

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Fashion Design Studio 2A Underpinning



Image: Jacob Pulley

Please note that this course specification is correct on the date of publication but may be subject to amendment prior to the start of the 2026-27 Academic Year.

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
UFAD201A		2026-27

Course Title	Fashion Design Studio 2A Underpinning
Course Contact	Julia Maclean-Evans

Credits	40
SCQF Level	8
When Taught	Stage 2, Semester 1

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

Course Introduction

The project-based curriculum of this course supports students in gaining a fundamental knowledge and understanding of fashion design processes whilst acquiring subject-specialist technical skills.

Knowledge and understanding are expanded through the testing and investigation of various approaches to research, design development, and idea resolution. Together, this supports gaining of experience, effective study strategies, and confidence within the fashion design discipline. The intensive delivery of a broad set of technical skills, processes, and safe working practices underpins the course, whilst project briefs provide opportunities for students to experiment with materials, technologies and processes as techniques and skills are developed.

The curriculum encourages students to exercise curiosity and initiative, developing personal concepts and individual approaches to research to form informed and innovative ideas. Digital and analogue design and presentation skills associated with fashion design introduce modes of developing project work and communicating fashion design processes.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. strengthen core research and analysis methods to initiate concepts and creative ideas
2. broaden core knowledge, skills and strategies for idea generation and exploration
3. increase the range of core critical, practical, and technical skills appropriate for fashion design
4. develop core independent study skills, exercising good workshop and studio practices alongside peers and with support of technicians or tutors
5. highlight the roles and responsibilities of the designer in relation to ethical, societal or environmental challenges
6. develop core communication skills to support coherent presentation of project work and to effectively converse with others

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. produce primary, secondary, and contextual research to inform concepts and creative ideas
2. practice core skills and processes to test and evaluate ideas, materials, and design development through iterative approaches
3. test core technical and practical skills with informed decision making, to generate a variety of ideas and resolve project work
4. coordinate resources, evaluating progress and guidance from others to inform learning, and to bring project work to a conclusion
5. evidence a consideration of ethical, societal, and environmental practice within own work and work of others
6. utilise core presentation methods and skills to communicate research, development and outcomes of project work to others

Indicative Content

The course will introduce students to:

- informed, personal concepts and creative ideas
- design development and interpretation approaches for fashion design
- technical skills, processes and safe working practices
- skills to study independently and with others to manage project requirements, resources and to evaluate feedback
- processes, materials, and ideas for responsible fashion design
- communication methods to document, collate and present project work

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

This studio course is designed as a project-based course. Project briefs encourage an independent, tutor-supported approach to directed and self-directed study.

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, materials 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
40	400 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.

Description of Summative Assessment Arrangements

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, which outlines reassessment opportunities where a student has not passed the course.

Description of Summative Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week
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 1 Week 13

Exchange/Study Abroad

Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?	Yes
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

The course indicative reading and online resource list is accessible via [Resource Lists](#). This list will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect course content and subject developments.