

Textiles and Fashion

This programme is no longer recruiting.

This programme is only offered at: **South Essex College, Thurrock Campus, Woodview, Grays, Essex RM16 2YR.**

Final award	FdA
Intermediate awards available	Cert HE
UCAS code	WJ24
Details of professional body accreditation	N/a
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art and Design subject Benchmark• Foundation Degree Qualification Benchmark
Art & Design Qualification Benchmark	
Date specification last up-dated	July 2010

Profile

The summary - UCAS programme profile

BANNER BOX:

Delivered in partnership with University of East London, School of Architecture and The Visual Arts (AVA), this programme forms part of the well established and prestigious portfolio of Fashion and Textile Programmes within the School of Creative and Cultural Industries at South Essex College.

Dealing with all the essential skills required to be confident creative designers, this programme prepares you to practice in a personally selected area of the textile and fashion industry.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students will be invited to attend an interview, with the Programme Leader, showing a portfolio of original art/design work which is appropriate to the admission standards of the programme, with evidence of one or more of the following:

- 4 GCSE's, including English at Grade C or above
- BTEC National Diploma in a complementary area of study
- GNVQ Advanced Diploma in Art and Design
- One A Level pass
- City and Guilds level 3
- BTEC Foundation Diploma in Art and Design
- Creative and technical potential to benefit from and successfully complete the programme

- Or such other qualifications and/or experience deemed equivalent to the above by the Programme Leader

Mature students are particularly welcome. Prior Certified Learning will be applied where appropriate in line with UEL Guidelines.

Students may be admitted through Accreditation of Experiential Learning (AEL) or Accreditation of Certificated Learning (ACL) processes.

In the case of applicants whose first language is not English, then IELTS 5.5 (or equivalent) is required. International qualifications will be checked for appropriate matriculation to UK Higher Education undergraduate programmes.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is a Foundation Degree in Textiles and Fashion ?

A Foundation Degree is a higher education qualification that brings together experience and learning in the workplace with academic learning. It is a flexible professional qualification that is tailored to meet the needs of industry but also takes into account your skills and potential. The Foundation Degree in Textiles and Fashion places an emphasis on work related learning, which takes many forms including work experience, live projects, competitions, work related projects and placements. The Foundation Degree is relevant to a broad variety of people, particularly those who are:

- Returning to learning after a break.
- Are in work and want to further their prospects.
- Are unemployed and looking for a way into work.

Have recently completed studies such as A levels, AVCE, BTEC, GNVQ or NVQ Level 3, and are looking for a work related qualification with the option to transfer on to the final year of BA (Hons) Fashion Design or BA (Hons) Fashion Design with Placement Year, BA (Hons) Printed Textiles Design programme in the School of AVA, University of East London, (or other HE institutions).

Programme structure

The Foundation Degree in Textiles and Fashion Programme is delivered over two years on a full-time basis and over three years part-time study.

In the first year of the programme, you will be introduced to all the basic technical and creative skills you need to function effectively in the industry. It is anticipated that students will be entering the programme with a range of backgrounds and abilities and it is hoped that year one modules will allow every individual an opportunity to level up their skill base where appropriate. Year two is focused on personal development and work placement. You will focus on self initiated projects within a defined modular framework which culminates in the final semester when you will produce a fashion /textile collection which is exhibited in a Graduate Show in London (this forms part of the final assessment process).

Throughout the programme you are introduced to an exciting range of professional shows / forums which relate to fashion textile industry practice. The programme offers an annual 3–4 day visit to Paris with staff at the beginning of Semester B to coincide with the “Premiere Vision” Trade Show. This study visit is a great insight into how the industry operates.

The Foundation programme has an industry focus and within each taught module you are introduced to aspects of professional practice within the industry. The programme is supported by a range of visiting lecturers who work within the fashion / textile industry.

After graduation you have the option of progressing on to the final year of either the BA Hons Fashion Design or BA Hons Fashion Design with Placement Year, **OR** BA Hons Printed Textile Design at UEL, or seek employment in the textile or fashion industries.

Learning environment

The Fda Textiles and Fashion Programme delivery is studio based, through one to one and group tutorials. You have access to the relevant workshop resources to support the activity being delivered. (workshops are supported by knowledgeable technical staff from 9.00- 4.30 five days a week)

External visits for research, sourcing and observation, are integrated into every module and we take full advantage of the college’s convenient location close to London and all its amenities.

Assessment

Module Leaders are responsible for the co-ordination, delivery and assessment of the Module, together with members of the teaching team.

