

Careers in Fashion & Textiles

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(teaching & learning resources for D&T teachers)

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Teachers can adapt this resource to suit their needs e.g. handouts, wall displays, information for students & parents. The resource, & any resources adapted from it, must not be shared with anyone outside of the organisation that purchased it.

This is a PDF version of the resource. If you want the original Word document so that you can adapt it you can purchase it via the website. The resource to buy also includes jpegs of all of the images used in the resource. Visit the 'shop' page on the website or visit <http://goo.gl/LQA4xA>.

All information and links are correct as of September 2017.

Information in this resource is provided as a guide only and is not a recommendation for any particular course or career path.

About This Resource

This is an information resource on careers in the fashion & textiles industry. It includes information on:

- 20 reasons why you should consider a career in the fashion & textiles industry
- What is the modern fashion & textiles industry like?
(Information on the modern textiles industry including evidence that it is a growth industry)
- How many different roles are there in the fashion & textiles industry?
(Information on the different sectors in the industry & different career roles)
- Where can you find more information about different jobs & careers in the fashion & textiles industry?
(Places to get advice & things to think about when considering a career in fashion & textiles)
- What degree courses are available in fashion & textiles?
(Some examples of different degree courses)
- How do you find the right degree course?
(Things to think about when choosing and applying for a degree)
- What does a fashion & textiles department look like at university?
(Case studies of several universities that run degree courses in fashion & textiles)
- What other routes are there into the fashion & textiles industry?
(Other qualifications and routes in to fashion & textiles, including apprenticeships)
- Just for teachers
(Ideas for teachers on how to raise the profile of careers)

Who is the resource for?

The resource aims to support students & teachers when thinking about careers in the textiles industry. It could be used with any year group but is particularly designed for Post 16 students.

How to use the resource

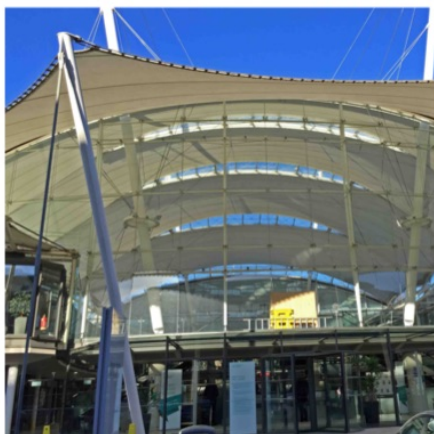
- The resource could be given to students in its current format, although it has been designed to be split into several smaller handouts, for example, for use as worksheets, for use in displays or for open evenings. To split the document save the original PDF so that you have a master copy and then create a copy from which you can delete pages as necessary to create a new handout. Don't forget to always keep a master copy of the original document.
- Use the information in the resource as a starting point to help you create your own resource e.g. student / parent leaflets, lesson handouts, displays.
- If you want to adapt the document significantly you can buy the original Word document via the website www.julieboyd.co.uk. The resource to buy also includes jpeg images of all of the photos used in the resource. Visit the 'shop' page on the website or visit <http://goo.gl/LQA4xA>.
- Some teacher courses will include a free Word copy of the document that is normally sold along with all of the original jpegs images. Email julie@julieboyd.co.uk if you would like to know which courses this applies to.
- Teachers can adapt this resource to suit their needs e.g. handouts, wall displays, information for students & parents. The resource, & any resources adapted from it, must not be shared with anyone outside of the organisation that purchased it.

