DCA

Dundee Contemporary Arts

We're excited to bring you a brand new programme of classes in printmaking, photography and digital design. And now you can plan your creativity even further in advance, with six months of courses to choose from.

Whether you're looking to fill your autumn evenings by learning a new skill, planning to give the gift of creativity during the festive season or resolving to make 2026 the year you create your own works of art, we've got a whole host of evening classes, weekend courses and one-day workshops on offer.

Throughout autumn and winter, look out for new courses in Paper Pulp Printing, Stone Lithography and Book Repair alongside firm favourites, including Riso Printing, Screen Printing and Wood Engraving. We look forward to welcoming you to the studio!

Get Creative October 2025 - March 2026

Introduction to Printmaking

Sat 4 October 2025 | Sat 10 January 2026 One-day workshop | 13:00–16:00 | £55

If you're not sure where to start in the studio, come along and try a selection of different processes. We'll explain the main types of printing available, such as etching, relief printing, screen printing and photography, and you'll get the opportunity to talk to staff and have a go at some simple techniques.



Get Creative

Tetra Pak Dry Point Printing

Sat 11 October 2025 | Sat 17 January 2026 One-day workshop | 10:30–16:00 | £75

Learn how to do dry point printing the lo-fi way using recycled Tetra Pak cartons, and achieve very fine line drawings or textured areas. This is the perfect course for both beginners and intermediate printmakers, and you'll leave with a collection of wonderfully detailed intaglio prints.



Riso Printing (Beginners)

Starts Tue 14 October 2025 | Starts Thu 4 December 2025 Starts Wed 14 January 2026 | Starts Tue 24 March 2026 Two-week course | 18:00–20:30 | £75

This fast paced process uses soy-based inks and recycled paper. Use a variety of hand-drawn techniques and collage to create richly-coloured, multi-layered prints.



Introduction to Etching

Starts Wed 15 October 2025 | Starts Wed 28 January 2026 Two-week course | 18:00–20:30 | £130 (£115)

Get to grips with the basics of etching in this two-week course. You'll learn how to prepare a metal plate for etching by filing and polishing, then applying a wax hard ground to the surface for drawing onto. You'll then use this to print with and leave with a small edition of prints.



Book online at www.dca.org.uk or call on 01382 213 610

Hardcover Bookbinding

Starts Thu 23 October 2025

Four-week course | 18:00-20:30 | £195 (£180)

This course is led by expert book conservator Emma Fraser. Join her and learn how to combine paper, thread, board and colourful cloth to create beautiful hardcover books. Make one as a gift or keep it for yourself as a journal or scrapbook. No experience or materials needed.



Introduction to Adobe Photoshop

Sat 18 & Sun 19 October 2025

Two-day course | 12:00-17:00 | £195 (£180)

Explore and start using the wide range of possibilities for creating images as well as enhancing and working with photographs and digital images. You will learn how to use the programme tools, filters and features for colour and tone correction, cutting and pasting, applying special effects and more.



Introduction to Screen Printing

Sat 18 October 2025 | Sat 6 December 2025

Sat 24 January 2026 | Sat 7 March 2026

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

Learn how to create colourful and graphic prints using hand-cut paper stencils. This class is the perfect introduction to the screen printing process and will give you the basic skills needed to move onto more advanced techniques.



Introduction to Wood Engraving

Sun 19 October 2025 | Sun 18 January 2026

One-day workshop | 10:30-16:30 | £130 (£115)

Join expert wood engraver Beth Robertson for this one-day class. Beth will show you how to create designs using traditional wood engraving tools onto an end grain practice block as well as a resin block. From these blocks you will then print wonderful repeat patterns onto Japanese paper.



Signwriting

Sat 25 & Sun 26 October 2025 | Sat 21 & Sun 22 March 2026 Two-day course | 10:30–16:30 | £195 (£180)

Join expert Brian Robertson to learn basic brush-handling skills, illustrative work and gold-leaf or glass gilding. This introductory course covers brushes, paints, mahlsticks, pounce patterns and tracings, chalks, tapes, letterform layout and hand-drawing of Sans Serif, Roman and Casual Scripts.



