

We have created this course to prepare you for an exciting career as a specialist in fashion design. Fashion is one of the world's biggest industries and we passionately believe that it is about more than just the commercially driven production and promotion of new collections. It is a reflection of society, identity and culture, and a powerful protagonist for change. We will show you how to challenge the limitations of fashion as the manifestation of temporary consumer trends.



INTRODUCTION

You will embrace 'anti-fashion', learning to sculpt with fabric, and create fashion designs in response not only to market forces but also to technical innovation, body language, the sense, ethics, arts and culture.

We are committed to providing a course that responds to your own personality, interests and creativity. That is why we offer opportunities to work on arts and industry informed briefs, and live projects, equipping you with a portfolio of professional skills that open doors to a range of careers in fashion. At the heart of our course you will also find a strong understanding of the cultural, ethical and environmental concerns in the contemporary fashion industry.

The global fashion industry is looking for professionals who can offer a wide range of expertise and our course reflects this demand. You will concentrate on 2D and 3D skills, along with understanding how to articulate ideas to an off shore manufacturer. Key areas include research of ideas, design, the articulation of ideas, and 3D outcomes. There will be a high computer-aided design (CAD) emphasis on 2D work allowing for a professional finish, while fabric and form will be explored to ensure applicable 3D outcomes are achieved.



Pattern Cutting & Garment Construction

In the first year of study students are introduced to a variety of pattern cutting techniques and learn to manipulate garment blocks to achieve original design ideas. Our bespoke studio is equipped with the latest industrial machines and staff help students to achieve a retail standard of finish from the first garment they will ever make through to their final collections.

In the second year of study students learn to draft their own garment blocks and are introduced to three-dimensional methods of pattern cutting such as subtraction cutting and Moulage.

Alongside these industrial methods of working we also encourage our students to adopt an innovative and experimental approach to making garments, considering ways in which fabric can be connected without conventional stitch. Creative workshops in bonding, embroidery and mixed media textiles provide students with a platform for creative exploration, allowing them to establish their own approach to the construction process.

ACTIVITY / FACILITIES

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KATIE EMMERSON
LEVEL 4



JAMIE-LEIGH CLEGG
LEVEL 4

NHUNG HONG LE
LEVEL 4



VICTORIA BURNETT
LEVEL 4



YEEZY SEASON
ADAM NICHOLLS, LEVEL 4
FASHION ILLUSTRATION



MATILDA BARTON, LEVEL 4
DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION

Illustration

Students are encouraged to adopt a personal approach to fashion illustration which is developed throughout the course of their studies. Learning to express fabric, drape and texture are integral to the successful communication of design ideas, with drawing providing a visual language of communication.

Digital Literacy

Our students are introduced to software packages Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign in the first year of study to enable them to present their portfolios in a professional context. Students are encouraged to blend the hand rendered with the digital to add depth and creativity to their work. Within Adobe Photoshop students learn to creatively edit and manipulate fashion illustrations, how to superimpose fabrics within garments and how to design both placement and repeat prints. They will learn to render technical flat drawings to an industry standard using Adobe Illustrator and will use Adobe InDesign to generate journals and dynamic portfolio layouts.

KATE JENKINS, LEVEL 4
DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION



LIVE PROJECTS & THE CITY

Our second year module in Tailoring Principles is run in collaboration with a design competition sponsored by Savile Row Tailoring Ltd and Crombie. Students were invited to submit their designs for mens and womens outerwear to the judges, with the winner being offered a week pattern cutting at Savile Row Tailoring studios and £1,000 of cashmere fabric to create the garment from.

ANNA STANDLEY
COMPETITION WINNER

Darren Beaman of Savile Row Tailoring Ltd commented: "The competition, which will continue to run every year, was born from my wanting to show students the beauty of tailoring and open their eyes to our wonderful trade."

"The standard of work was quite extraordinary and my fellow judges and I found it very difficult to reach a decision. However, Anna's design stood out for its simplicity, beauty and natural flow."

Anna Standley, competition winner reported: "The day's work experience was fantastic and I learnt a great deal about tailoring from professionals who offered me invaluable advice. I feel I can take what I have learnt back to University and incorporate it into my work."



NATASHA PARKER, LEVEL 5
OUTERWEAR



ALICE BRIGHTMORE, LEVEL 5
OUTERWEAR



MARY MELLOR, LEVEL 5
OUTERWEAR

OUTERWEAR
PHILENA BREMNER, LEVEL 5

Industry Collaboration: Louise Gray

Each year our Level 5 students will have the opportunity to work with a designer from industry and have their work professionally critiqued. This year fashion designer Louise Gray set the brief:

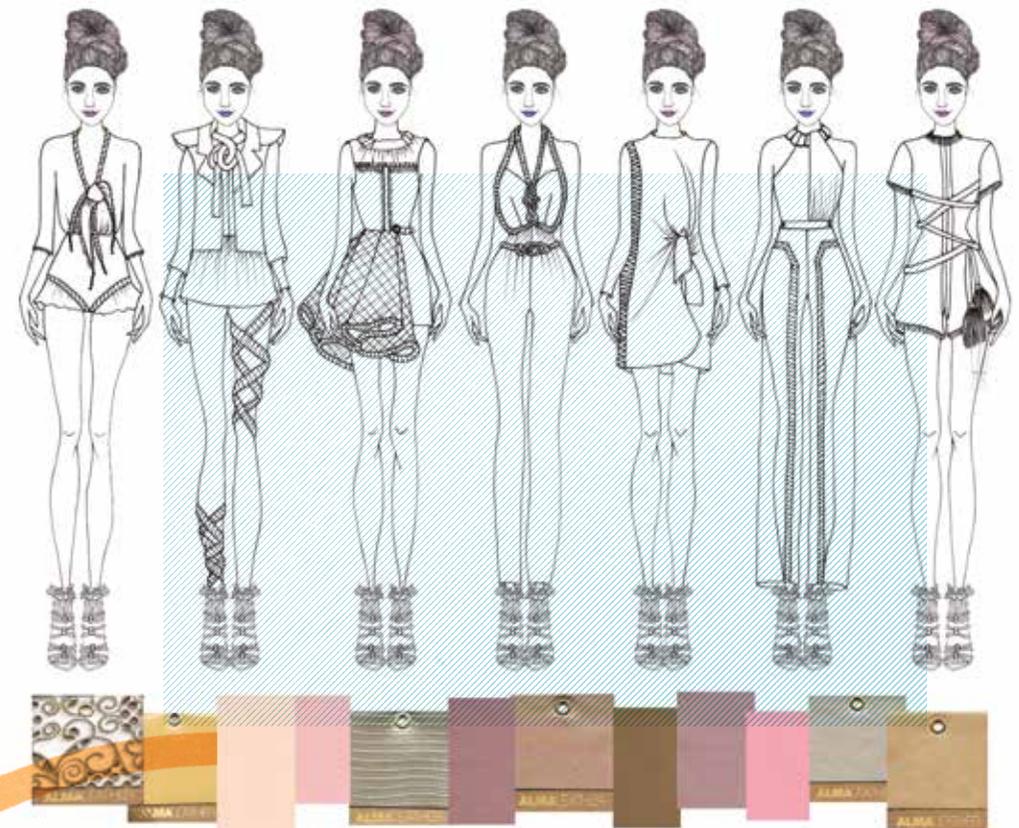
“Part One: I would like you to consider storytelling narratives of conversational fashion prints. These began in the 1930’s. These are prints that became the talk of a party or simply sparked a conversation between people. These have been adapted and used in various forms over the years to many differing taste levels.

Part Two: select a narrative to re-tell through your fashion collection. This may be a personal story or memory, a Greek Myth or ancient fable, a historical event, a current news story, or you could imagine a story of your own. The narrative will inform your visual research, fabric sourcing and the silhouettes and detailing across the collection.”

Below you can see an example of work in progress from Level 5 student Harriet Smaller, who’s collection takes inspiration from Homer’s epic poem, The Odyssey.

Louise Gray graduated from Glasgow School of Art before going on to study an MA at Central Saint Martins. From there she was selected for Fashion East, which provided a platform to showcase at London Fashion Week. After three seasons she won NEWGEN sponsorship and quickly established a reputation for brightly coloured, playful collections.

HARRIET SMALLER LEVEL 5
STUDENT WORK IN PROGRESS



Lambert's Yard Pop-Up Shop

In summer 2015 the Retail Director of Lambert's Yard, Adam Jagger, selected a range of garments produced by students studying BA Fashion at Leeds Beckett University to feature in a pop-up shop:

"Available to buy alongside the established brands already in-store, not only bringing a fresh aesthetic to the store, but also allowing the students first-hand experience in selling their creations. The quality of the garments produced is testament not only to the students themselves, but also to the level of teaching at the University. Students have been introduced to a range of complex cutting and design techniques and these will provide a fantastic basis for future work, which if this collection is anything to go by, will be very exciting indeed."

Lambert's Yard is an independent concept store and creative event space, housed in a collection of historic buildings in Leeds City Centre. The design-led space features an ever-changing, curated collection of brands, unavailable elsewhere in the city. In addition, they host a seasonal programme of creative and cultural events.



RESEARCH CULTURE

Staff & Students

Guest Lecturers

In addition to regular contact with the course team our students enjoy an exciting program of guest lectures and workshops delivered by industry professionals:

HEATHER FAIRHURST:
HEAD OF TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT,
PAUL SMITH

NEW LOOK:
INTERNSHIPS: MAKING A
SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

JANE BOWLER:
FASHION DESIGNER

FEDERICA TEDESCHI:
MIXED MEDIA TEXTILE DESIGNER

FREYA CROWLEY-BENNETT:
WARDROBE MANAGER,
NORTHERN BALLET

THE LONDON EMBROIDERY STUDIO:
1 DAY CREATIVE WORKSHOP IN HAND
EMBROIDERY AND BEADING TECHNIQUES

ANNA GARDENER:
1 DAY WORKSHOP IN
GARMENT ILLUSTRATION

Students have also enjoyed participating in events organised by the Leeds Fashion Initiative and Lambert's Yard; including a Q&A with renowned London tailor Timothy Everest and presenting garments on the catwalk to launch the Leeds Fashion Initiative.

Photography Credits for images
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 15, 16, 17:

LUNAR RISING: ABIGAIL WRIGHT
(graduate from BA Hons Graphic Arts and Design)

UCAS CODE 3W10
INSTITUTION CODE L27

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UNIVERSITY**

Opening minds
Opening doors