Award title: BA (Hons)

Full Course Title: Fashion (3 Year)

26/27

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	3 Years, Full-Time
Entry Criteria	As the UK's highest-ranking creative arts university, we want to attract the best and most creative minds in the country – so we take a balanced approach to candidate assessment, taking both individual portfolios and exam results into account. **That is why your portfolio is an especially important part of your application to study with us – and we can help.** Our academics can offer you expert advice on how to highlight your creative work and build a portfolio that will make your application stand out. More advice on how to create an exceptional portfolio is also available here, along with specific portfolio requirements for this course. Along with your portfolio, the standard entry requirements** for this course are: • 112 UCAS tariff points from accepted qualifications*, or • Pass at Foundation Diploma in Art & Design (Level 3 or 4), or • Distinction, Merit, Merit at BTEC Extended Diploma, or • Merit at UAL Extended Diploma, or • 112 UCAS tariff points from an accredited Access to Higher Education Diploma in appropriate subject, or • 27 points in the International Baccalaureate, see more information about IB entry requirements And 4 GCSE passes at grade A*-C and/or grade 4-9 including English and Maths Other relevant and equivalent level 3 UK and international qualifications are considered on an individual basis, and we encourage students from diverse educational backgrounds apply. 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. *To see the accepted QCF qualifications, visit: http://uca.ac.uk/study/accepted-qualifications/ ** 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. In these cases, a strong portfolio is especially helpful.
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 Statement 2019 For further information about how the course is quality assured see UCA's Quality Assurance Handbook.

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 is 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 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 professional environment.

Whilst you are on the course, 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 careers within the global fashion industry equipped with comprehensive employability skills for a highly competitive and constantly changing employment market.

You will study on campus for three days a week with a fourth day online blended learning.

Year 1 (Level 4)

You will begin to learn and develop essential skills from a research and practical perspective, learning contemporary design practices. You will be taught how to build visual narratives and develop innovative design outcomes, to align with current industry practices.

We have created an environment for you to explore print & textiles as well as develop pattern cutting, sewing and construction skills. You will also gain skills within areas of design drawing, illustration work, use of mixed media, portfolio presentation and computer aided design.

Year 2 (Level 5)

You will expand on the wide range of skills learnt at level 4 within areas of design and pattern cutting by exploring tailoring and draping techniques, this is attached to industry live briefs and outcomes.

Professional practice is also embedded at this level to enhance employability skills. Within this year you will partake in an industry placement for a minimum of five weeks that will provide an insight into the fast – paced global fashion industry.

Year 3 (Level 6)

During level 6, you will take control to harness all the skills learnt in the previous years to develop your final major project which you will have full autonomy over. This year is about self-directed study, 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 individual 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 4)			
Introduction to Design You will be Introduced to a wide range of contemporary design practices used to stimulate innovation with the design process.	4	30	Core
Visual Communication You will look at creatively using a range of media and technologies to develop and visually communicate a body of work.	4	30	Core

Creative Cutting and Construction You will develop a range of technical skills and professional practices withing pattern drafting and sewing.	4	30	Core
Introduction to Fashion History and Theory You will begin to establish the basic framework of historical knowledge to develop a contextual understanding for academic writing within fashion.	4	30	Core

Year 2 (Level 5)			
Innovative Design Practices You will look at extending creative processes and innovation through tailoring techniques.	5	30	Core
Creative Drape Practices You will extend the creative process through creative draping techniques, embracing modern cutting.	5	30	Core
Professional Practice You will develop professional practices ready for the industry, as well as undertaking a five -week period of work experience.	5	30	Core
Theories of Culture, Identity and Communication You will look at Introducing key issues within culture & society and academic debates. Looking at lifestyle, fashion & identity.	5	30	Core

Year 3 (Level 6)			
Professional Portfolio Building upon your experiences and skills gained during the Professional Practice you will evaluate and identify future objectives and prepare for employment within the global fashion industry and/or Post Graduate study.	6	30	Core
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 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.	6	30	Core

