

A LEVEL FASHION AND TEXTILES



Course description

Awarding Body: AQA Fashion and Textiles AS 7561 and A2 7562

Examinations:

AS Level- PAPER 1- Core technical principles of designing/ making. Specialist knowledge- 80 marks, 1hr 30 minutes, 50% of AS

A2 Level- PAPER 1- Technical principles- 120 marks, 2hrs 30 minutes, 30% of A Level and PAPER 2- Designing and making principles, product analysis, commercial manufacture- 80 marks, 1hr 30 minutes, 20% of A2

Non Examined Assessment:

AS Level- Practical application of technical principles, designing & making knowledge contextualising a given theme

A2 Level- Practical application of specialist technical principles and designing & making knowledge contextualising a chosen theme

Course content

This is a highly creative course, where students follow independent lines of inquiry and collate a sketchbook of inspirational Textiles experiments; exploring their fashion ideas. Students have the opportunity to explore all the traditional textiles techniques like free range embroidery, but also have an extensive range of opportunities, from sublimating their own fabrics, laser cutting into leather or casting their own decorative medallions in pewter. Photoshop and Illustrator are used to manipulate and illustrate ideas and 2D design for layout and pattern cutting.

This course also provides exceptional background knowledge for a career in the Fashion/Textiles industry with an understanding of responsible design for a global market and business economics.

AS and A2 knowledge: Materials and their applications; Performance characteristics of materials; Methods of joining and use of components; Use of finishes; Enhancement of materials; Modern industrial and commercial practice; Efficient use of materials; Digital design and manufacture; Textiles and fashion design and development; Health and safety; Design for manufacture, repair and disposal; Enterprise and marketing; Design communication; Design methods and processes; Design theory; Technology and cultural change and the work of designers; Design process; Critical analysis and evaluation; Responsible design; Design for manufacture

Specific A2 knowledge: Protecting intellectual property; Feasibility studies; Selecting appropriate tools, equipment, processes; Accuracy in design and manufacture; Project management; National and international standards in product design.

Entry requirements

Students need at least a Grade A or Grade 7 and above in a Textiles or Art discipline [if they have experience of garment making] and those with AS Fashion and Textiles can go straight into the A2.

Future opportunities

Costume Design, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Knitwear, Fashion Journalism, Pattern Cutting, Fashion Buying, Textile Design, Textiles Technologist, or roles in any of the Creative Industries.

Further information

Past students have used their sketchbook to gain access to Art Foundation courses and then gone on to study Fashion, Costume Design, Fine Art, Visual Communication etc or they have followed the University route on Fashion Business, Buying and Marketing courses. Or they have set up their own Fashion Design business like Tumi Ladega. Former student Maddie Williams' went to Kingston for Foundation, Edinburgh for Fashion and then after receiving the prestigious Sustainable Fashion award, interned with Vivienne Westwood.