Modules taught on the Foundation Degree Textiles and Fashion Programme are valued at 20 or 40 credits. Each Module is assessed at the end of delivery by members of the teaching team, and as part of the assessment process, you complete a reflective written appraisal, and a Module Evaluation Questionnaire, which is analysed, and informs the part of the content of the Programme Committee and the Review and Enhancement Process Report.

All assignments are double marked and internally verified by a member of the programme team. You will attend a work placement in year two of the programme and this activity forms part of the assessment for one of the modules. The Fashion Textiles Subject Area has defined criteria by which all modules in fashion and textiles are assessed (fully explained in the Programme Hand book), and there is a strict hand in on time policy. Coursework submitted after the relevant deadline will not be marked.

Work experience/placement opportunities

As part of the second year programme structure, you are required to undertake a work placement, relevant to a selected specialism within the Textile/Fashion industry. This is underpinned by two professional practice modules, Live External Industrial Placement, and ‘Professional Studies in Textiles and Fashion.’)

Preparation for work placement selection will begin in tutorial sessions prior to the commencement of year two. Tutors will help you select a potential career focus by identifying their strengths within their practical achievement throughout the year one delivery, and also discuss areas of interest. This decision is an integral part of your career development and potential future practice. Whilst on placement, your progress and achievement is monitored by tutors who visit you in situ, and in liaison with the host company. We have established work placements with the following companies -

- Phil Reynolds – Costume
- Arcadia Group – Evans
- Michelle Lowe Holder – Fashion
- Mirjam Rhoden – Textiles
- Judy Bentnick – Millinery
- Royal Opera House – Costume
- Nicola Killeen – Textiles
- Baxter Fawcett – Textile Design

Some of our graduates have gained full & part-time work with companies on completion of work placement.

Project work

All modules and assignments are either practical, i.e. answering a specific design brief responding to a given problem (usually 2D or 3D outcomes) or theoretical, i.e. have a written outcome.

They are designed to enable and encourage you to develop individual, creative, academic potential and demonstrate individuality and insight in problem solving. A large number of assignments are supported by external visits to research and observe; all modules have a strong work based focus (either through identification of a specific skills base or a defined market or application).

All modules are delivered via project based studio tasks with the exception of FT2101 Live External Industrial Placement', which is assessed via the host company feedback report. This module has integrated delivery with FT2102 Professional studies in Textiles/ Fashion.

Added value

The Fda Degree in Textiles and Fashion is a collaborative venture between South Essex College and The School of AVA at UEL. This partnership gives you the opportunity to take full advantage of the many state of the art resources on UEL's Docklands Campus, including the Learning Resource Centre, and the Print Design Bureau (FabPad), together with staff in the Fashion Textile Area, expert in many aspects of fashion design, cutting, construction, and trend prediction, and printed textiles.

The Textile/Fashion department at SEC has a strong staff team, expert in many areas of the fashion textile industry, and a well established work placement programme to which the Foundation Degree will be attached. Many past full and part time students have been offered permanent employment opportunities as a result of undertaking a placement.. These employment opportunities have been in many different aspects of the fashion textile industry.

Personal Development Planning

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IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- Textile design for fashion
- Designing clothes
- Communicating ideas visually and verbally
- Working with fabrics and new materials
- Developing your individuality
- Being inspired by visual culture
- Becoming aware of the textile / fashion industry and how it works

If you enjoy...

- A challenging and innovative programme of study
- Working with your peer group, members of staff and visiting industry professionals
- Being introduced to new concepts, ideas and techniques in Fashion & Textiles
- Learning about the current, contemporary and future textile / fashion scene
- Evaluating your working methods and challenging your practice by using new technology – digital photography, video, IT and CAD

If you want...

To experience a wide range of working methods relating to textile / fashion design and learn how to design and produce creative and commercially viable outcomes, the Foundation Degree in Textile and Fashion is for you. This course focuses on work based learning and industry practice. Therefore fashion/textile industry projects underpin the delivery of the programme throughout year one and two delivery.

The Programme has a strong textile bias. You learn to develop concepts and outcomes in a creative design / craft studio environment with tutorial support from practitioners from all aspects of the design industry. Potential career pathways are also wide ranging, previous students have gone on to work in the commercial Fashion sector, couture and high fashion designer/makers, accessory design, textile / craft design and theatre costume design.

You are encouraged to undertake every practical task with reference to industry practice, this is supported by regular trips to professional trade shows like 'Premiere Vision' and involvement with industry sponsored competitions such as the 'Hand and Lock award for Embroidery.

During year two of the programme, you will undertake a personalised self directed programme of study which is centred around your future professional practice. Opportunities to explore and define potential career pathways are provided in the module 'Researching and Designing a Collection'. Throughout the Programme you will be encouraged to formalise a personal approach to design, in order to create a confident, focused, resourceful design graduate.