20 Reasons Why You Should Consider a Career in the Fashion & Textiles Industry

1. It's a major UK industry with more than 79,000 businesses employing over 340,000 people.
2. The gross value added for the fashion and textiles sector in the UK is estimated at over £11.5 billion, which makes up 3% of the UK economy (<http://goo.gl/vJrOY1>).
3. The UK is the 15th largest textiles manufacturer in the world (<http://goo.gl/96hRZm>).
4. There is a predicted growth of 15,000 – 20,000 jobs in UK by 2020 (<http://goo.gl/96hRZm>).
5. There is a high demand for particular roles within the industry such as pattern cutters and technologists.
6. There is a growth in niche markets around technical textiles, with lots of companies diversifying into this area. Estimates suggest this area contributes £1.5 - £2bn a year to the UK economy.
7. Our designers are considered some of the best in the world.
8. It's a major global industry with career opportunities across the world and skills that transfer from country to country.
9. We wear textiles or touch them most of the time, often without thinking about it. We couldn't live without textiles, whether it be for fashion and protection, in our homes, offices and the workplace, or in hidden areas such as buildings and for medical applications.
10. It's a broad and varied industry with a wide range of sectors, from the traditional areas of fashion and interiors, to technical textiles such as medical textiles, geo textiles, performance textiles and engineering.
11. There's a huge range of career roles available from designers, to technologists, quality controllers and engineers.
12. There are a wide range of related careers including journalism and retail.
13. Textiles materials are replacing traditional harder materials in some contexts with textiles having some of the strongest materials in the world e.g. Kevlar which is eight times stronger than steel of the same weight.
14. Textiles materials are at the cutting edge of major developments across the world e.g. wearables and e-textiles.
15. Studying fashion and textiles gives you transferable skills such as project management and decision making.
16. Many careers in textiles offer the opportunity to be creative and hands on and some careers offer learning in other areas including science, IT and art.
17. Many textiles careers offer wider opportunities e.g. travelling and learning about business.
18. Textiles materials make a difference to the lives of others whether it be through medical textiles, such as knitted replacement heart valves, or through fashion that helps people express their individuality.
19. Studying textiles creates informed consumers who are more able to make better decisions when buying and using products.
20. Studying textiles gives you a life skill and for many people it is also a hobby that helps to improve well being.

What is the modern fashion and textiles industry like?

Did you know that the number of jobs is expected to increase by 15,000 – 20,000 by 2020?



Fashion and Textiles: A Growth Industry

What is the textiles industry?

The textiles industry is one of the oldest in the world. Indeed textiles are as old as people themselves as we have always sought textiles to meet our basic human need for clothing and protection.

The word textiles is from the Latin word 'texere', which means 'to weave', but nowadays the word refers to a wide range of flexible materials made up of fibres, yarns and fabrics. It also refers to a range of products, from clothing through to textiles used in high tech performance situations such as road building, building construction and the production of composite materials for car bodies.

The historical importance of the textiles industry means that it has been highly valued, including within the world of business. Indeed weaving was the first industry to be fully mechanised and it was the catalyst to the Industrial Revolution.

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| 79,000 textiles business in the UK | The gross value in the UK for the industry is over £11.5 million |
| The industry employs over 340,000 people | |
| The industry makes up 3% of the UK economy | The UK is the 15th largest textiles manufacturer in the world |

The UK has more than 79,000 textiles businesses employing over 340,000 people. The gross value added for the sector in the UK is estimated at over £11.5 billion which makes up 3% of the UK economy (<http://goo.gl/vJrOY1>). The UK is also the 15th largest textiles manufacturer in the world (<http://goo.gl/96hRZm>). The breadth of these industries is very wide from the traditional areas of fashion and interiors to technical textiles such as medical textiles, geo textiles and performance textiles.

Combating stereotypes about the textiles industry

Textiles can often be pigeon holed as being about 'fashion', 'clothing', and 'sewing' with the aspirational career often being that of a designer. Whilst these are an important part of textiles they do not fully represent the industry and there are a wide range of textiles areas other than fashion, along with a varied range of careers beyond the traditional role of a designer.

Another perception about the industry is that it is dying but this couldn't be further from the truth. Like any other industry, it is changing and evolving, often at a very fast pace, but this doesn't mean it is dying. It is still one of the biggest employers across the world with UK designers being highly sought after internationally. New developments in textiles materials and technologies are happening all the time and technical textiles in particular are a major growth area with the UK industry being a world leader.

The industry has found it hard to shake off the 'sweatshop' label. Whilst poor working conditions and low pay do still exist, it is wrong to think this is the only industry where these practices exist. It is also inaccurate to assume that this applies to all textiles manufacturers, as many factories are modern, high tech with good working practices.



A major perception about the industry is that it is only of interest to females but careers in textiles are just as relevant to males who play a key role in most areas of the industry. In particular the increasingly scientific and technical elements of the modern textiles industry are often of interest to males considering a career in the industry.

The Alliance Report 2015

The Alliance Report by New Economy is the most recent report into the textiles industry. It's important as it shows the industry is growing and that it plays an important role in our economy. It also shows how many jobs there are in the industry and the need for skilled people.

Download the full Alliance Report at <http://goo.gl/96hRZm>.



The main findings of the Alliance Report

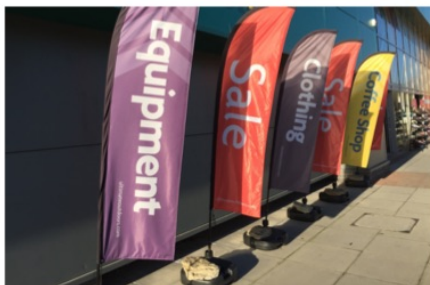
- The industry is worth £11bn annually and is 15th largest in the world.
- 15,000 jobs in UK textile manufacturing could be created by 2020.
- Significant capability still exists in traditional sectors e.g. spinning, knitting, weaving, making up, as well as the growth of new areas in technical textiles, composites.
- Key clusters of production: Greater Manchester, Lancashire, West Yorkshire, East Midlands, and Scotland.
- Rationale for sourcing from abroad has weakened because: consumers want shorter lead times, growth in demand for UK homemade products, recognition that some cost benefits of off shore production can be offset by other cost reductions from closer manufacturing, increasing energy & labour costs in other countries.
- River Island, ASOS and John Lewis are 3 major brands that are investing more in on shore production & others are following.
- There is a growth in niche markets around technical textiles, with lots of companies diversifying into this area. Estimates suggest this area contributes £1.5-£2bn a year to the UK economy.
- The traditional 2 season cycle is less dominant as a business model with demand for on trend merchandise being driven by consumers with a 'buy now/wear now' mentality. Consumers are also increasing spending at high and low price points with reduction in mid tier spending. To remain competitive retailers therefore have to support in season trends and be able to respond quickly.
- Online retailers often add new products each week which makes short lead times the key to success. It is easier to meet this type of demand using on shore manufacturing.
- Increase in manufacturing technology and automation bringing cost benefits, which for some products could make manufacturing on shore more viable.
- The market has moved towards having just the right stock to meet consumer demands as and when it changes which reduces the costs of over stocking. Manufacturing things globally makes this harder to do and the rising costs of transport also add to the overall costs.
- UK manufacturing is proving more popular where short lead times are important, where manufacturers have significant input into designs, where tight controls on quality control are needed, and where provenance for a product is key (i.e. the 'Made in the UK' branding).

The main issues raised by The Alliance Report

- An ageing workforce which is resulting in skills shortages.
- Large number of smaller businesses which means there are less 'prime' manufacturers who can afford to invest in research, innovation and upskilling.
- High land and energy costs in the UK impacts on manufacturing here as energy costs, in particular, are higher than most countries the UK competes against.
- There is concern that there is an inaccurate negative perception of the industry especially by young people. In particular the 'sweat shop' image is dominant when this is not generally accurate in modern manufacturing.
- There's a lack of understanding of the breadth of careers in the UK textiles industry.
- The report considers a rebranding of the industry and its opportunities to be essential.

How many different roles are there in the fashion and textiles industry?

Which one might be right for you?



Careers in the Fashion and Textiles Industry

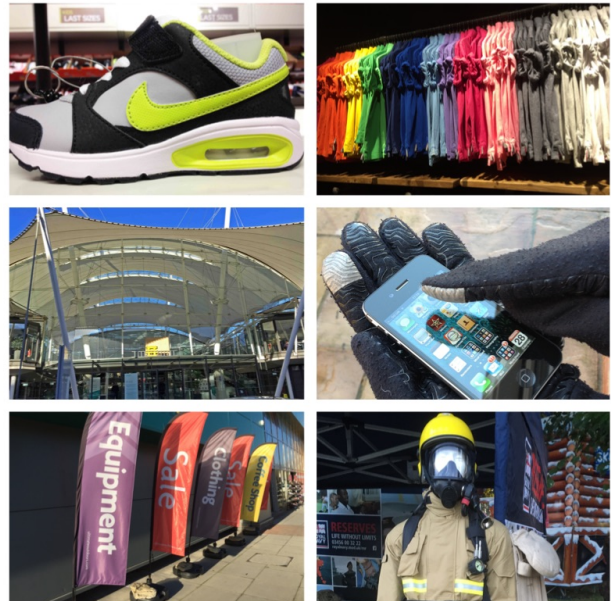
There are a huge number of potential careers in the fashion and textiles industry and below are some of the key roles available to someone who is interested in this area. Note that the list is not a conclusive one and is a guideline only.

Sectors

The textiles industry can be divided up into 'sectors'. Each sector focuses on a different part of the industry. Each sector will have some specialist jobs relevant to that sector but most sectors also have a lot of roles that are similar across all sectors e.g. most sectors require designers, technologists, machine operatives, retailers etc. This means that someone interested in being a designer has the choice of designing across a number of sectors e.g. being a sportswear designer or designing specialist new materials for the construction industry.

Examples of different textiles sectors are:

- Sales & retail
- Manufacturing
- Sports & leisure
- Medical
- Transport
- Construction
- Fashion & apparel
- Craft
- Footwear
- Theatre & t.v.
- Education
- Armed Forces
- Interiors
- Toys
- Tailoring & bespoke textiles
- Carpets & flooring
- Technical textiles

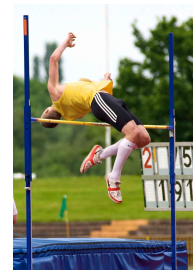


Different roles within each sector

Each sector can also be broken down into smaller sectors, and once again these sectors will require a variety of different job roles e.g. designers, technologists and manufacturers. These areas can be broken down even further, for example, a sportswear designer might be designing sports clothing, sports equipment or sports footwear. The following are examples of possible careers within each sector:

Design based careers

- Fashion garments (e.g. men, women, children, bags)
- Uniforms (e.g. workwear, armed forces)
- Protective equipment (e.g. bullet proof vests)
- Costume (e.g. theatre, t.v.)
- Sports wear & equipment (e.g. sports gear, rackets, protective equipment)
- Footwear (e.g. shoes, trainers)
- Technical Textiles (e.g. construction industry, medical textiles, geotextiles)
- Interior Design (e.g. home, office, retail)
- Carpets & flooring (e.g. home, office, retail)



Technologists

- Fibre Technologist
- Fabric Technologist
- Garment Technologist
- Dye Technologist
- Materials Testing Technologist
- Product Development Technologist



Manufacturing

- Machinist
- Sample maker
- Pattern maker
- Fabric cutter
- Finishing & Pressing
- Researcher
- Printer
- Dyer
- Weaver
- Knitter
- Production supervisor
- Production planner



Testing

- Quality Controller
- Materials testing
- Product testing



Trends & Fashion

- Colourist
- Stylist
- Trend forecaster
- Visual merchandiser

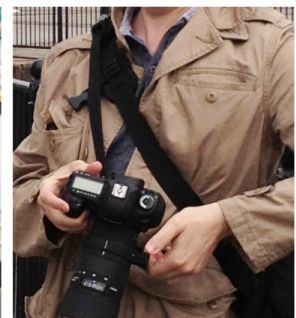


Retail & 'behind the scenes' retail roles

- Buyer
- Merchandiser
- Advertising & marketing
- Sales assistant
- Retail manager

Other related careers

- Journalist
- Photographer
- Trainer / Teacher / Lecturer
- Process engineer
- Technician
- Research scientist
- Systems analyst
- Computer programmer
- Machine engineer/technician
- Technician
- Dry cleaning
- Exhibition organiser
- Curator



Don't forget all of the non textiles specialist jobs that are required in a textiles environment:

- Accounts & finance
- Admin & office management
- Maintenance
- Health & safety
- Transport & delivery
- Packaging
- Website design & maintenance
- Customer service
- Social media
- Security



Think Beyond the Stereotype Roles and Careers


When people think about the textiles industry they often think of being a designer as they see it as a high profile and exciting role, possibly with some travel, as well as the opportunity to be creative. There are, however, lots of other roles that offer the similar opportunities and it is important to be informed when thinking about career decisions and to have done some research. This research should include looking at a wide range of roles in the industry and challenging some of the stereotyped perceptions about how the industry works.

Some of the more popular career routes might actually be ones to avoid, simply because their popularity might make finding jobs in this area more competitive. It is also important to be aware of what skills and knowledge the industry currently requires, and what it might require in the future, as this will help 'future proof' a career route. It is particularly important not to opt for something just because you enjoy it as, whilst this should be an important factor when choosing a career, it can narrow down options and lead to a closed mind to things that are less familiar but which might offer just as much, if not more, enjoyment.

The modern textiles industry is very linked to technology, science and innovation and most people working in the industry in the future will be involved with these areas in some way or another. ICT skills are also a key feature of most textiles industries, as are issues such as sustainability. It is important to remember the importance of areas like these in the industry when decision making as not doing so may mean career options are more limited.

It can be useful to keep an eye open for current job adverts as this helps give an overview of what roles are currently available in the industry. Reading magazines, blogs and books can also help give an idea of where the industry might be heading in the future.

These adverts are for two jobs that are a little different to the traditional designer role and they reflect the diversity of roles in the industry. Note how the second job is described as engineering and it is in a less traditional area of the industry. The job description shows that it is still a creative design role but with a high tech slant. Much of what is described in the job description is also very familiar to fashion and textile students at GCSE, A level and degree level.



Womenswear Pattern Cutter

Paul Smith
Nottingham, United Kingdom

Posted 29 days ago 280 views

37 alumni work here

[Apply on company website](#) [Save](#)

Job description

The primary function of this role is to create accurate patterns, to design and technical requirements and ensure that the best possible garments can be produced to given deadlines on a seasonal basis.

Responsibilities:

- Make sample patterns as required to seasonal deadlines.
- Resolve any problems that may arise with patterns when used by factories or in house sample machinists.
- Learn to proficiently use the Assyst Computer Pattern Cutting System to create development patterns.
- To attend fitting sessions throughout the development and pre-production stage of each season and make accurate notes relating to pattern alterations.
- To assist with pattern grading as required.
- Alter patterns in accordance with fitting details prior to grading keeping to grading deadlines.

Essential Experience and Skills Required:


- Pattern Cutting related qualification.
- Have a minimum GCSE Grade C in Maths and English.
- Proven credible and creative pattern cutting skills.
- Previous fittings experience, working with both Design and Technical teams.
- Experience of working with factories in disparate locations.
- Excellent knowledge of garment construction.

About You:

- Good eye for detail, shape and proportion.
- Creative when producing patterns from design sketches and vintage garments.
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to build effective working relationships.
- Highly systematic, well organised with excellent problem solving skills.
- Be numerate with the ability to produce accurate work.
- Culturally sensitive.
- The ability to work well in a team.
- Able to work to set deadlines.

Interest in Womenswear fashion and trends.

Contact the job poster



Job posted by


Lucy Winslow
HR Assistant Recruitment...
Sheffield, South Yorkshire, Uni...
[Send Inmail](#)

Industry
Design

Employment type
Full-time

Experience
Associate

Job function
Other, Design



Textile Design Engineer

Lear Corporation
Guldford, GB

Posted 1 day ago 17 views

8 alumni work here

[Apply on company website](#) [Save](#)

Job description

OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE JOB

Assist the UK design department to design and develop, creative innovative automotive fabrics that maintains Guldford's position as a leader of automotive textiles, in line with technology strategy, raw material and target prices

Main Responsibilities

Key Skills And Qualifications

- Assist with customer project work in line with OEM design briefs - interpret customer and design instructions
- Be able to design and develop for all fabric technologies - Jacquard & Dobby wovens, warp knits and secondary processes
- Work with engineering, design and sales teams, to create new, innovative products which meet customer expectations in terms of design, aesthetics, technical performance and cost targets from design brief to business award
- Learn to use design CAD systems - Scotweave, Adobe photoshop and Illustrator to produce design work
- Learn Guldford systems/processes - Basics & Pass (TSR's, yarn orders & weave specs)
- Learn Guldford/Automotive textile processes - warping, knitting, weaving, dyeing, finishing and lamination
- Learn about the raw materials - yarn, foam, lining/fleeces
- Learn about secondary processes for automotive textiles
- Learn about testing of fabrics
- Contribute to Global design collection and general advanced developments against non OEM specific projects
- Produce presentation boards and design concepts

Required Skills

Specific skills required

- Textile Design Degree or equivalent

Industry
Automotive

Employment type
Full-time

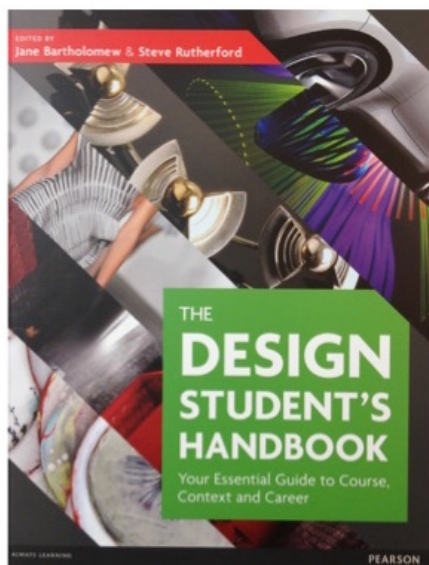
Experience
Entry level

Job function
Engineering

[Show fewer details](#)

Where can you find more information out about different jobs and careers in the fashion and textiles industry?

How will you stay up to date on what is happening in the industry?



Useful Links

It is never too early to start your research on careers in the fashion and textiles industry so no matter what your age take a look at some of the websites listed below.

Careers websites

These careers websites will help you understand the range of opportunities available in the fashion and textiles industry. There are lots of careers websites and these are just a few of them:

<http://creativeskillset.org/>

This is a website aimed at young people and showcases a range of creative careers from fashion and textiles to media and art. It gives information on careers as well as information on how to get into them, including degree courses and apprenticeships (note that not all degree courses are included on the website so use the UCAS website mentioned in the degree section to find all courses). There are lots of case studies and useful links all of which will help develop an understanding of the industry. It also uses a 'Tick' accreditation system that indicates particular courses that teach professional skills that make you 'work-ready'. In particular the 'Job Roles' section is useful as you can filter it to just include jobs in fashion and textiles which brings up a list of 72 different roles and explains what they are.



<http://www.futuremorph.org/?p=3115>

This is a website aimed at inspiring young people to go into careers in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and it includes a dedicated section on STEM careers in fashion and textiles. It features a range of information for different age groups as well as resources for teachers to use with young people.



<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>

This is a general careers website with a dedicated section for young people. There is lots of general careers advice as well as specific information on specific job roles, colleges, universities, and apprenticeships.



<http://www.careersintextiles.com/>

This is a website aimed at adults looking for jobs in the fashion and textiles industry. Some degree courses are listed but note not all degrees are included so use the UCAS website mentioned in the degree section to find all courses. This website might be useful for research on job adverts to see the types of roles that are currently available as this help develop knowledge of the industry.



<https://www.textilesjobsandskills.com>

This is the website aimed at adults run by The Alliance Project where the Alliance Report originated from. The site supports employers and employees in the Greater Manchester area to help develop a strong workforce that meets the needs of the industry. This website is also good if you are looking for statistics on the industry. Although most jobs and courses relate to the Greater Manchester area the website is useful for general information on careers and apprenticeships.

**TEXTILES JOBS
CAREERS & SKILLS**
IN GREATER MANCHESTER

For information on apprenticeships and degrees take a look at these sections in the booklet.

Staying up to date with what is happening in the fashion and textiles industry

These general information websites will help you stay up to date on what is happening in the industry and this will help you make sure that the career area you choose is one where there is a long term future.

There are lots of websites that might help you keep up to date with what is happening in the industry and these are just a few of them:

- www.vogue.com
- <https://www.drapersonline.com>
- <http://www.britishfashioncouncil.co.uk>
- <http://www.fashioncapital.co.uk>
- <http://www.fashion-enter.com>
- <http://fashioningtech.com>
- <https://cutecircuit.com>
- www.fad.org.uk
- Social media sites such as Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and Facebook are particularly useful for keeping up to date with what is happening in the industry. Follow accounts that are linked to the fashion and textiles industry as well as high profile people who work within it.



Look at these articles to get you thinking about different types of careers and about what is currently happening within the industry:

- Losing the Thread: How Textiles Repeatedly Revolutionized Human Technology <https://goo.gl/8FOkai>
- Fashion's Fourth Industrial Revolution <https://goo.gl/cVEdd5>
- Why STEM Subjects and Fashion Go Hand in Hand <https://goo.gl/glt2pt> (read the full version of this article at <https://goo.gl/C9UCUh>)
- London Fashion Shows Engineering a Way Forward <http://wp.me/p6Kbi2-CD>

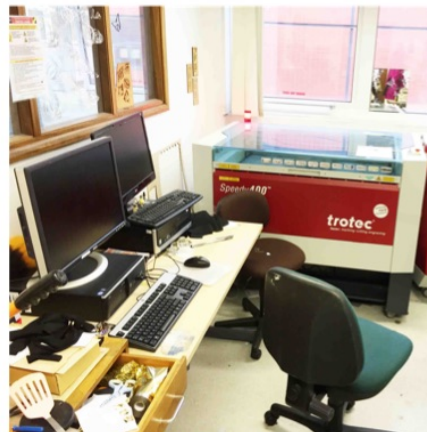
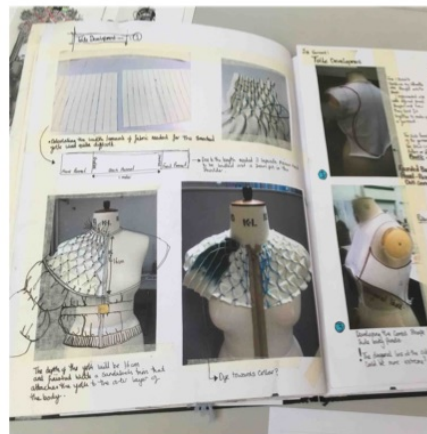
Things to Think About

- It's never too early to start research on careers and courses and the earlier you start the more informed any decisions will be. As well as looking at careers information online, look at courses and job adverts as this helps show what real jobs might be like.
- It's also never too early to start work on your portfolio as even though you may not use a lot of it in the end it helps you develop a style and improve your technique. Keep a sketchbook or notebook, make things, experiment with ideas, read books and magazines, take photos – anything that will help you develop your skills. It is also useful to look at information on what is required in a portfolio for different courses as this will help you target the right things for the type of career or course you want.
- One of the most important things is to develop a passion for what you want to do and to be able to talk about it knowledgeably and with enthusiasm.
- Some courses and careers require particular qualifications at GCSE or A level, such as a design subject or science, and this is where starting research early can be a big bonus. If you know a course has a particular requirement it helps motivate you to work towards it and can help to make study and working hard seem more worthwhile.
- Visit end of year shows and exhibitions for colleges and universities. Try to visit a range of creative subjects not just the one you like the most as this will give you more ideas.



What degree courses are available in fashion & textiles?

Which one might be right for you?



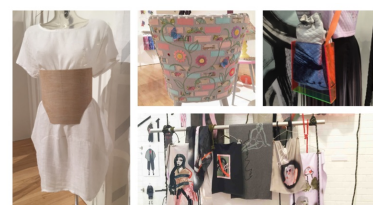
Types of Degree Courses

The following information summarises the types of degree courses universities offer in fashion and textiles. It doesn't list all of the available courses from all universities, as there are too many but gives an idea of the main types. The list is not a recommendation for a particular university or degree and courses have been selected to illustrate the variety of potential areas of study. These can then be used as a starting point for searching for similar courses elsewhere. (Information and links are correct as of September 2017)

Popular degree courses

Fashion design and textile design are possibly the most well known textiles courses and the ones that most people think of when they think of a fashion and textiles qualification. There are a lot of these types of courses across a wide range of universities (sometimes under slightly different names).

- *Fashion, Manchester Metropolitan University* <http://goo.gl/QRxDkJ>. This course is typical of many fashion design courses where students can choose to focus on menswear, womenswear, print, or knitwear.
- *Textile Design, Nottingham Trent University* <https://goo.gl/orxG0Y>. This course covers both fashion and interiors and students usually study printing, embroidery, weaving and knitting. Similar courses might also include the title surface design or make particular reference to techniques such as printing or embroidery. (Images from the NTU degree show 2016. See more about this work at <https://goo.gl/4HVcsT>).



