

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Fashion Design Studio 3A Contextualisation



Image: Sam Wood

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
UFAD301A		2026-27

Course Title	Fashion Design Studio 3A Contextualisation
Course Contact	Julia Maclean-Evans

Credits	40
SCQF Level	9
When Taught	Stage 3, 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

This course advances knowledge, skills, and working methods associated with fashion design. Project briefs and a variety of learning activities support students in advancing their subject-specific practical and technical skills, and to test research methods and fashion processes to generate, interpret, and explore their ideas.

The course focuses on expanding knowledge and understanding of fashion contexts and students' ability to position their project work within the fields of contemporary fashion design practice. Project briefs and resources seek to broaden horizons, enable freedom of expression and the identification of individual interests, and test emerging design signatures. Throughout the course students advance their motivation, accountability, and critical reflection in preparation for their Stage four self-directed studies.

The course asks students to advance their previous experiences of sustainable and responsible fashion design practices in how they respond to relevant issues, ideas, processes, and materials. The course also progresses skills relating to digital and analogue fashion design and portfolio presentation.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. broaden horizons through the advance of research interests, methods, and analysis to test individual concepts and creative ideas
2. expand knowledge and understanding of the fashion design process, refining skills and methods for idea generation, exploration, and resolution
3. increase the range and command of advanced critical, practical, and technical skills appropriate for fashion design and individual interests
4. initiate advanced independent study skills, exercising responsible working, and effective relationships with others
5. expand awareness of fashion contexts and positions for project work, identifying opportunities for responsible design

6. use advanced communication skills to present project work in a coherent form, and to effectively converse with others

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. produce informed concepts and creative ideas using advanced approaches to primary, secondary, and contextual research relative to fashion interests
2. evidence advanced fashion design skills through experimentation, iterative processes, and critical reflection in response to project briefs
3. demonstrate advanced technical and practical skills with critical analysis, to generate a variety of ideas and resolve project work
4. responsibly manage resources, reflecting upon and critically evaluating progress and guidance from others to inform learning
5. evidence knowledge of responsible design and fashion contexts to test positions for project work within contemporary design practice
6. demonstrate advanced communication methods and skills to professionally and coherently present project work to others

Indicative Content

This course will introduce students to:

- broad inspiration sources and robust research practices
- advanced technical and practical skills to support design interpretation, development, and execution
- independent study skills and critical reflection to support progress in line with individual interests and characteristics
- professional practices and contexts for fashion design and individual project work
- digital skills for fashion portfolio preparation and presentation
- communication skills for a variety of audiences including external partners

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, 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
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.