

Award title: BA (Hons)

Full Course Title: Fashion (Top Up)

24/25

Awarded by	University for the Creative Arts
Taught by	University for the Creative Arts/ London College of Contemporary Arts
Location	Sceptre Court, London
Language	English
Duration	1 year Full-time
Entry Criteria	Entry criteria and requirements¹ • 240 credits from a relevant degree (including 120 credits at level 4 and 120 credits at level 5), with a minimum mark of 55%. • Higher National Diploma HND in a related subject • Diploma in Higher Education DipHE in a related subject • Foundation Degree in a related subject Application and portfolio to be considered, along with relevant work experience. If your first language is not English, you will need an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent. If you require a visa to study in the UK, you will also need a minimum score of 5.5 in each individual component. <i>* We occasionally make offers which are lower than the standard entry criteria, to students who have faced difficulties that have affected their performance and who were expected to achieve higher results.</i> <i>**To see the accepted QCF qualifications, visit:</i> http://uca.ac.uk/study/accepted-qualifications/
Recognition/ Accreditation	N/A

Regulation	The University for the Creative Arts and its courses are regulated by the Office for Students. This course has been designed in line with Sector Recognised Standards and reference points, including the Art & Design Subject Benchmark 2019 For further information about how the course is quality assured see UCA's Quality Assurance Handbook.
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¹ This should be the standard University Criteria unless otherwise approved by the Academic Board and include UCAS entry profile for undergraduate courses.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The BA (Hons) Fashion course is one of the leading fashion design courses within the UK, with an international reputation for producing world-class talent, where you will graduate with the essential creative, professional, and practical skills to further your design career interest, within the Fashion Industry.

The BA (Hons) Fashion course at the LCCA Campus is a highly desirable place to study, located within central London with a friendly, dynamic, and creative community of staff and students. You will study across a wide range of fashion related courses.

The philosophy of the course aims to provide a friendly, creative, and professional learning environment that enables you to be inquisitive and experimental within your design thinking and within your practical work. You are encouraged to take risks and engage in a wide range of creative projects that seek to support the development of your professional skills and innovative design practice for the global marketplace.

Our teaching focus is placed upon the development of versatile and adaptable fashion designers who are equipped with the essential skills and know how to be able to respond to both conceptual and commercial briefs, underpinned by a sound knowledge of the fashion industry and a critical understanding of the social, cultural, economic, sustainable and environmental factors influencing their professional environment.

You will also develop a wide range of practical skills within areas of pattern cutting, garment manufacture, drape, tailoring, fabric manipulation and constructed textiles, as well as professional image making and visual communication skills within areas of design drawing, illustration work and use of mixed media, photography and styling, portfolio presentation and computer aided design, which are all key to the distinctive quality and success of our fashion graduates.

Our fashion graduates progress with transferable and holistically formed expertise, which will prepare you for postgraduate study or to establish your careers within the global fashion industry equipped with comprehensive employability skills for a highly competitive and constantly changing employment market.

Year 1 (Level 6)

Level 6 is about self-directed study, using your previous experience and you will be encouraged to discover your signature style to equip you for the ever changing and competitive global fashion industry

Principles of this course

This course will deliver a personalised learning journey, following five key principles:

- Practice-led and professionally contextualised
- Discipline-specific with interdisciplinary exposure
- Technologically relevant
- Employment focussed
- Internationalised learning

Highlights

The campus is located in London and within close proximity to a variety of galleries, museums, and cultural events. The city has a vibrant fashion scene and is home to some of the world's most iconic designers and fashion houses, as well as a



dynamic community of emerging talent. London Fashion Week, held twice a year, is a major event in the global fashion calendar. As a cultural hub, London provides a platform for creatives to highlight their skills, and the city's creative industries offer a wide range of job opportunities.

The fashion team at LCCA being also industry practitioners, have a wide network of professionals and regularly invite companies, freelancers, and collectives to partake in live briefs and give insight talks into the sector.

