



# **BA (HONS) TEXTILE DESIGN**

## BA (Hons) Textile Design

<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of the Arts London
<b>College</b>	Central Saint Martins
<b>School</b>	M School
<b>Programme</b>	CSM Jewellery, Textiles and Materials (L029)
<b>Course AOS Code</b>	CSMBATEXF01
<b>FHEQ Level</b>	Level 6 Degree
<b>Course Credits</b>	360
<b>Mode</b>	Full Time
<b>Method</b>	Face to Face
<b>Duration of Course</b>	3 years
<b>Valid From</b>	2025/26
<b>Collaboration</b>	N/A
<b>UAL Subject Classification</b>	Textiles and Materials
<b>PSRB</b>	N/A
<b>Work placement offered</b>	Yes
<b>Course Entry Requirements</b>	<p>The standard entry requirements for this course are as follows:</p> <p>120 UCAS tariff points which can be made up of one or a combination of the following accepted full Level 3 qualifications:</p>

- Three A Levels at grades ABC (at least one subject must include Art, Art and Design or Design and Technology)
- Pass at Foundation Diploma in Art and Design (Level 3 or 4) and one A Level at grade C or above
- Distinction, Merit, Merit at BTEC Extended Diploma (preferred subjects include Art, Art and Design or Design and Technology)
- Merit at UAL Extended Diploma
- Access to Higher Education Diploma equivalent to 120 UCAS tariff points (preferred subjects include Art, Art and Design or Design and Technology)
- Equivalent EU/international qualifications, such as International Baccalaureate Diploma (26 points)

**And** three GCSE passes at grade 4 or above (grade A\*–C).

Entry to this course will also be determined by assessment of your portfolio. A very high proportion of successful applicants complete a Foundation Diploma in Art and Design.

### **APEL - Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning**

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:

- Related academic or work experience
- The quality of the personal statement
- A strong academic or other professional reference

**Or** a combination of these factors.

Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.

### **English language requirements**

IELTS score of 6.0 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking (please check our main [English language requirements](#) webpage).

<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<p><b>What we are looking for</b></p> <p>We seek creative and ambitious individuals who demonstrate initiative and commitment, expanding their disciplines with curiosity in design thinking and processes, ultimately showcasing innovation in their outcomes. Applicants are selected according to their demonstration of potential and current ability in the following areas:</p> <p><b>Work Creatively</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with 2D and 3D experimentation</li> <li>• Take informed risks, whether working independently or collaboratively</li> <li>• Demonstrate broad interests in art and design</li> </ul> <p><b>Intellectual Inquiry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop your own ideas and address both set briefs, and personal projects</li> <li>• Evidence of critical reflection and evaluation of your achievements</li> <li>• Identify and reflect upon social and cultural influences in your work</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate a range of approaches to design development through image-making, material investigation, primary and secondary research, and colour exploration</li> <li>• Evidence of handling materials with sensitivity to their qualities</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulate and communicate your work in individual and group situations</li> <li>• Demonstrate an awareness of planning and time management skills</li> <li>• Present your work appropriately and effectively</li> </ul>
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## Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

### Year 1

Awards	Credits
Certificate of Higher Education (Exit Only)	120

### Year 2

Awards	Credits
Diploma of Higher Education (Exit Only)	240

### Year 3

Awards	Credits
Bachelor of Arts	360

Scheduled Learning Split by Level	
Level 4	26%
Level 5	19%
Level 6	23%
<b>Total Scheduled Learning Split</b>	<b>21%</b>

## Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	Engage with the textile design pathways of print, knit and weave utilising both traditional and innovative media, processes and technology to develop a personal textile practice underpinned with broad design skills;
Aim	Develop your creative identity, and intellectual, technical and professional skills in your chosen textile specialism;
Aim	To understand the historical, social, cultural, economic and environmental factors which influence and provide a context for the practice of textile design;
Aim	Develop the ability and skills to create or respond to professional opportunities or to undertake further study or research.
Aim	Develop an independent approach to your work, self-managing the development and realisation of your projects.
Outcome	Demonstrate a personal approach in deploying a range of creative, problem solving and practical skills in generating and realising ambitious ideas for textiles;
Outcome	Critically evaluate the historical and contemporary role and practice of textile design in its professional, cultural and environmental context and how to align your own practice;
Outcome	Critically analyse new concepts, utilising research from a range of sources that challenge your design, social, cultural and environmental perspectives;
Outcome	Work both independently and collaboratively in the professional management and resolution of your projects;
Outcome	Present and communicate work professionally using a range of skills appropriate to your chosen specialism and context.

