

**Programme Specification for**  
***BA (Hons) Fashion Textiles***



<b>1. Programme title</b>	BA (Hons) Fashion Textiles
<b>2. Awarding institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3. Teaching institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body</b>	N/A
<b>5. Final qualification</b>	BA (Honours)
<b>6. Year of validation</b> <b>Year of amendment</b>	
<b>7. Language of study</b>	English
<b>8. Mode of study</b>	Full-time

**9. Criteria for admission to the programme**

These regulations are made in accordance with the Academic Regulations for University Awards and conform to the Middlesex Academic Credit Scheme (MACS) and the Common Academic Framework.

Everyone who applies and meets the entry requirements will be offered an interview for the BA (Hons) Fashion Textiles Degree. You will be met by one of the tutors who will review all work presented by you in your portfolio.

**Specific Admissions Policy and Procedures for Fashion:**

All acceptances for 1st Year are subject to an interview and review of their portfolio for possible selection for a place on the Fashion Textiles Degree and are conditional on having successfully completed either:

- Foundation Course Certificate in Art and Design

or

- National Diploma in General Art and Design

or, where appropriate:

- a recognised professional qualification in one experience of the design disciplines – fashion / textiles, three dimensional design, interior or spatial design, product/industrial design, visual communication/graphics, furniture, ceramics, jewellery, metals, glass or architecture.
- at least three passes at Level C and above in GCSE should be in academic subjects, including English Language.
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**Direct entry to Second and Third Year:**

Candidates are eligible for entry at a higher level upon successful completion of:

- a Higher National Diploma in Textiles/Fashion or Certificate level of an equivalent BA Fashion programme in another Institute

It is unusual for applicants to apply for the third year of any of the Fashion based degrees. However, applicants are welcome to apply.

**International students:**

International students must have an IELTS score of 6.0 (or equivalent) (students who score less than 5.5 on any element are strongly recommended to attend the M.U. pre-session programme) and should submit a portfolio to the Fashion Textiles staff. This can be supplied electronically.

**Mature students:**

If you are a mature student and you do not have the required qualifications but can submit the required standard of portfolio, you can still be eligible for a place. We value all mature students as a positive element to the student cohort.

**Part Time Students:**

Applicants who wish to study part time are welcome. There is a part time diagram of the course included in this Handbook for guidance – a programme of study should be planned with the Programme Leader.

**10. Aims of the programme**

The programme aims to produce confident graduates:

- with a high level of abstract thinking who generate original ideas and are innovators within their field;
- who are able to critically review, consolidate and extend a systematic and coherent body of knowledge utilizing specialist skills across the area of Fashion Textiles;
- who demonstrate expertise and autonomy as a practitioner within the creative industries;
- who have the ability to transfer and apply diagnostic and creative skills exercising

significant judgment in a range of situations.

## 11. Programme outcomes

### A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have:

1. A confident, investigative and original approach to research and design problems.
2. The ability to communicate through the presentation of their work.
3. The cultural, historical, political and socio-economic context of fashion and its' related fields of design.
4. Ability to critically review, consolidate, and extend a systematic and coherent body of knowledge of fashion and textile concepts including contemporary fashion/ fashion textiles.

### Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- garment fittings;
- design critiques;
- tutorials;
- written feedback and peer assessments;
- one- to-one tutorials, group critiques, self-directed study and resource-based learning are used within design projects (resources include libraries at Hendon and elsewhere for books, DVD and videos, journal and magazine archives, special collections, also the internet, shops and museums).

### Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- coursework for example, sketchbooks, textile samples, garments, fashion awareness and context, research, observational drawing and design development.

### B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Independently access new information, concepts and evidence from a range of sources.
2. Exercise significant judgment in a wide range of complex and variable contexts.
3. Formulate ideas and solutions

### Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through:

- one-to-one tutorials;
- group discussion and critiques;
- self-directed study;
- resource-based learning through design projects, garment fittings, and design critiques.

