

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Textile design is a versatile discipline that involves the creation, selection, manipulation, and application of a range of materials and processes.

When studying Textiles, you are expected to work in one or more of the following disciplines: fine art textiles, textiles for interiors, and fashion textiles.

You will be encouraged to be experimental with your concepts and outcomes. Textiles can be interpreted as a personal and individual discipline being used to create installations, mixed media constructions, or wall hangings. It can also be directed towards commercial purposes through surface pattern, fashion design, or upholstery.

Textiles embraces both traditional and non-traditional techniques. Drawing is an essential skill in the development process and to translate ideas, however, it can be interpreted as loose sketching, line work, or illustration. You will need to be aware of and apply traditional values of drawing, such as line, tone and shape for sewing, knitting, weaving, and embroidery. You should consider the application of new technology within the textiles industry and will explore software such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to support this.

Intertwined with all course content is contextual understanding, research skills, and professional practice. You will look at a variety of sources to inform and inspire your work such as galleries, museums, trade fairs, fashion shows, exhibitions, films, music, and literature. We encourage you to develop your own professional practice as a creative and you will be supported in the development of portfolios, websites, blogs, and business cards.

After class sessions in fibre arts, screen printing and extension activities are available.

TEXTILES

Qualification: A-Level | Exam board: Edexcel

YEAR ONE COURSE CONTENT

The first year focuses on a series of skill-based projects focusing on introducing you to the course disciplines; fashion, fine art, and interiors. You will explore a variety of techniques, mediums and resources that will both broaden your knowledge and prepare you for your second year.

These projects will cover idea development, skills, knowledge, research, planning, techniques, and final production.

Skills include weaving, fashion illustration, embroidery, monoprinting, surface pattern, fabric dyeing, drawing, styling, photography, linocut, sewing, screen-printing, and collage.

This is a linear course which means you will not receive your qualification until the end of the second year. Throughout first year, you will be given continuous feedback, tutorial support, and regular assessment so you are aware of your progress.

YEAR TWO COURSE CONTENT

Component One: Personal Investigation

Component One is coursework based and is weighted at 60% of the total qualification. It incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study of a minimum of 1000 words of continuous prose. This project begins in September and ends in January of the following year.

Component Two: Externally Set Assignment

Component Two is based on an exam title that you will respond to by developing a portfolio of practical work and final outcome(s); this is weighted at 40% of the total qualification. It incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and the 15-hour period of sustained focus. The externally-set assignment will begin in February each year.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE PREPARE ME FOR?

Studying on this subject will allow you to transition into employment or progress on to degree-level study in textile design, fine art, surface pattern, fashion design, fashion communication, or interior design.

COURSE SUPPORT AND ENRICHMENT

After class sessions in fibre arts, screen printing and extension activities.

ASSESSMENT

The assessment for the Textiles A-Level is coursework-based.



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