 (0) 161 275 3348

[www.manchester.ac.uk/arthistory](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/arthistory)

 [@ahvs\\_uom](https://twitter.com/ahvs_uom)

#### Disclaimer

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Consequently, details of courses may vary with staff changes. The University therefore reserves the right to make such alterations to courses as are found to be necessary. If the University makes an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which the offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept the offer.

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