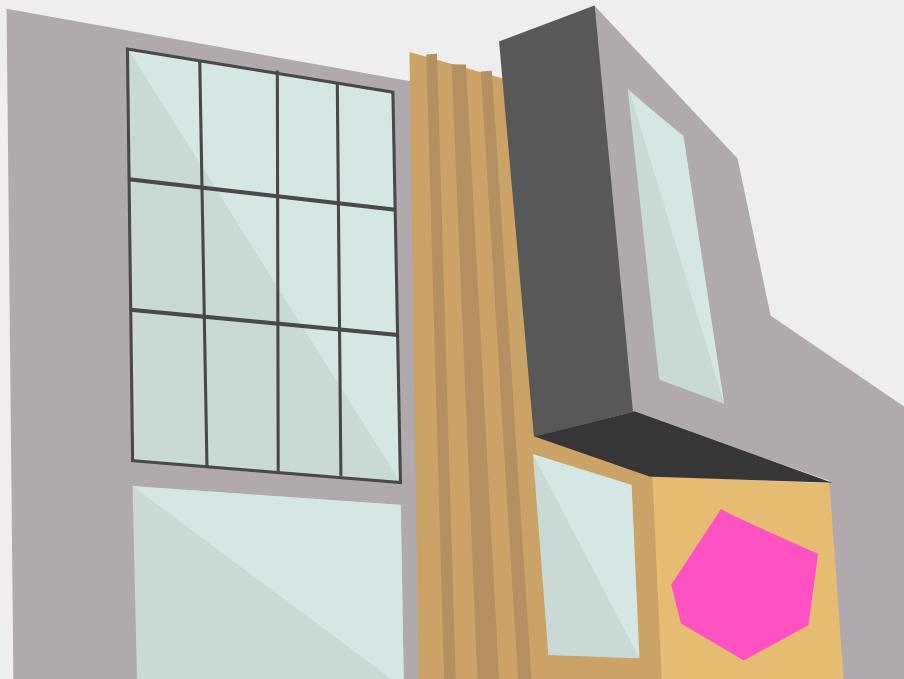




180  
1846-  
2026

International  
**SUMMER  
SCHOOL** 2026



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Introducing

# LEEDS ARTS UNIVERSITY

Leeds Arts University is the only specialist arts university in the North of England, renowned for its award-winning facilities and expert academic staff dedicated to nurturing creative talent.

We offer a diverse range of courses in disciplines including Fashion, Marketing, Branding, Filmmaking, Games Art, Photography, Fine Art, Illustration, Acting, Music, Creative Technologies, Creative Writing, and more.

Our students enjoy our close-knit, diverse, and vibrant creative community, where they

develop the knowledge and skills required to prepare for successful careers in the creative industries.

Founded in 1846, the University has significantly influenced the development of the arts and arts education globally. Situated in Leeds - a dynamic and creative hub, voted the UK's 'Best Student City' (Student crowd 2024) - it stands as one of the UK's foremost centres for the arts, boasting a rich scene in music, theatre, dance, visual arts, and design.

Leeds Arts University Summer School will give you the opportunity to experience all that our world class facilities and creative city have to offer!

# OUR SUMMER SCHOOL

Leeds Arts University Summer School is designed to help you develop your creative skills while building a strong personal portfolio and gaining valuable insight into the UK's creative industries and future educational pathways.

Over two inspiring weeks, you'll become part of a global community of emerging creatives, exploring new ideas and perspectives that bring an exciting international dimension to your learning.

Alongside your studies, you'll visit the beautiful historic city of York, famed for its Roman and Viking heritage and breathtaking medieval architecture, including the iconic York Minster and The Shambles - recognised by many as the inspiration for Diagon Alley in the *Harry Potter* books. You'll also travel to Whitby, a classic seaside town where dramatic coastal scenery meets literary history, crowned by Whitby Abbey, the atmospheric inspiration for Bram Stoker's *Dracula*.

## Why choose Leeds Arts University for your Summer School experience?

You will:

- be fully supported from day one, with clear, step-by-step guidance from experienced tutors, instructors and technicians
- learn alongside a diverse, international community, collaborating with students from all over the world
- be encouraged to take creative risks, with a strong focus on experimentation, play, and enjoyment
- strengthen practical and technical skills that directly support your creative practice
- build lasting friendships beyond the studio, through a varied programme of social events and activities.

## Who is the Summer School for?

Students currently studying at university level with a strong interest in developing their skills in any of the following areas:

- Film and photography
- Games Art
- Fashion Design
- Fashion Marketing & Communication
- Creative thinking



By the end of your two-week creative immersive experience, you will have developed skills in:

#### **Creative Thinking & Research**

Learn how to generate strong ideas, develop concepts with purpose, and support your work through effective research and exploration.

#### **Creative & Technical Practice**

Experiment with creative methods while building confidence in technical and practical application across tools, materials, and processes.

#### **Making, Production & Refinement**

Take ideas from concept to completion, gaining experience in production workflows and post-production techniques to refine and elevate your outcomes.

#### **Collaboration & Teamworking**

Work creatively with others, sharing ideas, problem-solving together, and understanding how collaborative practice strengthens creative results.

#### **Global Networking and Cultural Experience**

Connect with an international community of creatives, gaining insight into diverse cultures, perspectives and creative practices while building a global network that extends beyond the course.

#### **Professional Practice & Communication**

Develop the professional skills needed in creative industries, including clear communication, time management, and responding to feedback.

#### **Presentation & Confidence**

Learn how to present your ideas and your finished work with clarity and impact, building confidence in pitching, showcasing, and talking about your creative process.

**At the end of the two weeks, you will receive formal recognition with a certificate of participation.**

# OUR PATHWAYS

## Pathway 1

### **Fashion Design, Marketing and Visualisation**

- Learn through making, styling, and experimentation.
- Combine studio workshops with cultural trips
- Ideal for students interested in fashion and creative careers

#### **Activities will include:**

- Fashion research and concept development
- Pattern cutting workshops
- Ideation and construction
- Fashion illustration and drawing sessions
- Introduction to VR visualisation and immersive styling
- Styling and creative direction workshops
- Brand and creative direction
- Fashion realisation and presentation



## Pathway 2

### **Film, Photography and Games Art**

- Studio-based workshops and guided practice
- Supportive teaching and small group learning
- Cultural trips and social activities included

#### **Activities will include:**

- Learning how filmmakers and photographers create meaning
- Exploring storytelling, atmosphere, and visual language
- Working in studios and on location
- Developing a short film project
- Discovering how games are designed and created
- Learning how artists and designers work in games studios
- Turning ideas into outcomes
- Creating characters, environments, and concepts

# CULTURAL VISITS/ SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Our Summer School is not all about work! To help you unwind and connect with fellow participants, there will be a variety of fun evening activities organised throughout your stay.

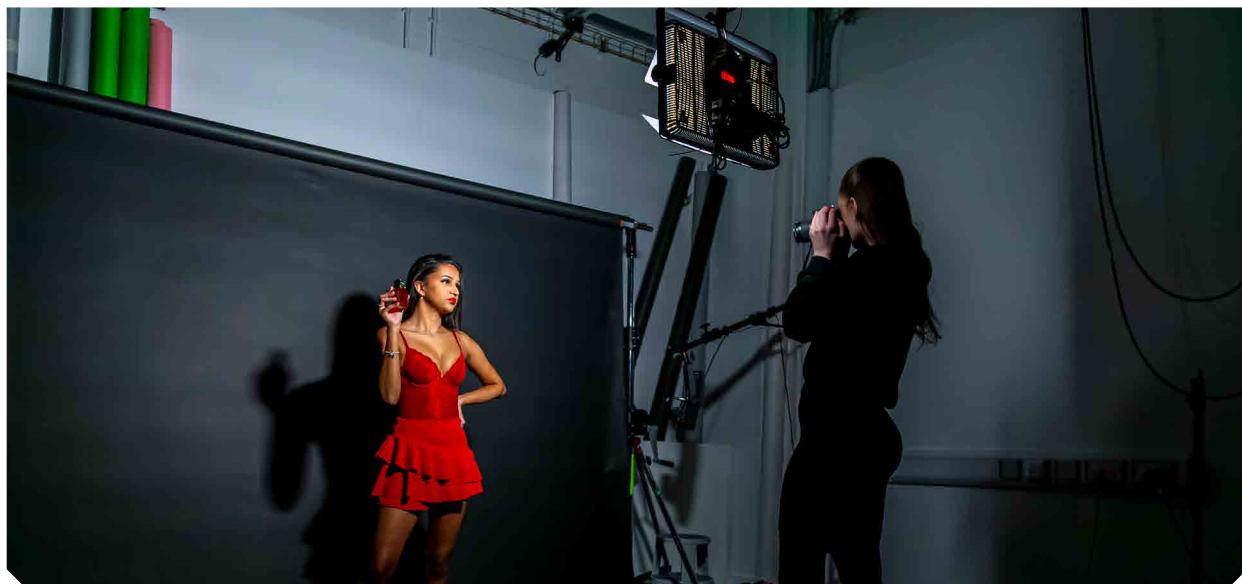
Enjoy a bowling night, relax with a movie evening or join in on board games sessions. There will be something for everyone to enjoy after a day of creativity and learning.

We will enjoy a welcome meal together on the first night so you can get to know your fellow participants, then we will look forward to enjoying our end of course celebration!

## Day Trips

Alongside hands-on taught sessions, the Summer School gives you the chance to get out and explore some of the best of Northern England through fun, inspiring cultural days out. You'll visit the historic city of York and the seaside town of Whitby, soaking up their stories, scenery, and creative energy—perfect fuel for new ideas and fresh perspectives to bring back into your work.

Your schedule will also include free days and evenings to relax or to explore places of personal interest, along with evening activities for socialising, sharing your creative experiences and getting a broader feel of student life at Leeds Arts University.



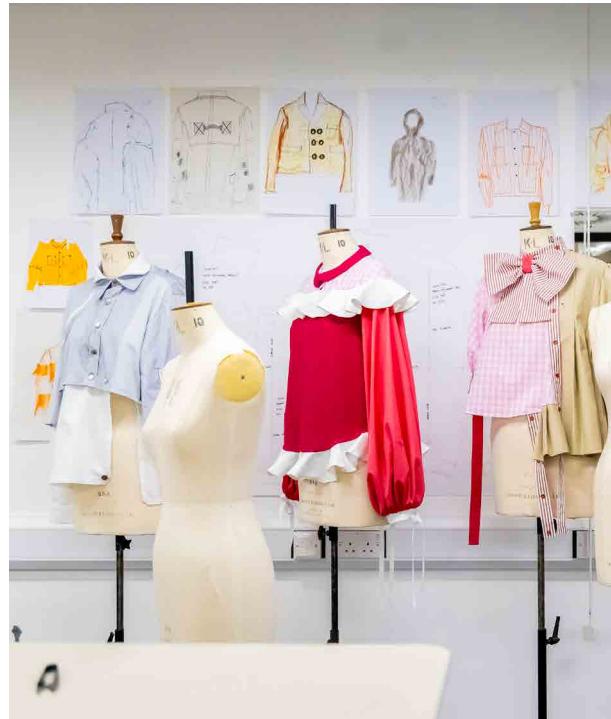
# OUR FACILITIES

At Leeds Arts University, we are proud of our state-of-the-art resources and specialist libraries. Our open, flexible spaces encourage collaboration and social connection.

As part of your summer school, you will access a range of facilities, which may include:

## Computer Labs

Our computer suites house networks of Apple Macs and PC's with industry-standard software for a wide range of creative applications that support video and audio production; games art & design, animation and motion graphics; image creation, scanning, editing and manipulation; 3D scanning, 3D modelling and 3D printing.



## Libraries

Our libraries are dynamic learning environments, housing a range of specialist resources carefully curated to support your studies. Digital Collections are an evolving area of the University, enabling an enhanced learning experience and information literacy. Our special collections include artists' books, photobooks and illustrated books as well as the University archive. Self-service facilities are available throughout, supported by a dedicated and experienced team of library staff.



## **Print and Printmaking**

Our resources are equipped to a high professional standard. Facilities include flat-bed and vacuum-bed screen-printing for textiles and paper, using a variety of print media. We also have digital textile printers and a large dye laboratory. The print resources provide excellent facilities for bookmaking and paper-based printmaking using a range of processes, including letterpress, drypoint, mono-printing, collagraph, linocut and risograph.

## **Digital Printing**

These resources enable professional-standard, large-format digital printing and print finishing. We have large format (up to A0) printers which are capable of printing over a metre wide. Our negative scanners allow professional quality film scanning at large format, medium format and 35mm. Our vinyl cutter enables designs to be cut from many types of vinyl.

## **Fashion and Garment Construction Facilities**

Our facilities reflect those typically used in the fashion industry; our large studios are equipped with a range of industrial sewing machines, digital design and

pattern cutting facilities and presses that you would see in a professional garment production setting.

## **Photography and Filmmaking**

Equipment is available for students to borrow, including digital cameras for still and moving image, specialist cameras including 360 and GoPro, LED lighting and a range of support equipment, which can be used in our lighting studios or off-site. Workshops are led by specialist staff and cover a range of equipment and processes. There are dedicated lighting studios and a wide range of full-frame and medium format professional cameras, lenses, flash and continuous lighting equipment for studio and location work, as well as specialist software for tethered shooting.

Equipment for Filmmaking students includes industry-standard professional production and editing equipment, 4k+ cameras, field recorders, broadcast standard colour grading and editing suites, full film studio and green screen facility. Cameras, lighting, steadicams, gimbals and sound kits are available for location and studio work.

# OUR CREATIVE CITY

Find out more at:  
[leeds-list.com](http://leeds-list.com)  
[independentlife.co.uk](http://independentlife.co.uk)  
[leedsartsunion.org.uk](http://leedsartsunion.org.uk)

Leeds has everything that creative students need but is also close to the inspiring Yorkshire countryside, with excellent transport links to cities like London, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Manchester.

Leeds is a fashion lover's paradise with everything from indie boutiques at The Corn Exchange to Harvey Nichols, John Lewis and hundreds of smaller independent stores. Trinity Leeds and Victoria Gate shopping centres offer premium brands alongside vintage stores and markets within the city. Kirkgate Market is one of the largest indoor markets in Europe, and the place for bargain hunters, selling everything from fresh food to plants and homeware.

For foodies, all budgets are catered for and there is an abundance of independent cafes, traditional and historic pubs, bars and clubs.

Leeds is a cultural centre, home to the Leeds Grand Theatre, Opera North, Northern Ballet and the Leeds Playhouse. The city has a thriving independent arts scene for students to enjoy with studios, exhibition spaces and art collectives all over the city.

Leeds Art Gallery houses an impressive range of 20th century British art, while the Henry Moore Institute showcases a collection of sculpture-based exhibitions. There are lots of independent galleries and the award-winning Hepworth Gallery and Yorkshire Sculpture Park are close by in Wakefield.

Participants interested in comic, graphic arts and games will enjoy the comic and games shops in Leeds along with Arcade Club Leeds, Europe's largest classic games arcade.

Film enthusiasts have the option of visiting a wide range of cinemas from multiplexes to independents, including the Hyde Park Picture House, one of the oldest cinemas in the country.

Music fans will enjoy the huge range of live music venues around the city, spanning a variety of genres. Venues include the Leeds Arena, O2 Academy, The Wardrobe, Stylus, The HiFi Club, Belgrave Music Hall, The Domino Club, The Key Club and Brudenell Social Club.

Leeds is one of the greenest cities in Europe with easily accessible parks such as Woodhouse Moor, Roundhay Park and Meanwood Park.



# ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is provided for the duration of the Summer School, and the cost is included in your fee.

- Close to our campus
- Single occupancy private rooms with en-suite bathroom
- Bed made up for arrival, wardrobe, desk and chair
- Shared kitchen and living area
- Self-catering kitchen essentials provided
- The kitchen is stocked with a fridge, freezer, cutlery, crockery and some essential cooking utensils.