<b>Distinctive Features</b>	
1	<b>Three specialist areas:</b> BA (Honours) Textile Design explores the three main textile design practices of Knit, Print and Weave. In allowing time to explore various approaches before specialising, the course aims to foster designers that graduate as flexible specialists, with interdisciplinary skills. Students decide on their final specialism during their second year of studies.
2	<b>Technical Development:</b> The extensive facilities on offer support technical development, within an experimental framework. The course honours craft and hand processes, whilst also encouraging an expansive outlook towards textile innovation. Developments in sustainable approaches to textile design are also encouraged to realise the potential of the area.
3	<b>Personal Design Perspectives:</b> The course aims to maximise your creative and intellectual potential, informed by historical, cultural, technical and ethical design knowledge, and by the practical experience of making. An understanding of the breadth of the subject area, encourages students to push the boundaries of what textiles can be.
4	<b>Professional context:</b> Textiles graduates are equipped to pursue a wide range of careers within the global textiles and design industries, and postgraduate study. Our graduates work across the fields of fashion, interiors, spatial, Colour Materials Finish (CMF) costume and product design. Many go on to careers in research or trend forecasting. Exposure to professional contexts is embedded in all elements of the course curriculum, and enhanced by live client projects and the professional experiences of staff and guest speakers.
5	<b>Optional Diploma in Professional Studies:</b> Students have the opportunity to undertake a Diploma in Professional Studies during the course. Enabling industry placements to gain real world experience, help define career directions and develop professional skills and networks.
6	<b>Inclusive Environment:</b> The course ethos embraces inclusion, fostering an environment where each student can discover their voice, establish connections, gain confidence, and make a positive contribution to the textiles community.

## Course Detail

Textiles are all around us and an integral part of our lives. Beyond their practical use in how we dress ourselves and our spaces, textiles are a powerful form of communication, with the ability to encapsulate community, identity, heritage, protest, labour as well as creative outlet and innovation. The breadth of textile application is expansive, and the future of textiles has never been so exciting.

The first year of the course introduces students to Knit, Print and Weave, dye and digital processes. Alongside development of skills in these pathways students will undertake projects focusing on Research, Drawing, Colour, Composition and 2D and 3D experimentation. Students will also enhance their understanding of sustainable materials and practices, informing the evolution of their projects.

Second year encourages students to develop a personal design identity. Through risk taking and experimentation students will push their specialist skills in their chosen pathways. A focus on contemporary industry applications allows students to explore a variety of potential contexts for their work. An emphasis on professional practice and skills, prepares students for their final year and potential placement opportunities. Students are challenged to engage with ethical principles, putting sustainability into practice.

The third year of the course encourages student's personal design direction; with an emphasis on supporting students to push boundaries, expand research narratives, amplify personal expression and refine specialist skills. Design professionalism, communication and presentation are key considerations and aim to prepare for graduate life.

### What to expect

**A wide range of professional contexts:** Through project work, technical workshops and the specialised research areas of the staff team, you will be introduced to a range of different textile design contexts and the skills they demand.

**Individuality:** As a course we advocate for individualised approaches to textiles, pushing the boundaries of what they can encompass. We actively welcome alternative directions and encourage cross-disciplinary thinking.

**Underpinned by broad based design skills:** The course educates students to be 'Flexible Specialists' with knowledge across the textile pathways of Knit, Print and Weave, before they are required to choose one area in which to finally specialise. Students will be introduced to both traditional and innovative textile processes, exploring a variety of textile applications and interdisciplinary skills.



**Preparation for industry:** By the end of the course, students will understand their place within the wider context of the art and design industries, both ambitious in their future personal direction and able to collaborate with other practitioners.

**Industry experience and opportunities:** You will benefit from opportunities to engage with industry projects during your studies, learning to work to client briefs and their requirements.

Studies are supported by careers and employability enhancement, as well as the expertise and insight of visiting practitioners.

External facing exhibitions and showcases, allow engagement with the public and industry visitors. Field trips and studio visits provide insight into professional practice and networking opportunities.

The Diploma in Professional Studies creates an integrated optional opportunity to engage in a year spent in industry placements.

## **Course Units**

### **Year 1**

**Unit 1: Textiles: Introduction to Study in Higher Education**

**Unit 2: Introduction to Textile Design Skills**

**Unit 3: Developing Research and Textile Design Skills**

**Unit 4: Creative Unions**

Year 1 introduces you to the three principal areas of Print, Knit and Weave, alongside visual research and colour skills. You will build design development skills alongside experimental ways of working and thinking. You will study two of the pathways in more depth, learning further specialist processes and forming the beginning of your own design direction.

### **Year 2**

**Unit 5: Research Methods and Approaches (Textiles)**

**Unit 6: Experimentation and Specialisation in Textile Design**

**Unit 7: Innovation and Contextualisation in Textile Design**

**Unit 8: Design, Context and Professional Development**

During Year 2 you will develop your skills in research, practical making and critical thinking; focussing your specialist interests. From January you specialise in Print, Knit or Weave. Projects place a strong emphasis on personal expression, risk-taking and professional context. During this year you will develop your professional and employability skills.

## **Year 3**

### **Unit 9: Personal Research Narratives and Design in Textiles**

### **Unit 10: Dissertation**

### **Unit 11: Final Major Project**

Year 3 allows you to push and refine your skills. You will focus your personal design direction, developing innovative and resolved outcomes for a clear design context. From January, you will concentrate on your degree collection. For the dissertation, you are free to choose an area of study within art, design, media or popular culture.