Your future career

After completing levels one and two, students can progress on to one of the undergraduate programmes in the School of AVA at UEL, BA Hons Fashion Design **OR** BA Hons Fashion Design with Placement Year, (4 years) **OR** BA Hons Printed Textile Design, or apply for work in the textile / fashion industry for example: printed textile design for fashion or interiors; theatre costume design; accessory design; knitwear design; running creative workshops for adult learners; textile artist, fashion designer; fashion designer maker; and CAD design for fashion and textiles.

How we support you

On enrolment you are allocated a personal tutor, who will normally be one of the tutors involved in the delivery of the programme. In induction week, each student has a one to one tutorial with their Tutor; where location, availability and the types and levels of support offered will be discussed.

It is the role of the personal tutor to provide support and advice on practical and personal issues, in addition to feedback on work and academic progress. If there are issues that need to be sorted, the personal tutor is your 'first port of call'. If you are identified as having special needs or requiring learning support, you will be referred to Learner Support Services located in G block to identify the type of support you require, and initiate the process. An accessible Counselling service; ESOL Support; Communications for the Deaf; Sexual Health Services; links to other agencies offering support in areas of drugs and alcohol abuse, mental health and homeless crisis support are available in Learner Support Services. Appointments can be made personally or via the personal tutor.

Bonus factors

Students have many opportunities to work on live projects led by Industry Practitioners. Some examples of projects previously undertaken are Theatre Costume Design and Production for the Royal Opera House Thurrock and promotional illustrations for the Royal Horticultural Society Hyde Hall. These projects offer students the opportunity to exhibit their work externally and build those vital first links into the industry.

Visits to professional trade shows and exhibitions, such as the fashion/textile trade show Premier Vision, are organized throughout the programme. Visiting industry speakers/lecturers are also invited in to speak to students on a wide range of subjects.

The close proximity of the FDa Degree course to London allows the students to take full advantage of the many galleries and exhibitions in the area.

Outcomes

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

What is this programme designed to achieve?

The aims of this programme are to:

- Prepare, where appropriate, for further study to BA (Hons) Degree level
- Develop creative, technical, critical, and analytical skills appropriate to Textile /Fashion Design
- Enable you to work and operate to industry standards in an increasingly changing and competitive environment
- Prepare for employment in the Textile / Fashion Design Industry.

What will you learn?

On completion of this programme you will be able to:

Knowledge

- demonstrate a wide range of specialist Textile / Fashion skills transferable to the working environment
- develop a personal handwriting and a personal focus within your selected specialism
- Apply knowledge gained to inform future career decisions

Thinking Skills

- Reflect on and utilise concepts and principles studied within the programme in a wider work context
- Recognise and use critical and analytical skills gained on the programme in the practical and working environment

Subject-Based Practical Skills

- Demonstrate professional design skills in constructed and printed textiles
- Synthesise research and develop design concepts
- Demonstrate skills in pattern cutting, construction and experimental modelling for fashion

Skills for Life and Work (general skills)

- Articulate verbally and visually with confidence
- Display a flexible and personal approach to problem solving within defined parameters
- Network and communicate effectively
- Plan and manage your career trajectory

Structure

The programme structure

Introduction

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 0 - equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 1 - equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 2 - equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 3 - equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- M - equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 240 credits.

Typical duration

The expected duration of this programme is 2 years when attended in full-time mode or 3.5 years in part-time mode. It is possible to move from a full-time mode of study to a part-time mode of study and vice-versa, to accommodate any external factors such as financial constraints or domestic commitments. Many of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period.

How the teaching year is divided

The teaching year begins in September and ends in June but some programmes also allow students to join at the start of Semester B, in February.

A typical student, in full-time attendance mode of study, will register for 120 credits in an academic year. A student in a part-time mode of study may register for up to 80 credits in any academic year.

What you will study when

This programme is part of a modular degree scheme. A student registered in a full-time attendance mode will take six 20 credit modules (or fewer, if any are 40 credit modules) per year. An honours degree student will complete modules totalling 120 credits at level one, modules totalling 120 credits at level 2 and modules totalling 120 credits at level 3.

It is possible to bring together modules from one field with modules from another to produce a combined programme. Subjects are offered in a variety of combinations:

Single - 120 credits at levels one, two and three

Major - 80 credits at levels one, two and three

Joint - 60 credits at levels one, two and three
 Minor - 40 credits at levels one, two and three.

