

Programme Specification

Every taught course of study leading to a UAL award is required to have a Programme Specification. This summarises the course aims, learning outcomes, teaching, learning and assessment methods, and course structure. Programme Specifications are developed through course validation and are formally approved by UAL Validation Sub Committee (VSC). They are available to prospective students through the course web page, and must be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure currency of information (for example, following any modifications or local developments).

Awarding Body Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB)	University of the Arts London (UAL)
Teaching Institution	London College of Fashion
Final Award	BA (Hons) Fashion Contour
Length of Course	3 years / 4 years (with placement year in industry)
UCAS code	Institution code: U65 Course code: W233
Date of production/revision	August 2017

The BA (Hons) Fashion Contour is an honours degree course within the Product programme of courses in the School of Design and Technology.

Honours degree courses in the Product programme offer design specialism and associated business development skills. They are of particular relevance to the creative industries which are recognised as being amongst the fastest growing sectors in the economy. The course also recognises the need for extremely creative, forward-thinking individuals who know more about the appropriate business, technological, environmental, ethical and social issues as well as creativity in order to make their ideas innovative, commercially viable and sustainable.

Course Aims

This course aims to:

- encourage exploration and opportunities to challenge perceptions and the role of Contour in contemporary fashion;
- extend your intellect to consider innovative solutions developed through robust research analysis;
- nurture your knowledge and skills development appropriate to Fashion Contour and recognise their application across the fashion industry;
- develop your confidence and abilities to prepare you for employment, entrepreneurial and professional opportunities or to access postgraduate study or research;
- provide industry relevant, collaborative and or team working opportunities to enhance your awareness and professional development.
- to foster your growth as a creative, practical and strategic self-reliant critically reflective practitioner within the global field of Fashion Contour.

Course Outcomes

The outcomes that you will have demonstrated upon completion of the course, are:

Outcome:	1. Research through enquiry, exploration and investigation using multiple design, commercial and cultural resources.
Outcome:	2. ability to evaluate and critique selected sources to deepen your understanding of fashion design related to a specific fashion apparel market;
Outcome:	3. informed decision making and contributions in industry by synthesising your knowledge;
Outcome:	4. the application of creative, strategic and practical principles and techniques involved in design and development within Fashion Contour;
Outcome:	5. articulation and communication through your personal visual language, the aesthetic awareness of materials, brands, form and processes at specified market levels;

Outcome:	6. an awareness of issues affecting economical sound and sustainable outcomes in relation to the fashion contour and lifestyle industries;
Outcome:	7. the application of a critical approach to analysis and evaluation to a range of contexts and to situate your practice within cultural and historical contexts and debates;
Outcome:	8. critical reflection and evaluation of your own personal, professional development within the wider social, educational and professional contexts.
Outcome:	9. the relevant skills required these in order to make an impact as a creative product designer/developer and practitioner.

Learning and Teaching Methods:

The following teaching and learning methods are employed to support the integrated achievement of the course outcomes:

- lectures, seminars, critiques, group presentations, studio based workshops, open access work, visiting speakers, field trips, experimentation, demonstrations, self-directed study.
- A process of enquiry and exploration using multiple research resources and tools, to deepen understanding of a subject, task or field.

Scheduled Learning and Teaching

Scheduled Learning and Teaching – this is the percentage of your time spent in timetabled learning and teaching. In each year you are expected to study for 1200 hours over 30 weeks; below is the amount of time which is timetabled activity. The rest of your learning time will be self-directed, independent study.

BA (Hons) Fashion Contour

Year 1 - 20 %

Year 2 - 17 %

Year 3 - 11 %

Assessment Methods:

The following assessment methods are employed to assess the achievement of learning outcomes in an integrated approach:

- portfolio presentation, written reports, live or simulated industrial projects, written assignments, presentations to specialist audiences.