Introduction to Lino Cutting

Starts Tue 28 October 2025 | Starts Thu 22 January 2026 Two-week course | 18:00–20:30 | £130 (£115)

Catering to people who would like to learn the basic stages of lino cutting, this is a great course for beginners. Learn how to use specialist tools to create intricate hand-carved blocks, which will then be printed using a vintage press to create your own lino prints to take home.



Create Your Own Pinhole Camera

Sat 1 November 2025

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

Join artist Kit Martin to learn the basics of pinhole photography. Construct your own cardboard camera and use it to take photographs before learning about the magical chemical process of developing black and white prints in a traditional darkroom.



Soft Ground Etching with Feathers

Sat 1 November 2025 | Sat 7 March 2026

One-day workshop | 10:30-16:00 | £75

Bring a feather and use it to create an edition of beautiful prints. Whether you have some knowledge of etching or you're a complete beginner, this lo-fi method of printmaking is fun and creates great results. You will learn how to prepare small zinc plates and then use them to create feather prints.



Wood Engraving

Starts Wed 5 November 2025 | Starts Thu 5 February 2026

Four-week course | 18:00-20:30 | £195 (£180)

Join expert wood engraver Beth Robertson and learn how to work with this beautiful form of printmaking that uses fine engraving tools to create intricately detailed designs. Create images by cutting into the surface of the end grain of box, lemon or cherry wood.



Collagraphy

Starts Thu 6 November 2025

Three-week course | 18:00-20:30 | £130 (£115)

Collagraphy is the original recycling technique, using card, textures and materials collaged together to make versatile and effective printing plates that can be printed as intaglio or relief. This printmaking technique produces rich, sculptured surface prints.



NEW: Paper Pulp Printing

Sat 8 November 2025

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

Make delicate, colourful, hand-made papers from pulp using simple techniques suitable for at home or in the studio. This workshop will cover how to create a smooth surface texture for printing on, soaking and blending recycled papers, and painting with coloured pulp.



Screen Printing (Intermediate)

Starts Tue 11 November 2025 | Starts Tue 13 January 2026 | Starts Thu 5 March 2026

Four-week course | 18:00-20:30 | £195 (£180)

Develop your screen printing skills using photographic techniques and power-assisted screen printing tables. This course is for those who have completed Introduction to Screen Printing or similar.



Introduction to Digital Photography

Sat 15 & Sun 16 November 2025 | Sat 21 & Sun 22 February 2026 Two-day course | 12:00–17:00 | £195 (£180)

Unlock the creative potential of your camera and take control of your photos. This two-day course will explain the benefits of learning how to adjust your camera settings to suit different environments. Learn how to achieve correct exposure, improve your colours, and much more.



Festive Letterpress

Sat 15 November 2025

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

Get ready for the festive season with this creative one-day workshop. Add the personal touch to your Christmas cards and gift labels by learning how to use moveable type, images and shapes to make your own seasonal designs. Take home a selection of printed stationery ready for December.



Japanese Brush Calligraphy

Sun 16 November 2025

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:30 | £130 (£115)

Gain an insight into the ancient art form of 'Shodo' (the 'Way of the Brush'), with artist Campbell Sandilands. Experience an ink grinding meditation, draw a Zen circle, try numerous characters using different styles of calligraphy, and learn to use various kinds of brushes.



Introduction to Mono Printing

Sat 22 November 2025

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

This one-day class is perfect for beginners and a great introduction to the world of printmaking. Printmaker Anupa Gardiner will demonstrate various mono printing techniques using specialist equipment, layering up inked stencils with painted and drawn marks to create unique one-off prints.



Introduction to Laser Cutting

Sat 22 November 2025

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

Learn how to laser-cut and engrave hand-drawn, computer-generated, and photographic images onto different materials, such as paper, wood and Perspex. This course is perfect for artists, designers and individuals who want to explore using CNC technology for printmaking.



Aquatint Etching

Starts Wed 26 November 2025 | Starts Wed 18 February 2026 Three-week course | 18:00–20:30 | £130 (£115)

Learn how to apply hand-painted tonal marks to metal etching plates using aquatinting techniques. An ideal follow up class for those who have already completed Introduction to Etching, or for artists looking to refresh their intaglio skills.