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 you 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 course team believes in the integration of theory and practice, in critical and reflective methodologies and learning methods. Theoretical components are delivered both within practical and contextual studies units, allowing you to contextualise your practice and prepare you for employment and/or postgraduate study. The first year of the 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 three years of the degree course, the methods of study become increasingly self-directed. The balance between structured and independent learning are 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. Several 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 your work and related industry practices to support 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 an opportunity for you to apply gained skills and knowledge to your own 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 individual step-by-step processes using written notes, photography and diagrams for future reference, and acts as a method of reflection for 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 activities related to specific project work. Peer to peer learning and informal critiques will provide you with an opportunity to reflect upon your work and its relation to the work of other peers.
	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 as well as 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 including your individual progress from the tutor, and on occasions from your peers.
	Group Critiques
	Throughout the course you will be able to participate in group critiques, in which the individual 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 tutor and peers and indirectly learn by means of the discussion centred upon the work of other members of the group.
	Fieldwork
	You will be expected to undertake unsupervised fieldwork in which 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).
	Placement
	During year 2 (L5) you will participate in a series of workshops and seminars to support the development of a range of professional skills and prepare you for entering a period of work placement towards the latter stage of Term 2. The work placement will provide you with the opportunity to place knowledge and skills that are up to date within an industry context and develop new experiences and skills within the workplace. The course views the work placement as an essential component in the development of employability skills and in supporting thin the development of professional practices.
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 you 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 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 you 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 nature of the unit. 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 your 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 your 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 you. You will all be 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 your work or assessment requirement. This feedback seeks to help you to evaluate and develop work as you go. It is given with reference to the assessment criteria and may also describe other achievements or concerns. Formative feedback aims to help you to improve your 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 outcome of achievement for your 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 your achievement for each assessment criteria.
	Personal Development planning (PDP)
	Current research into learning indicates that you learn most effectively when you adopt a deep approach to learning. A deep approach is characterised as one within which you can attempt to make sense of what is learnt, of ideas and concepts. We will encourage you all to take a reflective approach to your own learning, you will be given opportunities to evaluate your own work and to negotiate learning action plans. We will encourage you to be active learners because we know that you learn most effectively when motivation is intrinsic and when you feel personally committed. When you are aware of your own learning style, you can support your own learning more effectively. A deep approach contrasts with a surface approach, in which you simply try to memorise facts or meet assessment requirements superficially. A deep approach is an essential for independent learning so you will be given opportunities to develop a deep approach to studying. Personal Development Planning is a structured and supported process undertaken by you to reflect upon your learning, performance, and/or achievement and to plan for your own personal, educational and career development.

The course has imbedded Personal Development Planning principles within specific unit aims and learning outcomes throughout all three years of the degree programme.

PDP in level 4 units Introduction to Design and Creative Cutting and Construction covers research methodologies, learning styles, planning, and organisation, independent and team working skills, critical and creative thinking, oral and written presentation and communication, self-evaluation, and reflective learning journals.

Level 5 units Innovative Design Practice and Professional Practice ~~and~~ extend organisational and collaborative skills and self-critical evaluation and introduce professional practices and employability skills in preparation and during a period of work placement.

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 your 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. The introduction of the reflective learning journal in Level 4 encourages you to become more reflective and analytical; it is therefore 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 units across all three years of the degree programme. The development of employability skills within areas of teamwork, problem solving, organization and communication are fully integrated within the teaching and learning of design practices. You are also exposed and respond to a wide range of professional practices through external events, industry collaborative projects and work placement in Level 5. Level 6 will encourage you to reflect upon strengths and needs in relation to industry contexts and inform career planning activities and preparation.

Inclusivity

The curriculum design and course delivery are central to providing an inclusive learning environment for those with differing learning styles and 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 VLE to support learning and development, including unit handbooks, timetables, schemes of work, presentations, podcasts, student discussion boards and reference material directly related to 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 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 students' 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.
By the end of the course, you will be able to:	**Knowledge**
	LO1. Demonstrate knowledge and skilful practices in the development, construction, and realisation of design solutions.
	Understanding
	LO2. Apply both convergent and divergent thinking in the processes of observation, investigation, sustainability, speculative enquiry applied to the process of design realisation.

	Application
	LO3. Critically evaluate, adapt, and apply a range of practical, theoretical, and creative skills to meet the changing needs of the global fashion industry. LO4. Formulate and communicate ideas, concepts, and judgements to an intended audience, informed through the critical analysis and synthesis of appropriate research material. LO5. 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 you throughout your degree studies to discuss all matters relating to student well-being and academic support. Academic mentors and the Careers Team will also support you in discussions around potential or preferred career direction. You will further be supported by: - Unit leader for each unit - School support staff - Personal Academic Mentors - Careers Team - Technical support with IT and software - My UCA – 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:	• We embed industry projects with the learning outcomes of each unit. • Placement is mandatory during L5 to build a relationship with a fashion brand • We have the Professional Practice unit where you can create your own CV, cover letter and complete a portfolio • Innovation week where industry practitioners are invited to lead workshops and talks to provide students with important networking opportunities and industry insights. • Previous students have had placements at Vivienne Westwood, Halpern, Phoebe English, Dela Vali, David Koma to name a few • Previous students have also received freelance positions after finishing their placements.

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): *'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.'*
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion	*"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."* Professor Bashir Makhoul, President & Vice-Chancellor, University for the Creative Arts.

Overall methods of assessment	Written exams:	Practical exams:	Coursework:
Level 4	0.0%	25%	75%
Level 5	0.0%	12.5%	87.5%
Level 6	0.0%	0.0%	100%
Indicative course learning hours	**Independent:**	**Structured:**	**Placement or Live Professional Activity:**
Level 4	52.5%	47.5.0%	0%
	630 hours	570 hours	0.0%
Level 5	60%	40%	15.0%
	720hours	480 hours	0 hours
Level 6	57.5%	42.5	0.0%
	690hours	510 hours	0 hours

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. You will need to 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) and a digital stills camera for research purposes are both recommended.
Visits	Visits to galleries, museums and facilities can take place as part of a unit of study or for a year group. Advance notice would be given of any associated costs.