

A way-in to display



Art technician bootcamp

Art technician training provided by Coventry University, in partnership with some of the region's leading arts and cultural organisations.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Our Art Technician Boot Camp is designed to support best practice in the presentation, handling and installation of artworks and artefacts – from painting and sculpture, to film and digital art, this training provides the skills to work across the arts and cultural sector here in the West Midlands and beyond.

Led by Coventry University and supported through the West Midlands Combined Authority, the aim of the course is to provide a high standard of professional training to support employment in the arts and cultural sector. Following Coventry's year as UK City of Culture and the central role of culture in staging the Commonwealth Games, the need for skilled art technicians in our region is greater than ever.

The course is open to aspiring and early-career technicians as well as those looking to upskill and reskill from other sectors such as carpentry or theatre. It provides a comprehensive introduction to the varied role of the art technician, responding to the widening range of digital media and approaches to display.

Covering the basics of art handling alongside digital, audio-visual and carpentry skills, the course supports learners through a combination of theory and practical sessions. Taking place within the former Ikea building, participants will "learn through doing" by working at a venue that will soon be transformed into a home for some of the nation's most important art collections.



On successful completion of the practical course, participants will undertake placements within a gallery, museum or related cultural setting, shadowing the technical teams responsible for delivering key exhibitions and caring for significant collections. Our dedicated network of arts and cultural sector employers for the Art Technician Bootcamp include:

- **Arts Council Collection** (national)
- **The Herbert Art Gallery** (Coventry)
- **Ikon Gallery** (Birmingham)
- **Mead Gallery** (Warwick Arts Centre)
- **The New Art Gallery** (Walsall)

The West Midlands region has 113 galleries and museums, over 10500 heritage sites and buildings, and a growing demand for arts and cultural activity across our towns and cities; our Art Technician Bootcamp provides an opportunity for new art technicians to gain the specialist experience required to secure work in some of the UK's most exciting spaces and places.

This training provides a foundation to build upon. Upon completion, learners will be supported to gain further hands-on experience and continue to develop transferable skills needed for a career in the creative industries.

INFO

DATES

21st November 2022 – 17 February 2023

Face-to-face attendance 28th November – 9th December

(Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm)

Work shadowing start dates can be negotiated

The deadline for applications is 9am on Monday 14 November 2022. See "How to apply" section on the web site.

VENUE

Online, Number 2 Croft Road (former IKEA building) & site visits to Coventry cultural institutions.



FIND OUT MORE

COURSE BREAKDOWN

QUALIFICATION

Upon successful completion of this course, students will receive a Certificate of Attendance from Coventry University.

What's more, your training will give you the basic skills you need to consider pursuing work as an Art Technician and the confidence to explore the role of the technician further.

FEES

This course is funded by West Midlands Combined Authority and is free for eligible applicants. Learners will receive an allowance of up to £20 per day to support travel and subsistence, applicable for the face-to-face sessions and contingent on attendance.

WEEK ONE

**Introduction – Skills and The Technician's Toolkit
(Guided learning online)**

21st - 25th November 2022

2 hours each evening – 6 – 8pm Mon – Fri

WEEKS TWO & THREE

**The Fundamental Art Technical Skill Set –
practical learning (Onsite)**

28th November – 2nd December and 5th – 9th December 2022

9am – 5pm, Mon – Fri

Showcase Wednesday 7 December, 6-8pm

WEEK FOUR & FIVE

Employability Training

Weeks of the 12th and 19th December

WEEK SIX TO ELEVEN

Work Shadowing and Mentoring

Weeks of the 2nd January through to 6th February 2023

WEEK TWELVE

Art Technician Symposium (Online)

Week commencing 13th February 2023 (date TBC)



What will you learn?

The main concern when working with art and artefacts is their safety – when art handling we are risk managers. The aim of the training is to minimise the risks involved in the handling of artworks and objects, and to those handling them. The handling of works of art and valuable, fragile and unique objects requires a specialist approach, with careful planning, proper resources and training.

The range of activities required when handling works of Art, are as follows:

- Confident, accurate and safe handling of artwork
- Safe and secure movement of artwork
- Safe and secure storage of artwork
- Packing and protection of artwork
- Safe and secure installation of artworks
- Knowledge of different material and media and how best to display them

Additional activities covered as part of the advanced modules include:

- Building temporary walls and spaces
- Installing digital, audio-visual and media artworks
- Lighting artworks



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must demonstrate an interest in working in the arts and creative industries
- Some technical experience would be an advantage, e.g. competency with hand/power tools
- Applicants should be available to attend the complete course, from 21st November 2022 – 17 February 2023
- Applicants should be available to attend all face-to-face sessions 28th November – 9th December 2022 (Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm)
- Applicants will need to have regular access to a desktop or laptop computer with an internet connection
- Applicants should be committed to securing a job interview by the end of March 2023, moving into/returning to a role in the arts and culture industry or completing relevant paperwork to become self-employed and securing their first project work within 6 months after completing the course

Note: Are you aware that you can only participate in one Skills Bootcamp during the fiscal year running from April 2022 to March 2023? While you can apply for more than one Bootcamp, should you be offered multiple places, you may accept only one.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to join this course applicants must meet all the following criteria:

- must be aged 19 or older
- have the right to work in the UK. This can be checked on gov.uk/prove-right-to-work
- meet residency requirements – Please refer to the web site by clicking here or following the QR codes in this document.
- residing in the Coventry or Birmingham areas and able to provide evidence of current address
- Agree to provide mandatory personal data and supplementary information on their employment outcomes for up to 8 months following completion of the Skills Bootcamp

Be either

- unemployed within the last 12 months, or
- career changers/returners/redeployed, or
- employed/self-employed



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