



# MA FASHION



## MA Fashion

<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of the Arts London
<b>College</b>	Central Saint Martins
<b>School</b>	M School
<b>Programme</b>	CSM Fashion (L028)
<b>Course AOS Code</b>	CSMMAFSHF01
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	Level 7 Masters
<b>Course Credits</b>	180
<b>Mode</b>	Full Time
<b>Method</b>	Face to Face
<b>Duration of Course</b>	17 months
<b>Teaching Weeks</b>	45 weeks
<b>Valid From</b>	2025/26
<b>Collaboration</b>	N/A
<b>UAL Subject Classification</b>	Fashion Design
<b>PSRB</b>	N/A
<b>Work placement offered</b>	N/A
<b>Course Entry Requirements</b>	<p>The standard entry requirements for this course are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A first or upper second-class honours degree in Fashion Design, Knitwear or Printed Textiles with a strong fashion bias</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An equivalent EU / international qualification.</li> </ul> <p><b>AP(E)L – Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning</b></p> <p>Exceptionally applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Related academic or work experience</li> <li>• The quality of the personal statement</li> <li>• A strong academic or other professional reference</li> </ul> <p><b>Or</b> a combination of these factors.</p> <p>Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.</p> <p><b>English language requirements</b></p> <p>IELTS level 6.5 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking (please check our main <a href="#">English language requirements</a> webpage).</p>
<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<p>We select applicants according to potential and current ability in the following areas as demonstrated in a portfolio of work presenting four design projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creative exploration; Compiling and using project-related research</li> <li>• The ability to develop and articulate design ideas in visual form</li> <li>• Technical skills; 3D sense; Sensitivity to fabrication</li> <li>• Visual communication skills</li> </ul> <p>And by means of a personal statement in the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reason for choosing the course; commitment</li> <li>• Capacity for self-reflection</li> <li>• Potential to benefit from the course</li> </ul>

	<p><b>What we are looking for</b></p> <p>We are seeking both recent fashion graduates and practising professionals who are self-motivated and determined about their discipline and wish to progress or start their careers in the fashion industry by using the Course to explore and articulate new perspectives within their practice.</p>
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## Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

### Year 1

Awards	Credits
Postgraduate Certificate (Exit Only)	60

### Year 2

Awards	Credits
Postgraduate Diploma (Exit Only)	120
Master of Arts	180

### Scheduled Learning Split by Level

Level 7	19%
<b>Total Scheduled Learning Split</b>	<b>19%</b>

## Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	To deliver a curriculum that explicitly addresses social, racial, and climate justice and provides a diverse and inclusive definition of fashion and approaches to practice outside the Eurocentric canon.
Aim	To enable students to reflect critically on their work, creating more humanly inclusive, socially purpose-led, and equitable outcomes, and establishing sustainable livelihoods and common grounds for planetary justice and a shared future.
Aim	To enable students to explore individual specialisms, learn collaboratively and through knowledge exchange projects and industry partnerships, expand professional networks, and recognise models of entrepreneurship, preparing them for professional employment or research degree registration.
Aim	To enable skill-based making practices and material cultures, connecting with the craft of making clothes and nurturing innovation through constructive disruption and accountable decision-making, appreciating resilient, creative solutions, the values of slower, smaller-scale production and humanising technology.
Aim	To enable a culture of digital experimentation and communication while maintaining an elevated status of design, teaching students personal and creative ways to engage with new tools, systems, and necessary knowledge that broaden their professional practice, opportunities and imagination.
Outcome	Students will demonstrate a synthesis of diverse creative research, using analytical and reflective methods to source and gather knowledge(s) informing design context(s) and production processes. (AC Knowledge)
Outcome	Students will demonstrate evidence of ethical awareness of individual and collective responsibilities and aspirations for contemporary fashion, broader diverse socio-cultural systems, and planetary justice and communicate this successfully through project work. (AC Enquiry)
Outcome	Students will evidence the ability to learn independently, set goals, and manage their course work effectively and professionally to produce creative outcomes demonstrating a critical understanding of chosen specialism to an advanced standard. (AC Process)

Outcome	Demonstrate sustainable and regenerative values in practice. Focus on creative physical and digital outcomes. Present and evaluate materials, processes, and techniques and integrate them into sustainable and regenerative design propositions and final outcomes. (AC Realisation)
Outcome	Students will evidence authenticity and the individual ability to experiment, assess and apply (2D and 3D) design, visualisation, and communication skills to exchange complex ideas and showcase projects to specialist and non-specialist audiences in physical and digital formats. (AC Process) (AC Communication)
Outcome	Students will interact effectively with others through collaborative engagement, negotiation and knowledge exchange to develop and maintain a range of creative working relationships and networks which are relevant and beneficial to practice, professional employment or research degree registration. (AC Realisation)

