

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	Graduate Diploma Fashion Design Technology
Length of Course	12 months
UCAS code	n/a
Date of production/revision	August 2017

This intensive one-year course supports you in broadening the ways in which you research and design fashion outcomes. By combining traditional and new approaches to development you will explore experimental design methods and how to exploit and refine a product. Throughout the year you will work on consolidating your practice and identity as a designer with a critical discourse that will combine visual and theoretical levels of understanding. Students are also encouraged to think outside of traditional gender binaries and to discover the person that inspires them to design. You will be expected to approach each project with a spirit of enquiry that will build a portfolio of work suitable for Postgraduate progression or entering the industry.

Course Aims

The course aims to:

- encourage the selection, use and evaluation of appropriate research with appreciation of critical, conceptual, historical, social and environmental contexts and values;
- give space for experimental and creative development in the process and production of designed fashion objects, utilising appropriate materials, processes and technologies;
- promote the relevance of identity within the field of fashion and its impact on both research process and design development;
- develop reflexivity and the confidence to anticipate and accommodate change as part of a reflective design practice;
- provide teaching around contemporary methods of visual dissemination to support engagement with postgraduate progression and employment in the industry or a wider audience;
- develop student independence throughout the creative process allowing individuals to situate themselves within the subject of fashion design.

Course Outcomes

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

Outcome:	1. A critical understanding of the subject of fashion design;
Outcome:	2. The negotiation of project outcomes through both independent and collaborative working and self-initiated activity and/or in response to set briefs;
Outcome:	3. An ability to select and apply appropriate methods of research and design process that may lead to successful experimentation;
Outcome:	4. Technical development and outcomes that consider an understanding of quality standards and attention to detail;
Outcome:	5. A professional command of a diverse set of presentation skills preparing for either postgraduate progression or industry interaction;
Outcome:	6. An ability to situate practice within global economic, social and cultural contexts and debates including sustainability and

	diversity;
Outcome:	7. Evidence of engagement with the Creative Attributes Framework (CAF) principles as outlined in this document.

Learning and Teaching Methods:

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

- Lectures, workshops, demonstrations, group tutorials, individual tutorials, independent learning, peer learning, peer critique, fittings.

Scheduled Learning and Teaching

Scheduled Learning and Teaching – this is the percentage of your time spent in timetabled learning and teaching. 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.

Graduate Diploma Fashion Design Technology

Percentage of time spent in timetabled learning and teaching – 11%

Assessment Methods:

Within the Graduate Diploma Fashion Design Technology course, summative assessment of each unit will be based on a portfolio of work that demonstrates the learning outcomes. Depending on the unit this may include the following: design development portfolio, 2D/3D outcomes, creative and experimental sampling, technical commentary, research folders, written essay or verbal presentation.

Throughout the programme, opportunity for formative assessment feedback is provided in individual tutorials, formative group critiques and fittings.

The award of Graduate Diploma is based on the successful completion of all units. Credit is awarded when a student passes each unit and the final awarded grade will be determined by the weighting of assessment grades as outlined in the regulations.

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Art and Design February (2017),
- QAA Supporting and Enhancing the Experience of International Students in the UK (2015),
- QAA The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2008)
- UAL Learning, Teaching and Enhancement Strategy 2015-2022,
- UAL Creative Attributes Framework,
- UAL Credit Framework,
- Centre for Sustainable Fashion Education for Sustainability Transformation at LCF,
- Embedding Equality and Diversity in the Curriculum: and Art and Design Practitioner's Guide, Terry Finnegan and Aisha Richards.
- Industry Consultation

Programme Summary

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

One year, Level 6, 120 Credits

Block 1 (Weeks 1-15)

Diagnostic and Development Project (40 Credits)

Fashion Practice and Critical Context (20 Credits)

Block 2 (Weeks 16-30)

Negotiated Major Project (60 Credits)

Students will receive tutorials throughout the taught units as well as having a minimum of three personal tutorials throughout the year where progression and academic development can be discussed. Bookable tutorials will also be available at certain stages of the course outside of taught time.

The course uses a number of approaches to learning including delivered workshops and demonstrations as well as peer learning, individual and group tutorials and formal critiques and fittings.

Students are expected to work to 40 hours per week of learning, of which an average of 8.5 hours per week will be in contact with academic staff. This is determined on the basis of the time of the year and stage of each project and can be subject to change.

Distinctive features of the course:

- The course offers an experimental approach to the design process to nurture students to become creative and playful practitioners, not solely focussed on outcome but the journey. These experimental approaches to fashion practices are encouraged and divergent thinking will be used to interrogate new and existing knowledge.
- The course balances and recognises the value of both visual and theoretical methods of design and technical teaching.
- Co-learning and Collaboration will be built into ***Fashion Practice and Critical Context*** and allow students to look at alternate responses to fashion research.
- The course provides a holistic approach to a variety of fashion design practices with consideration of both postgraduate and industry progression.
- Industry focussed professionals will inform discussions during fittings along with the course team.

The course offers a theoretical unit co-delivered by the Course Team, Academic Support and Cultural and Historical Studies.

Recruitment and Admissions

Selection Criteria

You will be required to submit an application form and digital portfolio. Successful applicants may then be required to have an interview where further visual work should be presented.

Student Selection Criteria:

The course team seeks to recruit students who can demonstrate:

- The potential to develop their practical and critical abilities through academic study
 - Critical knowledge of a subject area
 - A capacity for intellectual inquiry and reflective thought
 - An openness to new ideas and a willingness to participate actively in their own intellectual development
- Initiative and a developed and mature attitude to independent study

Entry Requirements

Applications to the course are welcome from all suitably qualified individuals. The course seeks to recruit students from a wide range of backgrounds including:

- An Honours degree or equivalent academic qualification;
- Professional qualifications recognised as equivalent to an Honours degree;
- Prior experiential learning, the outcome of which can be demonstrated to be equivalent to formal qualifications otherwise required; or
- A combination of formal qualifications and experiential learning, which, taken together, can be demonstrated to be equivalent to formal qualifications otherwise required;
- Have an IELTS level of **6.5** or equivalent if English is not your first language.

Course Diagram

BLOCK 1 (weeks 1-15)	BLOCK 2 (weeks 15-30)
Diagnostic and Development Project (40 credits)	Negotiated Major Project (60 credits)
Fashion Practice and Critical Context (20 credits)	

- 120 credits for the 30 week course

All units are core units and award-bearing