### Assessment methods

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by:

<p>through analysis and transformation at an abstract level.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Demonstrate exceptional analytical, problem solving skills.</li> <li>5. Display an exceptional degree of originality and creativity.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coursework for example, sketchbooks, textile samples, garments, fashion awareness and context, research, observational drawing and design development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>C. Practical skills</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft patterns and Construct garments to a high standard.</li> <li>2. Utilise highly specialized technical skills to produce printed, knitted, woven and embellished textiles.</li> <li>3. Apply exceptional presentation skills including design drawings, working drawings using specific industrial software and graphic skills relevant to a fashion textiles portfolio.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students learn practical skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• master classes;</li> <li>• technical workshops;</li> <li>• demonstrations;</li> <li>• Practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coursework, for example, sketchbooks, textile samples, garments, fashion awareness and context, research, observational drawing and design development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D. Graduate skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confident personal and career development skills.</li> <li>2. Initiating the creation of ideas and solutions through analysis and transformation at abstract level.</li> <li>3. Communication and articulate a coherent body of knowledge to a professional audience using media appropriate to the fashion industry.</li> <li>4. Responsibility and accountability for</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• preparation for and participation in, the Transferable Skills and Professional practice activities;</li> <li>• inclusion in peer group discussion;</li> <li>• assessment during group critiques.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ability to display professionalism;</li> <li>• ability to achieve deadlines;</li> <li>• ability to display good conduct and attendance;</li> <li>• voluntary inclusion/participation in</li> </ul>

<p>all aspects of work including planning, resourcing quality standards and / or secondary responsibility for the work of others.</p> <p>5. I.T including CAD Skills.</p>	<p>peer group.</p>
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## 12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

### 12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

BA (Hons) Fashion Textiles is a three year full-time or 5 year part-time programme. Each year contains a set of modules, which provide credit points that allow each student to progress to the following year. Students will need 360 credit points in total for a BA Honours in Fashion Textiles. This is made up of a total of 120 credit points in each academic year.

#### The Programme

The course aims to realise textiles within a well-defined fashion context rather than as an end in itself, through the teaching of garment design and construction, alongside textile design.

Textile Design and Fashion construction in equal distribution that ensures both processes are always in dialogue and are constantly informing one another. This enables student to enter the Fashion Industry as multi-skilled designers in their own right.

Technical practices, e.g. workshops in print, knit, weave and embellishment are taught alongside core Fashion modules that run through the degree with other modules allowing the student to study complementary areas of activity especially in the area of specialist skills.

The programme is enriched, informed and supported by Visual Culture and Design modules, which contextualise the academic work within the Fashion modules and connect the students thinking to cultural, political, socio- economic and philosophical issues that inform our society.

The **first year** has modules that introduce the study of the various areas of Fashion Textiles and advance that knowledge. Complementary modules introduce and advance the knowledge and understanding of the specialist skills associated with the construction of clothing and textiles, i.e. pattern cutting, draping on the stand and garment construction, print, knit, weave and embellishment as well as portfolio presentation, and finishing's, technical/working drawings using specific industry software and styling. Modules are divided into a series of projects of varying lengths that incorporate research and making skills that lead to design and design/ textile development.

The **second year** builds on the knowledge and skills gained in the first. About halfway through the second year a placement of approximately six weeks duration is included where the student spends time working with a designer and/or in a Fashion studio. The placement takes place in the weeks leading up to London Fashion Week. This second year also involves the study of more advanced specialist skills associated with the construction of clothing and specialized textile pathways.

The **third year** allows further development of the chosen specialist skills and their application to Fashion and Textiles through to the final presentation of an extensive and varied portfolio of work and the design cut and make of a final fashion collection that displays professionalism, quality and originality.

#### **Year 1/Level 4**

Modules:

- **FSH1510** (30 credits) - studio
- **FSH1400** (30 credits) - studio
- **FSH1111** (30 credits) - studio
- **FSH1931** (30 credits) – contextual studies

The three studio Fashion modules run alongside one another. The work during the first year introduces a series of research and design projects.

**FSH1510** covers a series of Fashion Awareness projects. How to apply information skills to navigate, retrieve, and manage information from a variety of sources and the selection and employment of communication and information technologies. Induction to the Libraries fashion learning resources. Its outcomes include sketchbooks, portfolio presented work and contemporary mediums such as blogs, tumblers and WebPages. As part of this Module, we will also be introducing you to various CAD packages including Photoshop and Illustrator, skills that are essential for employment in the Fashion and Fashion Textiles Industry.

In **FSH1400** the cohort of students will work by rotation through three, six week projects focusing on basic knowledge and skills in print, knit or woven textiles with an emphasis on a fashion context underpinned by a design brief.