LEVEL	UEL Module Code	TITLE	CREDITS	STATUS SINGLE
1	FT1601	Drawing Techniques and Approaches for Textiles / Fashion	20	Core
1	FT1602	Pattern Drafting and Construction Techniques	20	Core
1	FT1603	Visual Research for Textiles / Fashion	20	Core
1	FT1605	Materials Manipulation and Application	20	Core
1	FT1604	Techniques and Processes in Textiles	20	Core
1	FT1606	Detailed Design Exploration and Application	20	Core
	FT2601	Live External Industrial Placement	20	Core
2	FT2602	Professional studies in Textiles / Fashion	20	Core
2	FT2604	Self Initiated Study	20	Core
2	FT2603	Fashion Textiles: A Cultural Context	20	Core
2	FT2605	Research & Design a Collection (with Personal Marketing Strategy)	40	Core

Modules are defined as:

Core - Must be taken

Option - Select from a range of identified module within the field

University Wide Option - Select from a wide range of university wide options

Requirements for gaining an award

In order to gain a Foundation Degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 240 credits including:

A minimum of 120 credits at level one or higher

A minimum of 120 credits at level two or higher

(A Foundation degree is linked to a named Honours degree onto which a student may progress after successful completion of the Foundation degree)

Foundation Degree Classification

Where a student is eligible for a Foundation degree, the award classification is determined by calculating the arithmetic mean of all marks obtained for modules at level 1 or higher contributing to the programme and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification

70% - 100% Distinction

55% - 69% Merit

40% - 54% Pass

0% - 39% Not passed

Assessment

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Knowledge is developed through

- 'Hands on' experiential learning
- Project work and participation in technical workshops
- Observational learning in the work place
- Transferable skills gained in new situations

Thinking skills are developed through

- Self directed study
- Contextualization of practical work
- Student evaluation and reflection during assessment

Practical skills are developed through

- Participation in technical workshops
- Independent exploration, design development and studio practice
- Live external placements

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Evidence of strong organizational and time management skills
- Team working
- Study skills and professional development
- Written and visual and verbal communication
- Working to meet deadlines

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Produced and assessed outcomes, (students understanding of the subject matter)
- Methods, process and presentations
- Evidence of critical and independent thought

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Written, verbal, spoken and practical outcomes
- Evidence of relevant critical judgements and

- Evidence of a synthesis of varied research and enquiry

Practical skills are assessed by

- Production of a cohesive body of work incorporating a high level of specialist techniques
- Work presented to industry standards
- Professional portfolio and presentation

Quality

How we assure the quality of this programme

Before this programme started

Before this programme started, the following was checked:

- there would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme;
- adequate resources would be in place;
- the overall aims and objectives were appropriate;
- the content of the programme met national benchmark requirements;
- the programme met any professional/statutory body requirements;
- the proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms.

This is done through a process of programme approval which involves consulting academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions.

How we monitor the quality of this programme

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- external examiner reports (considering quality and standards);
- statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate);
- student feedback.

Drawing on this and other information, programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation. The process is monitored by the Quality and Standards Committee.

Once every six years an in-depth review of the whole Subject Area (Field), is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

The role of the programme committee

This programme has a programme committee comprising all relevant teaching staff, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme (e.g. library/technician staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the programme. It provides input into the operation of the Review and Enhancement Process and proposes changes to improve on the delivery and quality on the programme.

The role of external examiners

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one external examiner. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme;
- To ensure that justice is done to individual students.

External examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating marks;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;
- Providing feedback through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future.

Listening to the views of students

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Student Forum meeting conducted in the School of Creative and Cultural Industries every semester
- Student Representatives from each academic year are invited to attend programme team planning meetings each semester
- Module Evaluation forms are completed at the end of each Module and information is compiled and used to inform future delivery

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Staff feedback at assessment points
- Circulation of minutes to Student Reps from Forum Meetings Programme Committee minutes

Listening to the views of others

The following methods are used for gaining the views of other interested parties:

- Employer feedback is collected on each student at the end of their work placement
- Work placement coordinators visit the students on placement and complete a 'Placement Monitoring Visit Form'

Further Information

Alternative locations for studying this programme

Location	Which elements?	Taught by UEL staff	Taught by local staff	Method of Delivery
-	-	-	-	-

Where you can find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (<http://www.uel.ac.uk>)
- The programme handbook www.southessex.ac.uk
- Module study guides C Space seenet http://ilsapps.southend.ac.uk/he_cspace/
- UEL Manual of General Regulations <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/>
- UEL Quality Manual <http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/>
- Regulations for the Academic Framework <http://www.uel.ac.uk/academicframework/>
- UEL Guide to Undergraduate Programmes
- School web pages www.southessex.ac.uk