**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification**
**Course Title: Fashion Design Studio 4 Expertise**



Image: Lydia Gough

| Course Code | HECOS Code | Academic Session |
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| | | **2025-26** |

| Course Title | Fashion Design Studio 4 Expertise |
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| Course Contact | Julia Maclean-Evans |

| Credits | 80 |
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| SCQF Level | 10 |
| When Taught | Stage 4, Semesters1 & 2 |

| Associated Programmes | BA (Hons) Fashion Design |
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| Lead School | School of Design |
| Other Schools | N/A |
| Date of Approval | Programme Approval February 2024 |

| Course Introduction |
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This course supports students in extending, consolidating and resolving their learning through a sustained period of creative and in-depth self-directed study, enabling freedom of expression and opportunities to capitalise on individual interests.

The course provides opportunities to exercise initiative in developing individual concepts and diverse research approaches to generate innovative and informed ideas. Students define their project brief(s) and themes to navigate stages of the fashion design process - research, design development, outcome, and presentation – and to consolidate and translate specialist knowledge and methods. Drawing upon acquired confidence and independent study skills students generate and direct progressive routes through the fashion design process.

Students execute specialist practical and technical skills to generate comprehensive design development and to support garment construction. They resolve a fashion collection and portfolio at a professional level, embedding the necessary specialist knowledge and skills required of a fashion design graduate, whilst using their role as emergent designers to shape and lead on ethical, sustainable and responsible fashion design practices.

As students look to the future and prepare for professional practice, employment, or postgraduate study, they create a focused portfolio that positions their self-directed project and fashion collection within relevant context(s). Voices in contemporary practices, theory, research, and industry encourage the interrogation and questioning of existing practices in the discipline, supporting students in understanding their voice and position within the current fashion landscape. Engaging with multiple perspectives enhances students active listening, evaluation of feedback, and personal accountability. As the course progresses, students advance their self-awareness and resourcefulness in managing, developing, and resolving a self-directed project at the threshold of professional practice.

## Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. provide the opportunity to formulate and undertake a sustained period of creative, specialist self-directed study at the threshold of professional practice
2. construct specialist knowledge and understanding of the fashion design process, utilising criticality and reflection
3. develop specialist critical, practical, and technical skills to provoke new insights and to expand the discipline in line with individual interests
4. build personal and professional skills to enable independent and collaborative working in preparation for lifelong learning
5. position project work within relevant fashion contexts, considering responsible design in relation to an area of expertise and individual interests
6. provide opportunities to rehearse and execute professional communication and presentation skills to a variety of audiences

## Course Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. formulate a robust concept and specialist approach to primary, secondary, and contextual research, generating a considered project proposal that aligns with individual interests
2. consolidate and implement specialist fashion design knowledge and iterative processes, employing criticality and reflection in response to a defined project proposal
3. execute specialist practical and technical skills, underpinned with in-depth analysis, to generate comprehensive design development, and to resolve project work in line with individual interests
4. manage own learning with self-awareness and resourcefulness, to implement robust strategies and decision making for the progression and completion of a self-directed project
5. position a self-directed project that engages in responsible design ideas, materials, or processes within contemporary fashion design context(s)
6. communicate an individual design process to a range of audiences, using specialist methods and skills to present a coherent self-directed project at the threshold of professional practice

## Indicative Content

This course will introduce students to:

- robust research practices and concepts in line with individual fashion design interests
- specialist technical and practical skills to support individual design interpretation, development, and execution
- management of own learning with self-awareness, resourcefulness and critical reflection
- positioning of project work within relevant context/s
- analogue and digital skills for presenting project work and portfolio
- professional communication methods and skills to converse with a variety of professional audiences

**Description of Learning and Teaching Methods**

This studio course is designed as a project-based course. Project briefs encourage an independent, tutor-supported approach that emphasises individual and in-depth self-directed study at the threshold of professional practice.

A range of learning and teaching methods are used to support students to engage in an explorative and individual approach to learning. As an indication these include:

- briefings
- inductions and demonstrations
- technical workshops
- studio activities
- individual and group tutorials
- talks, lectures, seminars, and study visits
- group critiques and reviews, peer review, and presentations
- presentations and writing
- reflection and self-evaluation

Skills, including digital, material and technical resources, are introduced through inductions, demonstrations, and workshops.

Independent learning skills will be developed and supported through guided activities and digital online learning resources available on Canvas.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches, including in person, blended and online learning and delivery, are employed to support student engagement with the curriculum and the achievement of the intended learning outcomes.

| Indicative Contact Hours | Notional Learning Hours |
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| 80 hours | 800 hours |

**Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods**

Students are supported in their learning through a range of activities with staff and peers, such as workshops, reviews and tutorials offering ongoing formative feedback as they progress through the course.

Formative feedback supports students in developing and refining their project work towards submission for summative assessment.

Formative feedback offers students the opportunity to present the progress of their project work to staff and or peers, receiving feedback to support the development and refinement of their project work towards submission for summative assessment.

As a course taught over two semesters, the course includes a formative assessment point in which a student submits formative work. This is marked, with feedback and an indicative grade recorded, and made available to the student.

| Description of Summative Assessment Arrangements |
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| Summative assessment is designed to support students to review, collate, and communicate work produced in response to project briefs and learning and teaching activities associated with the course. Submissions will be assessed and moderated in line with the Code of Assessment. |

| Description of Summative Assessment Method | Weight % | Submission week |
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| Students are required to submit a body of work produced in response to project brief/s and learning and teaching activities, which is assessed holistically against the intended learning outcomes for this course. | 100% | Semester 2, Week 13 |

| Exchange/Study Abroad | |
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| **Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?** | No |
| **Are all the students on the course taught wholly by distance learning?** | No |
| **Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?** | No |
| **Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?** | No |
| **If yes, then please provide the names of the other teaching institutions** | |

| Reading and On-line Resources |
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| The course indicative reading and online resource list is accessible via Resource Lists. This list will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect subject developments. Tutors and peers will provide further recommendations appropriate to student's chosen area of research and focus. |