



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MA FASHION DESIGN

Course Code: MFASD

2026/27

Award and Title: MA Fashion Design (MFASD)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 11/2025

General Information

Award	MA Fashion Design
Contained awards	Postgraduate Diploma Fashion Design Postgraduate Certificate Fashion Design
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course lengths and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: • 12 months (full time, campus based) • 24 months (part time, campus based)
Part time study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.
Course fees	Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

Timetable

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Key Contacts

Your course director

Sam Hudson-Miles

Your course administrator

Fashion Administration Team
bafashionadmins@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- Provide you with opportunities to deepen and connect your research, in a critically engaged, supportive, and specialist learning environment that is responsive to the growth of your practice and professional aims.
- Support you to cultivate an approach to process and practice that fosters life-long learning, adaptability, and the capacity to anticipate and respond to change in your field.
- Enable you to devise strategies to communicate your practice, engaging diverse audiences through established and emerging networks, formats, and opportunities for dissemination and professional development.
- Enable you to situate your personal and professional positioning to activate environmental, societal, and professional agency in your field.
- Promote autonomy and proactive self-management for effective participation and contribution to a diverse learning community.

Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	RESEARCH and ANALYSE: Research challenging contexts to critically analyse and synthesise insights, through testing and developing your methodology.
2	CONCEPTUALISE, PROCESS and REALISE: Develop, realise, and refine your practice through advanced and sustained conceptualisation, rigorous testing, and critical evaluation, individually or collaboratively.
3	COMMUNICATE: Devise a compelling strategy to communicate your practice, engaging diverse audiences.
4	REFLECT and POSITION: Critically evaluate and situate personal and professional positioning related to environmental, societal and professional contexts and perspectives in your field.
5	ENGAGE and CONTRIBUTE: Demonstrate autonomy and pro-active self-management for effective participation and contribution to a diverse learning community.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Our Art and Design subject area values inform everything we do:

Future: By staying future-focused, we help you to develop the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in a rapidly changing, digital world. We support you in planning for your future and achieving your long-term goals.

Whole Self: We support you in being genuine and true to yourself, as this authenticity fosters trust and valuable connections. We strive to create a passionate community, where you can find joy and meaning in the work you make.

Curiosity: We encourage speculative and curious play, as this leads to deeper understanding and continuous growth. By nurturing your curiosity, you can unlock new opportunities and insights, while confidently taking risks and navigating uncertainty.

Engagement: Active engagement, responsiveness, and resilience are key to overcoming challenges and achieving success. We support you in staying engaged and motivated, even in the face of adversity. By building your confidence and resilience, you can navigate obstacles and continue to thrive.

Change: By integrating ethical and sustainable practices into the way we work, we aim to minimise our environmental impact. We are committed to social justice, and using our creative skills to promote fairness, equality, and respect for all individuals.

Belonging: Our commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion is embedded in every aspect of our delivery. We strive to create an environment where everyone feels valued and respected, regardless of their background or identity by fostering a culture of inclusivity and respect.

Each module acts as an overarching framework for embedded projects that focus on the development of an ethically responsible and critically engaged studio practice, your professional development, and flourishing communities of practice within the postgraduate school at Leeds School of Arts.

Synthesising research and practice in all modules, you will take a proactive and responsive approach to defining your project and practice-based enquiry. Through the exploration and testing of creative and technical concepts and processes, creative risk taking and ideas generation, you will develop your reflective practice through ideation, investigation and iteration. Your taught sessions will predominantly comprise workshops, seminars, and tutorials. Workshops invite participants to explore and experiment with conventional tools and processes to develop distinctive and effective use of technical software and spaces in the school.

Cross-discipline extra-curricular lectures will foster high level reflections on cultural, social, and historical issues, and inviting thoughtful discussion and exchange.

Smaller seminar and tutorial groups nurture a culture of knowledge exchange, as we support each other to devise imaginative and effective ways to activate responsible, ethical, and socially engaged practices. Through these discursive sessions, you will have the opportunity to develop effective presentation techniques, demonstrating your organisational and project planning skills.

Your growing familiarity with industry and skills for employability and other professional opportunities will be supported by, for example, visiting practitioners, live projects, and industry visits, and extended through your own independent industry scoping research.

You are expected to follow up on materials covered in taught sessions with your own independent research, selecting and evaluating information from a range of perspectives, critically analysing images, objects, information, and texts, and developing the principles of academic writing to essays and reports, where appropriate.

The notional hours of each module include a requirement for independent study which takes a blended approach to guided independent study through Learning Support Specialist support, and your own self-managed study.

Courses within the Art and Design subject area make use of MyBeckett and the bespoke VLE, CAGD. A new digital space is under development, which will allow for the 'live', individual and changing nature of learning to be captured. AI will support us to bring together multiple feedback moments and filter them into a 'learning map' for students and staff. It will track key learning moments and support our students to

navigate and connect their whole learning journey. It will be a progress record for staff, who will be able to see learning beyond the confines of a module and identify points of supportive intervention, as and when required. This development will work with existing platforms.

Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Fashion: Critical Methods	60	1
Fashion: Advanced Project	60	2
Fashion: Expanded Practice	60	3
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Part time modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Fashion: Critical Methods	60	Year 1 - 1 and 2
Fashion: Advanced Project	60	Year 1 – 3. Year 2 – 1.
Fashion: Expanded Practice	60	Year 2 – 2 and 3
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard 60-credit module equates to 600 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

This course is assessed predominantly by coursework, including practical assessments and critical writing.

Level 7

Learning outcomes will be mapped against a 'body of work' made up of different projects and responses, produced over the duration of the module. This allows for a more rounded view of performance, across a range of work and longer timeframe. It is more reflective of the creative process and the interrelated skills you will develop. It also embraces the integration of practice, contexts and professional skills which is key to our delivery. Opportunities for formative feedback are woven throughout your learning, in the form of group and individual tutorials, critiques, presentations (in-person, pre-recorded) and a plethora of reflective processes appropriate to individual specialisms. You will be able to track your progress through your 'living assessment profile' where feedback and reflection will be captured throughout this module. Approximately halfway through the module you will take part in a 'student progress review', this is a supportive, co-designed process to support your learning journey.

The holistic and inclusive nature of assessment means that you will submit a 'body of work' that is appropriate to your subject. Your specialist project brief will outline the options of what can be submitted, see examples below.

A body of work: this may include a number of creative and or contextual outcomes, supported by research, analysis and developmental work, in response to specialist project briefs.

Examples:

Research and development work: to support your ideas and learning journey

Final work: this can take many different forms and will be detailed in your project brief

Written work: up to an indicative word count of 7,000 words or equivalent for this module (this may include writing in different forms i.e. critical study, essays, creative writing, reports, and reflective journal entries)

Presentations: a choice of live or pre-recorded will always be given

Research and development films: up to 7 minutes' duration

Photo/visual essay: visual research captured through imagery

Living assessment record: your digital learning and assessment record

Student progress review: learning opportunity to review and discuss progress.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	310 hours
Independent study	1490 hours