The **FSH1111** module focuses on the knowledge and skills specific to fashion design and construction. The students will learn basic sewing and flat pattern cutting while learning how to create a concept, conduct research through to designing and creating a garment. This module will involve working in collaboration with students from the Fashion Design degree and will culminate in a fashion runway show independently organized and run by the cohort. Students work individually and in group discussions and critiques.

**FSH 1931** introduces students to the contexts within which fashion operates in order to provide a rich visual and intellectual resource. Students will be introduced to physical

and digital archives including Middlesex's own handling collections of garments and ephemera, from which to develop a range of writing and research skills.

There will be opportunities to work individually, in groups and to engage in discussions.

All projects on the BA Fashion Textiles Programme demand an intense amount of research and it is at this stage that the student begins to learn to apply and investigate and be thorough in their approach to all aspects of their work. The Visual Cultures module **FSH1931** relates to, and supports the Fashion Textile modules and is compulsory.

### **Year 2/Level 5**

From the beginning of the Second Year the student will specialise in one area of Textiles for Fashion - either Print, Knit or Weave – and the skills in Fashion with Print Knit or Weave (**FSH 2222**) will be advanced. A variety of projects (**FSH 2400**) will encourage students to develop their portfolio and design collections and make garments and Fashion Textiles samples.

Modules:

- **FSH2222** (60 credits) – studio
- **FSH2400** (30 credits) – studio
- **FSH2936** (30 credits) – contextual studies

Professional practice is addressed during the period of work experience (**FSH 2222**) embedded in the second year. This allows the time in the industry from the beginning of the second term and is ideally placed in the weeks around London Fashion Week, Premiere Vision and PittiFilati so that students may take advantage of the additional activities in designer/practitioner workrooms and studios at that time. Preparation for this work experience starts in October with workshops on curriculum vitae and advice on proposed destinations. This period of work experience has proved to be a vital and exciting part of the Textiles degree. All students find work in one of the places of their choice and we intend to include this good practice in this degree. These often lead to job offers on or before graduation. There are follow up support workshops after the work experience period to help the student produce an analytical, effective and exciting record of their work experience.

The work during this year comprises a series of design projects of varying lengths that may demand historical, cultural and/or sociological research thus relating to the Visual Cultures module at this level. These projects are run parallel to the module **FSH 2400** which furthers interpretation and use of specialist skills. These projects are accompanied by group discussions and presentation tutorials to develop communication skills. Curriculum vitae and interview skills workshops are held to support the work placement contained in module **FSH2222**. This module comprises of a placement in the fashion industry of approximately six weeks duration. The destination is defined by the student with their tutor in conjunction with specialist skills and interests and a proposed career path. These projects are accompanied by group discussions, presentations, tutorials to

develop communication skills.

**FSH2936** builds upon the themes and skills introduced at Level 4, further developing the concept of fashion as both culture and globalised industry. Students are introduced to the idea of fashion as a system and encouraged to consider the role of their practice within this system. There will be opportunities for students to select specialist areas for study, both through research projects and extended writing tasks. Students will work both individually and in groups.

Our students have completed internships with designers such as: Jonathan Saunders, Louise Gray, Mary Katranzou, and Fashion East.

### **Year 3/Level 6**

The focus of the final year is on the further developing and establishment of individuality and personal style as the student moves toward presenting final work outcomes with an encouragement to more practical thinking and a professional approach.

Modules:

- **FSH3600** (90 credits) – studio
- **FSH3930** (30 credits) – contextual studies

The first term begins with a Pre-Collection project – within **FSH 3600** – that encourages a more precise exploration of personal design interest. You will conceive your own project, which relates to your personal direction within Fashion Textiles. Pre-collection is the time to explore who you are as a designer, you are no longer working from set briefs, it is up to you to synthesize, direct and manage your own vision. You must produce extensive research, design development, sampling and toiling, evidencing engagement with your chosen subject matter while being innovative and improving on refinement. Pre-Collection requires you to work quickly and efficiently in order to produce a successful outcome within a personal area of study, you must learn from past experience over the two previous years and apply learning to improve on working methods, time management and organization. The first term lays foundation for your Final Major Collection in terms of concept and contextualization of your work. Pre-Collection is also when you must explore and resolve textiles sampling and design. There are further periods of technical tuition and master classes. This year also includes **FSH3930**, which is a research project in a subject of each student's own choosing and resulting in a 5500 word Research Essay. Students will be allocated a specialist tutor with whom they will develop their project, supported by lectures/workshops which cover more general aspects of research and writing.