	Distinctive Features
1	<b>Developing students' professional identity:</b> The final independent Major Project enables students to become self-directing and critical practitioners. The course emphasises the development of self-awareness and supports professional identities which transcend disciplinary conventions.
2	<b>Collaborative working toward a better future:</b> Students team up with peers and across disciplines for curriculum-embedded interactions and external project briefs. These are common grounds to develop practice, expand networks and exchange knowledge to create new entrepreneurial models and openness to (re)build shared and better futures.
3	<b>Authenticity and accountability at the core of teaching:</b> The course introduces students to the potential of creative entrepreneurship with an emphasis on the awareness of social divides, climate emergency, and how empathic creative processes can be fundamental to sustainable innovation.
4	<b>Exploration and mobilisation of traditional and emerging technologies in design:</b> The course explores different approaches to physical and digital development and the visual communication of design ideas. Students experiment using traditional production processes and emerging technologies for application in fashion design.
5	<b>World-leading reputation:</b> The course has a well-established international reputation, extensive links, and alums practising at the forefront of the global fashion industry and academia. We promote students' learning through dialogue and collaboration, preparing them for professional practice or research degree registration.



## Course Detail

MA Fashion at Central Saint Martins has an established reputation for preparing students with the experience and confidence needed to practice professionally at the forefront of fashion. While holding a consistent track record for its entrepreneurial culture as one of the foremost incubators of emerging design talent worldwide, the MA Fashion also leads to continuing study for research degrees and those pursuing careers in academia.

- **We are committed to supporting pluriversal approaches to teaching and learning** where students from diverse, social, and cultural identities are brought together as one community of multiple voices.
- **Our students share and gain knowledge within a project-based environment** that focuses on transformative experience and expanding learning, aims, and development within Fashion Design practice as the core subject of study.
- **We see authenticity and accountability at the core of our student engagement.** The programme of study will actively encourage you to be responsible and resourceful with the processes and materials you choose for your project work and to support UAL's climate emergency work through upcycling whenever appropriate and to consider minimising costs wherever possible.
- **As our student, the dialogue you will enter with your peers, tutors, and practitioners will define your understanding of learning** and un-learning and support you to reflect on, strengthen, and trust your values, perspectives, and identity in practice.
- **Commitment to enquiry and exploring themes, fields, and collaborations that nourish your development is encouraged.** You will demonstrate research activity sustaining exploration and development and dig deeper into fields of interest, specifically your proposed specialist area. Your awareness of societal changes, the physical and digital contexts in which your work can exist, and how you produce garments, and source and generate materials, will spur opportunities for originality and innovation.
- **You will team up with peers independently or for curriculum-embedded interactions and live briefs with other disciplines in the College and external partners.** These provide common grounds to create and exchange knowledge to (re) imagine shared and better futures.

In the Central Saint Martins Fashion Programme, we work to be at the heart of debate about the future of fashion. Teaching is our core purpose and our research and, industry and external relationships enrich our approach. We are committed to reflecting and influencing the sustainable transformation of the industry. Social,

racial and climate justice are our core values and we believe in a fairer world for all. Our outlook is international, inclusive and diverse, reflecting the global nature of our community. We believe we must constantly challenge ourselves to shape ethical opportunities in fashion. We believe in the power of cooperation, collaboration and partnerships through both analogue and digital experiences.

## **Course Units**

The MA Fashion course provides learning and teaching structured around the specialist subject of fashion.

Throughout four course units, you will be expected to question your approach and commitment to personal work and conduct intensive and in-depth research and enquiry.

Project-based teaching is delivered through a combination of individual tutorials, workshops, seminars, group critiques and peer reviews. These will help you refine self-critical judgement and thinking, from exploration and contextualisation, through experimentation and development to finally communicating your ideas and outcomes.

Emphasis is placed on creativity, identity, and professional development, supporting authentic, sustainable solutions and accountability in design practice. Digital learning will also enable you to experiment with using emerging technologies for application in design development and communication, and wholly digital outcomes will be possible alternatives for project and unit assessments.

### **Unit 1: Knowledge and Skills**

This initial unit consists in learning through dialogue in practice. Projects are designed to make you reflect on your knowledge, skills, and abilities. Discussions question your assumptions with the aim of broadening your perspective on fashion as the core subject of study.

Individual and group tutorials and critiques will allow you to discuss your approach to research, development processes, making and communication of responsible design. Workshops and seminars will facilitate learning and discuss design and identity, accountability, and planetary justice. These sessions encourage discussion of shared ground and differing concerns and help you think through and formulate your ideas.

### **Unit 2: The Collaborative Unit**

Unit 2 provides opportunities for inter- and cross- disciplinary research and practice co-operation with other postgraduate courses at Central Saint Martins.

You will undertake this collaborative unit during the Spring term. This collaboration is designed to offer a robust framework for developing practice across the College in relation to the University's social purpose 'to change society through our knowledge and creativity'.