## **Cultural Studies**

Cultural Studies is an important part of the course. This offers a range of ideas, skills and learning resources to analyse objects, images, spaces and practices in art, design, popular and media culture. Here you also work with students from other courses.

Cultural Studies features in all stages of the course. You will explore key research methods and approaches. These include topics such as visual culture, material culture, social identity, modernity and postmodernity, consumption and taste, design activism, ethics and sustainability, race and the postcolonial, gender and sexuality.

Cultural Studies enhances communication skills and provides a deeper understanding of the social and political contexts for creative work in design. The research and communication skills you will acquire in this part of the course are key skills expected of graduates.

## **Optional Diploma Year**

### **Industry Diploma in Professional Studies (DIPS)**

This optional diploma can be taken between years 2 and 3. With support from your tutors, you will undertake an industry placement for a minimum of 100 days/20 weeks. As well as developing industry skills, you will gain an additional qualification upon successful completion.

### **CCI Creative Computing**

Between years 2 and 3, you can undertake the year-long Diploma in Creative Computing. This will develop your skills in creative computing alongside your degree. After successfully completing the diploma and your undergraduate degree, you will graduate with an enhanced degree: BA (Hons) Textile Design (with Creative Computing).

### **CCI Apple Diploma**

Between years 2 and 3, you can undertake the year-long Diploma in Apple Development. This will give you an opportunity to become an accredited apple developer alongside your degree. After successfully completing the diploma and your undergraduate degree, you will graduate with an enhanced degree: BA (Hons) Textile Design (with Apple Development).

### **Mode of study**

BA Textile Design runs for 90 weeks in full-time mode. It is divided into 3 stages over 3 academic years. Each stage lasts 30 weeks.

You will be expected to commit 40 hours per week to study.

**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.

### **Credit and award requirements**

The course is credit-rated at 360 credits, with 120 credits at each stage (level).

On successfully completing the course, you will gain a Bachelor of Arts with Honours (BA Hons degree).

Under the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications the stages for a BA are: Stage 1 (Level 4), Stage 2 (Level 5) and Stage 3 (Level 6). In order to progress to the next stage, all units of the preceding stage must normally be passed: 120 credits must be achieved in each stage. The classification of the award will be derived from the marks of units in Stages 2 and 3 or only Stage 3, using a dual algorithm.

If you are unable to continue on the course, a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) will normally be offered following the successful completion of Level 4 (or 120 credits), or a Diploma in Higher Education (DipHE) following the successful completion of Level 5 (or 240 credits).

## **Learning and Teaching Methods**

The learning and teaching methods devised for this course include:

- Workshop and studio tuition
- Project work
- Interdisciplinary group and teamwork
- Briefing documents and briefing meetings
- Seminars, lectures or studio talks
- Presentations, group or peer critiques
- Studio demonstrations
- Potential field study visits
- Peer learning and feedback
- Independent study
- Self-evaluation, individual and group tutorials.

## **Assessment Methods**

- Project outcomes
- Oral and visual presentations
- Portfolio reviews
- Essays, written assignments, reports, dissertation
- Self-evaluation

## **Reference Points**

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London
- College policies and initiatives
- The QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- The Art and Design Benchmark Statement
- UAL Framework for Embedding the Principles for Climate, Racial and Social Justice

## Course Diagram

**BA (Hons) Textile Design** – PLEASE NOTE DUE TO VACATION DATES, SPECIFIC DELIVERY WEEKS MAY CHANGE.

S=summative assessment

BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2																	
LEVEL 4 – Stage 1																																
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	26	27	28	29	30			
Unit 1: Textiles: Introduction to Study in Higher Education (20 credits)										S					Unit 3: Developing Research and Textile Design Skills (40 credits)							S		S	Unit 4: Creative Unions (20 credits)				S			
Unit 2: Introduction to Textile Design Skills (40 credits)										S					S																	
LEVEL 5 – Stage 2																																
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	26	27	28	29	30			
Unit 5			S	Unit 5: Research Methods and Approaches (Textiles) (20 credits)						S					Unit 7: Innovation and Contextualisation in Textile Design (40 credits)														S			
Unit 6: Experimentation and Specialisation in Textile Design (40 credits)														S	Unit 8: Design, Context and Professional Development (20 credits)															S		
OPTIONAL DIPLOMA YEAR – LEVEL 5																																

LEVEL 6 – Stage 3																														
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	26	27	28	29	30	
Unit 9: Personal Research Narratives and Design in Textiles (40 credits)															S															
	Unit 10: Dissertation (20 credits)											S		Unit 11: Final Major Project (60 credits)													S			
LEVEL 6 – Stage 3 (Extended Dissertation option)																														
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	26	27	28	29	30	
Unit 9a: Personal Research Narratives and Design in Textiles (20 credits)															S															
Unit 10a: Dissertation: Extended (40 credits)																				S										
															Unit 11: Final Major Project (60 credits)													S		

*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*