Our accommodation is conveniently located close to campus. Our accommodation provider has been selected to provide a safe, secure and welcoming environment for our students.



# WHAT TO PACK

The weather in the UK is famously changeable and unreliable – we can hope for a lovely hot summer for participants to enjoy, temperatures can vary from day-to-day usually with a high of 22 degrees.

**Below is a list of essential and suggested items for you to include when preparing for your trip.**

- Towel for shower. One hand towel will be provided in your bathroom; please bring any other towels you require.
- Phone charger.
- UK travel adaptor for electrical items. The UK uses 3-pronged plugs with 230 volts.
- Bag that will be comfortable to carry around on day trips. We would recommend a backpack with padded straps.
- Comfortable shoes for day trips.
- Nonprescription medications – e.g. for hay fever and travel sickness. Nonprescription medications are available in the UK but may differ in dosage.
- Thin, comfortable clothing that you can layer to accommodate changing temperatures.



- Thick jumper/lightweight jacket/ coat for evenings and cooler days.
- A waterproof coat/umbrella (just in case!).
- Sunglasses/hat for those sunny days.
- Re-usable water bottle. UK tap water is drinkable and there are plenty of water stations around campus where you can refill for free.
- Personal toiletries and hairdryer.
- Some cash. Everywhere in the UK accepts card payments so you will only need to bring a small amount of cash with you.

# COSTS AND KEY DATES

The Summer School has an attendance cost of £2,150. For students from official university partners the cost is £1,950.

## **The cost includes:**

- 2 weeks of specialised academic teaching
- Accommodation in a single study bedroom with en-suite bathroom
- Orientation programme
- Meet and Greet service from Leeds train station or, Leeds Bradford Airport (see details below)
- Visa Support - a visa application is the responsibility of the individual participant, but we can provide a letter of invitation to support
- Cultural visits and social activities
- Welcome evening meal
- Celebration evening meal
- Breakfast and Lunch provided when on campus
- Leeds Arts University welcome pack and course materials

## **Please note:**

Your travel to the UK, visa costs and other personal travel and living expenses are not included, e.g. most evening meals and any food purchased on study trip days. We suggest that students should allow a budget of approximately £20 - £50 per day for additional meals, snacks and souvenirs.

## **What is the Refund Policy?**

A non-refundable deposit of £500 is required to confirm your place. Participants who withdraw after paying only the non-refundable deposit, will not receive a refund.

Students who are forced to withdraw due to a visa refusal will receive 100% refund including their deposit, less a £100 admin fee once evidence of the visa refusal is provided.

We expect demand for this course to be high. Please do not book your international travel until you have received acknowledgment from us that your place on the Summer School programme is confirmed. We will let you know by 1st May if you have a place.

## **Key Dates**

The Summer School 2026 will start on Monday 6th July and conclude on Friday 17th July.

Please make your arrangements to arrive in Leeds no later than Sunday 5th July for the welcome meal. Departure day will be Saturday 18th July.

# TRAVELLING TO LEEDS

For international students travelling to Leeds, the easiest options are to fly into Manchester Airport (MAN), which has a direct train to Leeds taking around 60 minutes, or Leeds Bradford Airport (LBA) via connecting flights, usually via Amsterdam or Paris. You can also fly into London (Heathrow or Gatwick) and travel north by train from London King's Cross, the journey normally takes around 2.5 hours.

## Meet and Greet Service – Leeds train station or Leeds Bradford Airport

A meet-and-greet service will be available on throughout Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July. A member of our team will pick you up from Leeds train station or Leeds Bradford Airport to welcome you and guide you to your accommodation.

## How do I book my place?

Please reserve your place using:

[www.leeds-art.ac.uk/international/international-summer-school-2026](http://www.leeds-art.ac.uk/international/international-summer-school-2026)

A £500 deposit is required to reserve your place. Please look out for your confirmation email with the link and reference number required to make the payment.

The balance is due before the start of the course.

## Who can I contact if I have questions?

Please contact [international@leeds-art.ac.uk](mailto:international@leeds-art.ac.uk) with any questions.