### **Unit 3: Independent Projects [Pre-collection; Independent Major Project, Part 1 – Rationale, Research, and Initial Design Development Portfolio]**

Unit 3 focuses on a combination of independent and industry-led project briefs.

Individual tutorials and group critiques will allow you to discuss your approach to research, development processes, making and communication.

In this unit, learning involves investigative methods, risk-taking and critical self-assessment. Pre-collection will allow you to investigate ideas and test solutions in practice. Some will inform the writing of your Rationale (research proposal/reasons and aims) for your Independent Major Project, Part 1 – Portfolio, which will include a substantial body of preliminary research and initial design development.

Wholly digital outcomes for projects and unit assessment are possible.

### **Unit 4: Independent Major Project - Part 2 – Realisation**

The rationale, research and design development produced in Unit 3 will form the basis of this final course unit, which will allow you to focus on the making and realisation of your Major Project. Throughout the unit, you will be supported to plan, develop and complete your self-led development work, receive individual supervision and in-progress feedback during timetabled garment fitting sessions to advance your professional and academic skills to a level that prepares you for post-graduation practices.

Two substantial outcomes will be required to achieve your MA. These usually include a comprehensive design portfolio and a garment collection demonstrating your specialist knowledge. Wholly digital outcomes for projects and unit assessment are possible.

**Important note concerning academic progression through your course:** If you are required to retake a unit you will need to cease further study on the course until you have passed the unit concerned. Once you have successfully passed this unit, you will be able to proceed onto the next unit. Retaking a unit might require you to take time out of study, which could affect other things such as student loans or the visa status for international students.

**CSM Academic Support** is delivered by a team of academics and practitioners working alongside your course to help you progress and achieve your maximum potential as a student. Academic Support can help you to develop your skills in

different areas, including critical thinking, research and writing, time management, presentations and working independently and collaboratively. These may be offered as part of your timetabled classes or as bookable tutorials and workshops.

### **Mode of study**

MA Fashion is offered in full-time mode which runs for 45 weeks over 17 months. You will be expected to commit 40 hours per week to study, which includes teaching time and independent study.

### **Credit and award requirements**

The course is credit-rated at 180 credits. On successfully completing the course, you will gain a Master of Arts (MA degree).

Under the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, an MA is Level 7. All units must be passed in order to achieve the MA but the classification of the award is derived from the mark for the final unit only.

If you are unable to continue on the course, a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert) will normally be offered following the successful completion of 60 credits, or a Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip) following the successful completion of 120 credits.

### **Learning and Teaching Methods**

The learning and teaching methods devised for this course include:

- Briefings and briefing documents
- Learning through in-depth research / enquiry
- Individual and group critiques
- Peer learning
- Presentations
- Collaborative and interdisciplinary activities
- Demonstrations
- Talks by professional speakers
- Independent study
- Self-evaluation

## Assessment Methods

- Project rationales
- Research and enquiry
- Development work and processes (physical and/or digital)
- Realisation (physical and/or digital)
- Visual communication (physical and/or digital)
- Presentations (physical and/or digital)

Final Outcomes by means of:

- Diagnostic projects
- Negotiated projects
- Independent projects
- Portfolio communication

## Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- UAL Teaching and Learning Strategy
- UAL 2022 – 2032 Strategy
- QAA 2019 Subject Benchmark Statement: Art and Design
- Office for Students: The regulatory framework for higher education in England
- Consultation with relevant industries
- Consultation with current students and course alumni
- UAL Framework for Embedding the Principles for Climate, Racial and Social Justice

## Course Diagram

**MA Fashion** – PLEASE NOTE DUE TO VACATION DATES, SPECIFIC DELIVERY WEEKS MAY CHANGE.

S=summative assessment

LEVEL 7 – 17 months

LEVEL 7 - Year 1																											
Autumn-Winter 2025						Spring 2026										Summer 2026											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
Unit 1: Knowledge and Skills  (40 credits)							S	Unit 2: The Collaborative Unit  (20 credits)					S		Unit 3: Pre-Collection, Independent Major Project, Part 1: Rationale, Research, Initial Design Development  (60 credits)												
LEVEL 7 - Year 2																											
Autumn-Winter 2026												Spring 2027															
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45								
Unit 3 cont.				S	Unit 4: Independent Major Project, Part 2: 3D Realisation (collection) and Portfolio  (60 credits)																			S			

Week 01 – 08 Unit1 Hand-in week 08 (Knowledge and Skills)  
Week 09 – 13 Unit2 Hand-in week 13 (Collaborative Project)  
Week 16 – 30 Unit3 Hand-in week 30 (Major Project, Part 1)  
Week 31 – 45 Unit4 Hand-in week 45 (Major Project, Part 2)

*The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable*