

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



Image: Maia Smyth

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
		2026-27

Course Title	Textile Design Studio 4
Course Contact	Dr Helena Britt

Credits	80
SCQF Level	10
When Taught	Stage 4, Semesters 1 and 2

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

Course Introduction

Building on knowledge, understanding, processes and skills acquired in previous stages, this course centres on specialist self-directed study. Students investigate and form themes and concepts towards creative aspirations that contribute to and challenge textile design. The course encourages individuality, creativity, curiosity and critical thinking, with students generating a body of work with a unique design signature.

Students develop ideas through research, drawing, colour and design exploration to advance their specialist textile practice. The course encourages the testing, challenging and advancing of technical skills, techniques, processes, materials and responsible design approaches. Students synthesise their design ideas and technical skills into specialist interpretations and or resolved outcomes, communicating potential applications through advancing visualisations.

The course asks students to position their specialist practice through research into and communication of relevant and socially responsible creative contexts.

Independence, initiative, adaptability, planning, resource use and critical judgment are essential throughout the course. The emphasis on self-directed study further develops organisation, editing and presentation skills to communicate work professionally to different audiences. The course culminates with each student showcasing a body of work demonstrating how they have initiated, developed, and realised their self-directed project at the threshold of life after graduation.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. provide an opportunity to identify and undertake specialist self-directed study investigating creative aspirations, individual themes and concepts that contribute to and challenge textile design
2. develop specialist textile practitioners who use drawing, colour, design and visualisation to investigate research and ideas with individuality, creativity, curiosity and critical thinking

3. encourage exploration and synthesis of technical skills, techniques, processes, and materials considering responsible design approaches to create specialist interpretations and or resolved outcomes
4. build individual and collective transferable skills to inform and direct personal and professional development towards creative career aspirations through self-directed study
5. promote the positioning of individual specialist self-directed textile design practice within relevant and socially responsible creative contexts
6. provide opportunities to develop and apply professional organisation, editing and presentation skills to communicate work to different audiences

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. identify a self-directed project that investigates individual themes and concepts through primary and secondary research that contributes to and challenges textile design
2. investigate research and ideas through drawing, colour, design and visualisation with individuality, creativity, curiosity and critical thinking through self-directed study
3. create specialist interpretations or resolved outcomes by exploring and synthesising technical skills, techniques, processes and materials
4. manage learning and self-directed project work, demonstrating critical reflection working independently and in response to feedback for personal and professional development
5. position self-directed project work and individual specialist textile design practice within relevant and socially responsible creative contexts
6. demonstrate professional organisation, editing and presentation skills to communicate the work produced to different audiences

Indicative Content

This course will support students to:

- reflect on creative aspirations, individual themes and concepts to form, plan and undertake self-directed study
- develop a personal design signature through the development of individual specialist practice
- test and challenge specialist practice with sustainable and responsible approaches
- synthesise design and technical skills into specialist interpretations of resolved outcomes
- communicate potential application of textile design through visualisation
- position specialist self-directed practice within relevant creative contexts
- be independent, adaptable and critically reflective textile designers
- professionally communicate and present work to different 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
80	800

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

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
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	
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	N/A

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 subject developments. Tutors and peers will provide further recommendations appropriate to student's chosen area of research and focus.