Your Course – Unit by Unit

Year 1 (Level 6)

Professional Portfolio

6

30

Core

Building upon your experiences this unit will enable you to evaluate and identify future objectives and prepare for employment within the global fashion industry and/or Post Graduate study.

Final Major Project

6

60

Core

Providing you with an opportunity to reflect upon your learning to date and your future aims and to use this knowledge to inform a substantive and creative body of work.

Dissertation

6

30

Core

Consisting of a substantial period of sustained, individually negotiated research on a subject that is likely to be related to the contextual and/ or theoretical concerns of your discipline or chosen area of practice, towards the provision of structured written argument.

Who teaches this course?

This course is taught by a core fashion team with subject leads for each unit along with a mixture of senior lecturers and visiting lecturers. All staff are industry practitioners and therefore have ample amount of experience

	as well as industry contacts. Teaching qualifications as well as PHD's are amongst the team.
What will learning look like?	Learning and Teaching Strategy The stimulating and challenging educational experience offered on the BA (Hons) Fashion course focuses upon learning and teaching strategies provided through a combination of structured and directed teaching, peer to peer learning, one to one support and independent study. The course provides an experiential learning experience in which you will be introduced and shown how to apply, and practice gained knowledge and skills within all areas of research, design, manufacture, and visual communication in relation to fashion design principles and industry contexts. You will be encouraged to take a reflective approach to your own learning and given opportunities to evaluate your own work and to negotiate your own learning action plans. The course seeks to empower you to become an autonomous thinker, by delivering the essential skills and support, and as the course progresses allowing the individual to manage and take responsibility for your own learning. The methods employed are aligned to current pedagogic thinking, to specific advocacy of 'deep approaches' to learning. Teaching methods employ strategies to promote creativity, exploration, as well as the skills of critical reflection and the capacity to sustain a commitment to study. The top up course teaches creative and transferable skills, knowledge of the subject, study methods and approaches to critical thinking and locating creative fashion related practice. As you progress through the course, the methods of study become increasingly self-directed and in many instances student generated. The balance between structured and independent learning is reflected in the teaching methods used on the course and methods are employed to enable you to meet the course outcomes as well as individual goals. Timetabled independent study will enable you to demonstrate your skills as an autonomous learner through individual time management, to develop your ability to formulate goals, meet given deadlines and reflect industry practices. The course provides a practical and intellectually challenging environment in which to prepare you with the essential knowledge and skills required for the changing demands and needs of the global fashion industry. The course provides an inclusive learning environment delivered through a diverse range of teaching methods to support different learning styles including, seminars, practical workshops, demonstrations, studio practice, online learning, critiques, formative assessments, group and individual tutorials, placements, fieldwork, external visits, guided and self-directed independent study.



	Many classes, in relation to units of study, will provide the contexts and framework for learning specific areas of fashion and the design process. You will have the opportunity to see visual examples of other student work and related industry practices to support their understanding of theories, methodologies and processes used in a variety of contexts.
	Workshops
	A range of design, technical and visual communication workshops, supported by online resources, will introduce you to a wide range of creative, practical, and professional skills used within the design process. The workshops provide you with an opportunity to apply gained skills and knowledge to your practice and make connections to related industry contexts.
	Demonstrations
	Demonstrations include practical instruction and step-by-step guides to undertaking specific methods, processes, and techniques, that provide a tactile and visual learning experience for you to understand and put into practice. You will be encouraged to record and evaluate their individual step-by-step processes using written notes, photography and diagrams for future reference, and acts as a method of reflection for their learning and development.
	Studio Practice
	Timetabled studio practice will include supervised guidance within the design studio or fashion workrooms with a tutor or technician, to support you with activities related to specific project work. Peer-to-peer learning and informal critiques will give you an opportunity to reflect on your work and its relation to other peers' work.
	Guided Independent Study
	Guided independent study may require you to undertake preparation for scheduled sessions, follow-up work to extend the individuals learning and development, reading or research activities or practice to develop your skills and confidence. In all cases, you will be expected to demonstrate self-initiative and manage and be responsible for your own learning.
	Tutorials
	Group or one to one tutorial will provide you with the opportunity to receive feedback and direction on specific project work and your progress from the tutor, and on occasions from your peers.
	Group Critiques
	Throughout the course, you will participate in group critiques, in which the students' design or practical work is peer-reviewed in a group setting. Group critiques provide an invaluable form of self-appraisal, an opportunity to receive individual feedback from your tutor and peers and indirectly learn from the discussion centered on the work of other group members.
	Fieldwork

	You will be expected to undertake unsupervised fieldwork in which you will be expected to carry out surveys and other forms of data collection in relation to market, company or consumer research activities.
	External Visits
	You will be expected to carry out independent research using a range of secondary and primary sources, including exhibitions, museums, trade fairs and suppliers, fashion businesses and retailers and other relevant sources of information. In addition, optional supervised external visits may include textile mills, designer studios, trade events and cultural fashion related study trips overseas (subject to availability and costs).
	Assessment Strategy
	Common Credit Framework
	The common credit framework renders the assessment process explicit and transparent, noting credit achievement where it occurs and gives due recognition of transferable skills and related competencies. It is also designed to recognise achievement rather than penalise failure, with progressive and incremental sanctions for poor performance within and across units. It also informs the basis for standard practice throughout LCCA/UCA for the calculation of progression and recommendation of awards. The range of assessment methods and criteria deployed across the provision are designed to serve the following purposes: • to measure the performance over a specified part of the course in relation to the learning objectives, assessment requirements and project outcomes. • to provide feedback about performance, helping students to identify strengths and areas for further development. • to determine the suitability to progress to the next level of the course. • to determine the award of an appropriate qualification. The assessment scheme is a two-tier process, which operates throughout the student's studies at unit and course level through assessment.
	Unit Assessment
	The unit assessment is the basic component of assessment. The credit value of each unit is proportional to its study time, providing weighting for the unit and allowing each unit mark to contribute proportionately to the stage mark. Units are normally assessed within the unit duration and specified assessment dates stated in the Unit Handbook. Assessment results and written feedback, in accordance with institute benchmarks, is provided to the student and posted on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

	Each unit contains a timetable for assessment, a clear statement of assessment requirements and the assessment methods appropriate to the learning outcomes and length of study. Assessment requirements will vary depending on the unit's nature. There may be a specified list of assessment requirements or obtained by a portfolio of evidence, which may include sketchbook work, design presentation, design realisation, technical files, oral presentations, reflective journals, and written submissions.
	Stage Assessment
	The stage assessment is the major summative assessment point occurring at the end of each academic year and allows progression between the levels of the course. Where appropriate it may form the basis for recommendation of an award. The purpose of the stage assessment is: • to consider the overall performance of learners within a stage of the course • to award credit where appropriate • to set any conditions for progression or retrieval of failure • Provision is made for moderation, including external moderation where appropriate. The methods for assessment will vary throughout the students' studies. The range indicated below enables the academic team to align differing assessment methods against differing outcomes requiring both specified and portfolio submission.
	Tutor Led Assessment
	In tutor-led assessment, tutors will identify the level of achievement of the learning outcomes against the assessment submission and make an academic judgement in relation to the grade and level descriptors about students' work.
	Internal Verification
	Internal verification serves to maintain parity of marking. The College verifies a ratio-based number of all final subject-specific unit marks. This number is determined using a ratio set by LCCA/UCA in relation to cohort numbers, with marks being noted as 'verified' on all assessment feedback sheets. Verification takes place prior to the unit marks being published to the students. All students are given feedback by academics on the summative assessment feedback sheet. When appropriate general feedback is given verbally, at the end of unit feedback sessions.
	Formative Assessment Feedback
	Feedback can be formative, given during the development of the student work or assessment requirement. This feedback seeks to help the students to evaluate and develop their work as they go. It is given with reference to the assessment criteria and may also describe other achievements or concerns. Formative feedback aims to help the student to improve their

	work. It may only include comments but may also include an indicative grade.
	Summative Assessment Feedback
	Summative feedback is the feedback given at the point of assessment; it is the final outcome of achievement for the students' assessment requirement such as a portfolio, report, project, practice, and dissertation. It usually includes written feedback in reference to each assessment criteria and a numeric grade. The grading descriptors are used to describe student achievement for each assessment criteria.
	Personal Development planning (PDP)
	Current research into learning indicates that students learn most effectively when they adopt a deep approach to their learning. A deep approach is characterised as one within which students attempt to make sense of what is learnt, of ideas and concepts. We will encourage students to take a reflective approach to their own learning, students will be given opportunities to evaluate their own work and to negotiate their own learning action plans. We will encourage students to be active learners because we know that students learn most effectively when their motivation is intrinsic and when they feel personally committed. When students are aware of their own learning style, they can support their own learning more effectively. A deep approach contrasts with a surface approach, in which students simply try to memorise facts or meet assessment requirements superficially. A deep approach is essential for independent learning so students will be given opportunities to develop a deep approach to their studying. Personal Development Planning is a structured and supported process undertaken by the student to reflect upon their learning, performance, and/or achievement and to plan for their personal, educational and career development. Level 6 units Professional Portfolio and Final Major Project include self-assessment and reflection on future objectives, career planning and the development of a portfolio of work relevant to the students' preferred employment or postgraduate route. Reflective learning journals are a place for reflection, inspiration, practice, and exploration. You, ideally start the process of reflective writing by exploring ways to think creatively, providing a firm foundation to be autonomous in your learning. The reflective learning journal can be likened to a journey. It is a place for you to reflect on exploring issues on how to improve the learning experience. It is significant to render them part of the assessment requirements. Reflection hereby moves from description to evaluation of learning and development and from passive learner to an active learner.
	Employability Skills

	The delivery and development of employability attributes and skills are imbedded within the course. The development of employability skills within the areas of teamwork, problem solving, organisation and communication are fully integrated within the teaching and learning of design practices. Students are also exposed and respond to a wide range of professional practices through external events and industry projects Level 6 will encourage you to reflect upon your strengths and needs in relation to industry contexts and inform their career planning activities and preparation.
	Inclusivity
	The curriculum design and course delivery are central to providing an inclusive learning environment for anyone with differing learning styles and from our student body, who come from diverse educational backgrounds. The range of teaching and learning methods aims to provide opportunities for you to engage in the learning and development process. In addition, project briefs will encourage you to explore a variety of themes and ideas relating to differing social and cultural perspectives and seeking to foster originality and a personal design philosophy.
	Online Learning
	You will be able to find a range of information available on your VLE to support your learning and development, including unit handbooks, timetables, schemes of work, lecture presentations, podcasts, student discussion boards and reference material directly related to your unit of study as well as library resources, databases, online journals and articles, careers advice, student development services and wider University help and support.
	Attendance
	Once you have secured a place on the BA (Hons) Fashion course you are expected to attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group, and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, inductions, and demonstrations. Regular attendance means that you can take full advantage of the learning and teaching opportunities available to you and gain the greatest benefit from the course. Poor attendance not only affects the individual, but it also affects other students who need to rely on each other in group projects. If you regularly miss sessions, you will be contacted by your learning mentor or Course Leader and offered the opportunity to discuss any difficulties that might be affecting attendance and ways in which the Course Team or Student Services can offer you support. Evidence shows that persistent poor attendance has a direct impact on the learning and development and, overall, leads to failure at assessment. The Course Team recognises that you may need to undertake part-time employment to support your studies and that you may have other commitments such as childcare or family events. However, the Course Team does expect you to fit these commitments around timetabled

	sessions and designated Independent Study, to take part in the course fully. Persistent non-attendance and unauthorised absences for 10 consecutive days may result in you being withdrawn from the course.
	Punctuality You are expected to arrive promptly before the start of your Timetabled session so that you are at your desk ready for the Register to be taken and ready to start learning activities at the start of the session promptly. Please note that late arrival to timetabled sessions is very disruptive to fellow classmates working in the studio, as it directly affects the flow of the teaching and learning activities taking place.
	Knowledge LO1. You will be able to demonstrate knowledge and skilful practices in the development, construction, and realisation of design solutions.
By the end of the course, you will be able to:	Understanding LO2. You will be able to employ both convergent and divergent thinking in the processes of observation, investigation, sustainability, speculative enquiry applied to the process of design realisation.
	Application LO3. You will be able to critically evaluate, adapt and apply a range of practical, theoretical, and creative skills to meet the changing needs of the global fashion industry. LO4. You will be able to formulate and communicate ideas, concepts, and judgements to an intended audience, informed through the critical analysis and synthesis of appropriate research material. LO5. You will be able to critically evaluate and apply Personal Development Planning principles to identify personal strengths and needs and reflect upon professional development in relation to industry needs.
Student Support	We aim to ensure, where possible, personal tutors remain with a student throughout their degree studies to discuss all matters relating to student well-being and academic support. Academic Mentors and the Careers Team will also support students in discussions around their potential or preferred career direction. Students are further supported by: - Subject Leader for each unit - School support staff - Personal Academic Mentors - Careers Services - Technical support with IT and software - Canvas – a versatile online learning environment - Induction and ongoing re- induction sessions - Student Staff Course Boards

	– Library and Learning Resources
Our approach to employability is to:	Innovation week where industry practitioners are invited to lead workshops and talks to provide students with important networking opportunities and industry insights.

Our Commitments	
Sustainability	University for the Creative Arts (UCA) is committed to sustainable development and reducing the environmental impact of activities through our teaching, research, and day to day operations. Our courses align to Education for Sustainable Development as defined by UNESCO (2019): <i>‘Education for Sustainable Development empowers learners to take informed decisions and responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability, and a just society, for present and future generations, while respecting cultural diversity. It is about lifelong learning and is an integral part of quality education. ESD is holistic and transformational education which addresses learning content and outcomes, pedagogy, and the learning environment. It achieves its purpose by transforming society.’</i>
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion	<i>“Equality, diversity, and inclusion are fundamental to our commitment to the extraordinary creativity of our staff and students. In the UK, the standards we are required to adhere to are embodied in the 2010 Equality Act. Equally important is how these standards are evidenced through the values and behaviours of the University and the individuals of which it is comprised. As well as compliance with these standards we should in my opinion all be exemplars and role models. In terms of everyday actions, this means we should treat others with respect and dignity, and value their contributions because of, and not despite, our differences. I am personally committed to diversity and in this regard the University has the highest expectations of every employee and student alike.”</i> Professor Bashir Makhoul, President & Vice-Chancellor, University for the Creative Arts.

Overall methods of assessment	Written exams:	Practical exams:	Coursework:
Level 6	0.0%	0.0%	100%
Indicative course learning hours	Independent:	Structured:	Placement or Live Professional Activity:
Level 6	57.5%	42.5%	0.0%
	690 hours	510 hours	0 hours

For International Year or overseas exchange, hours are as determined by exchange partner.

Additional Course Costs	You will need to purchase calico from our university supply, as well as purchase fabrics for your final garment construction, at the end of each design unit. You also need to cover the cost of travel for exhibitions that you will need to attend to gain primary research. Students should allocate approx. £120 for field trips. In your final year during your final major project, you will need to have a substantial amount of funding to create your collection, typically £2000. We do encourage collaborations and sponsorships for final collections to help financially.
Equipment/materials recommended	We recommend that you bring at least one 1TB hard drive to back up your work. A laptop (Mac or PC) for research and development of work is highly recommended.
Visits	Visits to galleries and museums will take place as part of a unit of study. Advance notice would be given of any associated costs.