

FOUNDATION DEGREE (FdA)
WITH OPTIONAL 1 YEAR TOP-UP TO BA(Hons)

FASHION*

“This exciting new course balances the practical and conceptual skills needed to pursue a career in the fashion industry.”

Dr Hilary Carlisle
HEAD OF SCHOOL

*Course subject to validation

ABOUT THE COURSE

From the clothes we choose to wear, to the magazines we choose to read, fashion has developed from the concern of an elite minority to one that engages the majority.

This exciting new course approaches fashion in a holistic and global way and has been designed to lead to a number of relevant career pathways in the creative industries. The course balances the development of creative skills and ideas with the provision of experience and knowledge of design, production and an understanding of the business of the fashion industry.

Students start with the undressed human form and as they clothe it they gain an awareness of historical and contemporary influences in design. The acquiring of practical skills such as pattern cutting, tailoring, material sourcing and drawing run alongside business features such as promotion, buying, marketing and merchandising. Additionally students will be required to consider the ethical and sustainable aspects of their discipline.



Students have the opportunity to undertake work placements in the creative industries and to engage with 'live' design projects and productions. Team working, industry case studies and professional practice are important elements within the course as these reflect working practices in the fashion design industries.

The course also offers opportunities for collaborative working with students from related disciplines at the College including Textiles, Surface Design, Graphic Communication and Film and Video.

Upon successful completion of this Foundation Degree you may progress to BA Honours Year Three, subject to the fulfilment of our entry criteria. We also accept applications to Year Three by Foundation Degree students from other institutions.

LEVEL ONE

You will commence with an introduction to the fundamentals of fashion design and business. You'll pick up new skills and devise original concepts through study and practice, which will focus on materials, processes, techniques and connections.

Conceptually, you will be asked to explore and develop your own visual language and to gain an understanding of fashion in a range of applications. Integrated within your studio practice will be an introduction to the historical and theoretical issues that relate to Fashion Design.



LEVEL TWO

Having developed fundamental skills and concepts in Level One, you will now be equipped to develop your own independent projects. You will concentrate more on theoretical problem solving and reflecting on your approaches to set briefs.

You will be encouraged to hone skills according to your chosen specialist area, develop your own style that sets you out from the crowd and align your studies with industrial or commercial projects. You will be asked to investigate an industry case study and further your understanding of the contemporary fashion contexts in which you will be working. As Level Two ends you will prepare yourself to launch into a fashion career or to progress to BA(Hons).

WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL

Highly qualified professionals, who have a thorough understanding of the subject and its significance in the creative sector, deliver teaching on the course. NUCA's facilities and workshops are excellent and students have access to design tools and production technologies associated with relevant media.

Although this is a new course we are already confident that graduates will successfully find entry-level creative roles in the fashion industry and will also be able to apply their skills into wider creative media industries.

About You and Your Portfolio
You will need to show awareness and enthusiasm for fashion through drawing (especially life drawing), photography and other media. Your portfolio should show a range of techniques and skills and not just be concentrated on fashion-related work. We encourage applicants with a wide range of interests and variety of backgrounds. It is not necessary to show computer-based work, we are more interested in your ideas and sketches, but students do need basic PC/Mac skills.

Qualifications

For details of entry qualifications please refer to page 94.

The Small Print

UCAS Code: N39
Course Code: Route A: W232

For further information please email:
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