Each stage of the programme represents a step in your academic and personal development. The level and content of assessment reflect the product development model, your research enquiry and exploration; and your knowledge and understanding as you move towards an integrated subject approach that reflects the holistic nature of product development. As the course progresses, assessments introduce more complex issues that require the development of critical judgement, evaluative and problem-solving skills. The final stage of assessment aims to provide a framework for the synthesis of subjects and disciplines through a final major project which reflects creative, technical, analytical and strategic skills in a seamless coherent manner for academic scrutiny and industrial presentation.

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- The College Learning and Teaching Strategy
- The College Assessment Strategy
- The UAL and College approach to Personal and Professional Development
- Feedback from focus groups with current employers in the fashion product design and development industry
- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London
- University of the Arts London Level Descriptors
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Art and Design subject benchmark statement
- Feedback from current students
- Feedback from focus groups with Graduates from the current course
- Consultation with staff team

Programme Summary

Programme structures, features, units, credit and award requirements:

In Stage 1 you are required to complete 120 credits at level 4 in order to progress to Stage 2.

- Introduction to Fashion Contour; 20 credits
- Product Technologies; 20 credits
- Introduction to Cultural and Historical Studies; 20 credits
- Product Creativity and Communication; 20 credits
- Product Design and Development; 40 credits

In Stage 2 you are required to complete 120 credits of which a minimum of 100 must be at level 5.

- Cultural and Historical Studies Option; 20 credits
- Creative Professional Practise; 20 credits
- Research Methods; 20 credits
- Creative Industry Practise; 20 credits
- Industry Project; 40 credits

In Stage 3 you are required to complete 120 credits at level 6.

- Concept Development; 40 credits
- Contextualising Your Practice; 20 credits
- Product Design and Realisation; 60 credits

In your third year, you may undertake an optional 30-week placement which leads to the award of a Diploma in Professional Studies

Before commencing the Professional Placement, you must have successfully completed two years of previous study in the subject area of the BA course linked to the Diploma, and have completed the preparatory period for the placement.

A 20-credit unit is approximately equivalent to 200 hours of learning time, which includes a mixture of taught time, independent study and assessment.

All students are entitled to a tutorial package that consists of:

- one induction tutorial (group or one to one)
- one tutorial per term for the duration for your course of study at LCF;
- group tutorials as required
- an appropriate level of confidentiality

Distinctive features of the course:

The BA (Hons) Fashion Contour is an honours degree course within the Fashion Product Programme of courses in the School of Design and Technology.

Honours degree courses in the Fashion Product Programme offer design specialism and associated business development. They are of particular relevance to the Creative Industries which are recognised as being amongst the fastest growing sectors in the economy. It is also recognised the need for extremely creative forward thinking individuals who need to know more about the appropriate business, technological, environmental, ethical and social issues as well as creativity in order to make their ideas innovative, commercially viable and sustainable.

The Fashion Product programme offers:-

- advanced skill teaching of a range of specialist manufacturing resources and techniques;
- development of CAD/CAM and transferable employable skills;
- integrated programme of study with theory and practice units to promote experimental outcomes;
- a variety of internal and external opportunities to enhance and develop your learning.
- provision, to develop independent learning and cross-course interaction.

In addition the courses within the Programme offer an optional placement year in industry to expand industry awareness and enhance your learning and professional development. Upon successful completion of the placement year you will gain an additional qualification, a Diploma in Professional Studies.

Distinctive features of the Fashion Contour course

The Fashion Contour course is a specialist course offering a fusion of creative, strategic and practical skills which will prepare you to creatively impact the contemporary work environment or progress to further academic study. Integrating form, function and lifestyle, the course aims to:

- nurture creativity;
- facilitate you to become self-reliant, critical and reflective practitioners;
- equip you with the wider professional, communication and business skills to become specialists who can succeed in today's challenging creative industries;
- enable you to progress to postgraduate study.

The Fashion Contour course explores a specialist area of the fashion related to structured, under and outer, garments which alter the natural body contours through suppression and constriction – referenced within contemporary fashion through lingerie, loungewear and swimwear platforms.

Through a unique and varied selection of units which are developed with consideration to emerging themes within contemporary society, the Fashion Contour degree offers a unique blend of challenging and intellectual learning opportunities which create a framework for holistic understanding of the product development process. Close relationships with the Contour and associated industry inform the curriculum to promote your experimental and innovative solutions.