## **12.2 Levels and modules**

Level 4 (1)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following:  <b>FSH1510</b> <i>30 credits</i>  <b>FSH1400</b> <i>30 credits</i>  <b>FSH1111</b> <i>30 credits</i>  <b>FSH1931</b> <i>30 credits</i>		Successful completion of all modules.
Level 5 (2)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following:  <b>FSH2400</b> <i>30 credits</i>  <b>FSH2222</b> <i>60 credits</i>  <b>FSH2936</b> <i>30 credits</i>		Successful completion of all modules.
Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following:  <b>FSH3600</b> <i>90 credits</i>  <b>FSH3930</b> <i>30 credits</i>		Successful completion of all modules.

**12.3 Non-compensatable modules** (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)

Module level	Module code

### 13. Curriculum map

See attached.

### 14. Information about assessment regulations

Please refer to the Middlesex Regulations: <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations/>

Automatic or Self-deferral is not permitted on any modules within the Fashion Textiles programme. Students wishing to defer must consult with the Assessment and Achievement Officer for Art & Design, and also inform their Year Tutor / Module Leader and Programme Leader.

### 15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

A period of work experience is included in the FSH2222 module in Year 2 (Level 5). It is approximately six weeks in length and is designed to allow the student to spend time in their chosen area of the Fashion/Textiles industry on a full time basis in order to experience professional activity first hand. It is held in the weeks before London Fashion Week so as to allow maximum opportunity for a full experience.

The work experience is run with support, and under the guidelines, of the Work Placement Office. The work experience is supported earlier in the year by Curriculum Vitae workshops and tutorial advice on destinations.

Blogs and presentations after completion of the work experience support the generation of the outcomes of this part to the module.

### 16. Future careers (if applicable)

The programme supports the graduate's future career developments by the activities within it. Students from this Programme have forged successful and lucrative careers in fashion, art direction and Fashion Textiles, styling, pattern cutting, sample machinist illustration and associated areas. We have many successful alumni for example Ashley Fletcher (Head of Menswear, Versace), BodyMap, and the Senior Designer at Burberry, and a recent graduates collection is now stocked in Harvey Nichols.

One of the key options for recent graduates here at Middlesex University is to progress onto one of our Art and Design MAs and in particular the MA Fashion. There are many incentives, including financial support for any Middlesex University students wishing to

follow this path.

### 17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

The staff team have a wide variety of skills and experiences and are actively engaged in personal practice outside the University ensuring awareness of current practice.

Support for self-directed learning appraisal and analysis through individual and group work. Campus support includes workshop availability (with prior arrangement) and relevant Health and Safety inductions by technical staff on all specialist equipment.

ILRS facilities and resources, including specialist books, journals, videos, DVDs, slides, special collections and computer programmes and subject dedicated librarians.

### 18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

W230

### 19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

Art & Design

### 20. Reference points

- Relevant University Regulations: <http://mdx.ac.uk/regulations/>
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Art & Design / BA (Hons) Fashion Textiles
- The Framework for Higher Education in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Student, Staff, External Examiners and Graduate feedback comments
- Learning and Teaching Policy and Strategy

### 21. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

## Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

### Curriculum map for *BA (Hons) Fashion Textiles*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

#### Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	How to undertake a confident, investigative and original approach to research and design problems.	C1	Draft Patterns and Construct garments to a high standard.
A2	How to communicate effectively in a range of contexts including through presentation of work.	C2	Utilize highly specialized technical skills to produce textiles.
A3	The cultural, historical, political and socioeconomic context of fashion and its' related fields of design.	C3	Apply exceptional presentation skills including design drawings, working drawings using specific industry software and graphic skills relevant to a Fashion Textiles.
A4	Critically review, consolidate, and extend a systematic and coherent body of knowledge in fashion and textile concepts including contemporary fashion textiles.		
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Independently access new information, concepts and evidence from a range of sources.	D1	Confident personal and career development skills.
B2	Exercise significant judgment in a wide range of complex and variable contexts.	D2	Initiating the creation of ideas and solutions through analysis and transformation at an abstract level.
B3	Formulate ideas and solutions through analysis and transformation at an abstract level.	D3	Communicate and articulate a coherent body of knowledge to a professional audience using media appropriate to the fashion industry.
B4	Exceptional analytical, problem solving skills.	D4	Responsibility and accountability for all aspects of work including planning, resourcing, quality standards and/ or secondary responsible for the work of