Reduction Lino Printing

Sat 29 & Sun 30 November 2025 | Sat 14 & Sun 15 March 2026 Two-day course | 10:30–17:30 | £195 (£180)

Explore a variety of methods to produce single and multiple colour prints. This course will cover use of tools, equipment and techniques for both reduction and multi-block printing. Transfer your design onto a line block and then print it using oil-based inks and a Victorian relief printing press.



Black and White Photography: Darkroom for Beginners Sat 6 & Sun 7 December 2025 | Sat 21 & Sun 22 March 2026 Two-day course | 12:00–17:00 | £195 (£180)

Learn how to process your black and white film, make contact sheets and explore black and white printing in a traditional darkroom. Bring an exposed film with you and our expert tutor will teach you all the stages of film development.



Mokulito: Japanese Wood Lithography

Sat 13 & Sun 14 December 2025 | Sat 28 February & Sun 1 March 2026 Two-day course | 10:30–17:30 | £195 (£180)

A form of lithography developed in Japan in the 1970s, this process replaces the stone matrix surface with wood. Learn how to make prints using this wonderful process that infuses the unique grain of the wood along with the hand-painted marks and incisions of the artist.



Mezzotint

Sat 31 January 2026

One-day workshop | 10:30-17:00 | £130 (£115)

Explore this monochrome intaglio process. Meaning 'halftone' in Italian, Mezzotint creates a small plate which prints a famously rich black tone. Learn how to work from dark to light, 'burnishing' back areas of a Mezzotint copper plate to then print atmospheric images.



Introduction to Adobe Lightroom

Sat 31 January & Sun 1 February 2026

Two-day course | 12:00-17:00 | £195 (£180)

Lightroom is a streamlined photo-retouching and organisational software from the makers of Photoshop. It takes all the photo-specific functions and puts them in an easy to use package. Learn how to import, sort, edit, adjust and export finished files, along with how to create print and web templates.



NEW: Introduction to Stone Lithography

Sat 7 & Sun 8 February 2026

Two-day course | 10:30-17:30 | £195 (£180)

Developed in the late 18th century, stone lithography is a traditional printmaking process where an image is drawn on and then printed from a flat slab of limestone. This two-day class offers an introduction to the process where you will create your own stone lithograph print.



NEW: Bookbinding: Book Repair

Starts Wed 11 February 2026

Six-week course | 18:00-20:30 | £250 (£235)

Learn more about how books are made and simple methods to repair and protect them using archival materials and reversible solutions. Bring along your own book and be guided through its repair by Emma, an accredited book conservator with the over 20 years experience.



Experimental Relief Etch Printing

Sat 14 & Sun 15 February 2026

Two-day course | 10:30-17:30 | £195 (£180)

Explore lino etching, a versatile and painterly printmaking technique. Learn how to create gestural marks, tonal gradients and textures on lino, while combining traditional cutting techniques for a dynamic and layered approach. Experiment with various tools and methods to create complex, multi-layered prints.



Japanese Woodblock Printing

Sat 21 & Sun 22 February 2026

Two-day course | 10:30-17:30 | £195 (£180)

Step back in time into the intriguing world of Japan's Edo Period and gain an insight into the mysteries of 'Ukiyo-e' woodblock prints with artist Campbell Sandilands. Learn how to prepare and cut woodblocks and use them to create your own prints.



GoccoPro Screen Printing

Starts Tue 24 February 2026

Three-week course | 18:00-20:30 | £130 (£115)

The GoccoPro digital screen maker is a new generation of equipment from the Riso company which perforates images onto printing stencils. It radically reduces the need for the photo emulsions, tape, separations, water and energy used in the traditional screen making process.



Kitchen Darkroom Photography

Sun 8 March 2026

One-day workshop | 12:00-16:00 | £75

In this lo-fi workshop, you'll learn how to make experimental, abstract images. Known as 'chemigrams', these lie somewhere between photography and painting. This process involves using light-sensitive paper, photographic chemicals and household products to create your images.



NEW: Masterclass: Illuminate a Page with Letterpress Fri 27 - Sun 29 March 2026

Three-day course | 10:30-17:30 | £315

In this brand new masterclass you will learn how to bring a page to life by combining the crafts of Wood Engraving, Letterpress and decorative borders. Join Master printer Beth Robertson on a journey of moveable type, decorative borders and hand printed illustration.



DCA is supported by