An exciting variety of research methods including trend reports, video interviews, consumer and marketing knowledge will support and extend your analytical and problem solving skills across the units. Socio-political and cultural contexts are considered through your individual perspectives within your collections and informing your ideas through the realisation of new innovative fashion contour concepts.

The Fashion Contour award reflects the need for focused professionals who have a clear understanding of the processes and expertise involved in their specialism. During your studies you will reflect the complementary but distinct issues that affect the different award titles within the Fashion Product Programme, allowing you to work across the courses on research, planning, collaborative and team working opportunities, whilst following the curriculum designed specifically for the Fashion Contour specialism.

Recruitment and Admissions

Selection Criteria

The course team seeks to recruit students who can demonstrate:

- A current awareness of fashion contour in terms of material developments, new designers and fashion trends
- A potential to achieve a high standard of technical manufacture
- An ability to record and develop design ideas through the vehicle of drawing

- The ability to work as a member of a team
- The ability to work independently to develop your own knowledge and skills acquired on the course

This might, for example, be demonstrated by: related academic or work experience; the quality of the personal statement, a strong academic or other professional reference; or a combination of these factors.

Portfolio and interview advice

For this course you will be required to upload a mini portfolio. Further instructions will be sent by the course administrator after application submission. International students should contact the International Office at lcf.international@arts.ac.uk to find out about the portfolio application process.

For this course your portfolio should show evidence of: ability to present ideas through visual communication; a level of research, experimentation and development; technical and practical abilities; and effective presentation techniques.

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate the following at interview: an awareness of contemporary fashion and culture; an understanding of research, design, design development and product realisation; a motivation for working in the fashion contour industry; and a motivation to succeed on the course.

Entry Requirements

Entry to this course is highly competitive: applicants are expected to achieve, or already have, the course entry requirements detailed below.

The standard minimum entry requirements for this course are:

- Two A Level Passes at Grade C or above; preferred subjects include English, Maths, Art, Design, Textiles and Science;
- **or** a Pass Foundation Diploma in Art and Design;
- **or** a Merit, Pass, Pass at BTEC Extended Diploma Art & Design;

- **or** a Pass at UAL Extended Diploma;
- **or** Access Diploma or '64 tariff points from the Access to HE Diploma;
- **or** 64 new UCAS tariff points (equivalent to 160 old UCAS tariff points) from a combination of the above qualifications or an equivalent full Level 3 qualification;
- **or** equivalent EU or non-EU qualifications;
- **And** three GCSE passes at grade A*-C.

Exceptionally, applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered if the course team judges the application demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by: related academic or work experience; the quality of the personal statement; a strong academic or other professional reference; or a combination of these factors.

This course requires portfolio evidence, and you will be asked to complete a short written answer to a question relating to issues in the fashion industry if you are selected to attend an interview.

All classes are conducted in English. If English is not your first language you will be asked to provide evidence of your English language ability when you enrol.

The level required by the University for this course is IELTS 6.0 with a minimum of 5.5 in each skill.

Course Diagram

Year 1, Stage 1, Level 4, 120 credits:

Term 1:	Term 2:	Term 3:
Introduction to Fashion Contour 20 credits	Introduction to Cultural and Historical Studies 20 credits	Product Design and Development 40 credits

Product Technologies 20 credits	Product Creativity and Communication 20 credits	
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Year 2, Stage 2, Level 5, 120 credits:

Term 1:	Term 2:	Term 3:
Cultural and Historical Studies Option 20 credits	Research Methods 20 credits	Industry Project 40 credits
Creative Professional Practice 20 credits	Creative Industry Practice 20 credits	

Optional Diploma in Professional Studies and Diploma Supplement 120 credits
(year in industry / possible overseas work placement) Year 3, Stage 3, Level 6,
120 credits:

Term 1:	Term 2:	Term 3:
Concept Development 40 credits	Product Design and Realisation 60 credits	
Contextualising Your Practice 20 credits		