Courses designed to meet an industry need

Some courses are designed to meet a specific industry need, whether that be a skill such as pattern cutting or an area of specialist design such as footwear.

- *Fashion design with garment technology, Birmingham City University* <http://goo.gl/py8gNO>. This course allows you to specialise in fashion pre-production processes, including pattern cutting, fittings, grading and sizing, production planning, costing, testing and producing technical packs. Garment technologists are currently in high demand in the UK and abroad and this type of course is a good example of one that has the good bits of the popular fashion design degrees whilst also being set up to meet the current and future needs of the industry.
- *Fashion Pattern Cutting, London College of Fashion* <http://goo.gl/Ga7NAh>. This course focuses on developing creative pattern cutting skills for garments, which is a skill that is much in demand at the moment, and the course has been developed with this in mind. This course includes traditional skills along with skills in digital technologies. At interview as well as a creative and technical portfolio applicants also have to demonstrate awareness of fabric development, designers, trends, the design process and their own ability to work independently and as a team.
- *Footwear Design, De Montfort University* <http://goo.gl/mWwC6a>. This course focuses on developing the design and making skills required to meet the needs of the footwear industry. This type of course is a different twist on the traditional fashion focus. This course requires a portfolio which includes evidence of experience working with modeling techniques (not just within footwear) as well as evidence of an interest in footwear and broader materials generally. It also requires evidence of how a project brief is explored and documented.
- *Cordwainers Footwear: Product Design and Innovation, London College of Fashion* <http://goo.gl/h2zQ0C>. This course focuses on the design, development and realization of footwear products for the fashion industry. Preferred subjects for entry requirement are English, maths, art, design, textiles and science.



- *Fashion Textiles and Accessories, De Montfort University* <http://goo.gl/IQtSb7>
Just like the footwear degrees this course still has links to fashion but with a focus on textile design and accessories for the fashion industry. A wide range of materials and techniques are investigated along with skills such as pattern cutting. Courses like these can sometimes give students skills in a specific area whilst also giving them transferable skills into other areas of the industry.
- *Cordwainers Fashion Bags & Accessories: Product Design & Innovation, London College of Fashion* <http://goo.gl/mN3SIB>. This course focuses on bags and accessories for the fashion industry. Preferred subjects for entry requirement are English, maths, art, design, textiles and science.
- *Contour Fashion, De Montfort University* <http://goo.gl/vS7cDh>
This course focuses on contour garment design including lingerie, swimwear, sportswear, corsetry, bodywear, loungewear and nightwear. This allows students to focus on fashion but from a different angle. This is an internationally renowned course and few universities internationally offer a specialist course of its type and this could be an advantage when starting a career.
- *Fashion Atelier, University for the Creative Arts* <http://goo.gl/Goi8NV>
This is a specialist course and the only one of its kind. It focuses on handcraft and bespoke tailoring, creative pattern cutting and design communication skills. Students go on to work in a range of careers but it is particularly aimed at high end brands and Saville Row.
- *Hand Embroidery for Fashion, Interiors, Textiles Art* <http://goo.gl/W7S6uU>
This is a world renowned course and is the only full time degree in hand embroidery in Europe. It is delivered by the Royal School of Needlework and is a prestigious course and competitive to get on to.



Science based courses

With the growth in high tech textiles, even in high street fashion, science based fashion and textiles courses are on the increase. The level of science required varies from an awareness of science being important through to courses that are very heavily science based, including those linked to engineering. Fashion and textiles careers that require at least some knowledge of science are likely to increase in the future because of the high tech world we live in.

- *Fashion Technology, University of Leeds* <http://www.design.leeds.ac.uk/?p=3897>
This course has all of the elements of a traditional fashion course but there is an increased focus on a broader understanding of the role of science and technology in the fashion and textiles industry. Although it is a science and technology based degree there are still lots of modules that focus on creativity, design, and fashion in the traditional sense. The science and technology approach is particularly reflected in the course entry requirements where there is a preference for at least one science or maths related A level rather than an art or design related subject. The course leader has indicated that a D&T Textiles A level would be a suitable alternative to a science or maths qualification because of its focus on science.
- *Fashion Futures, Manchester Metropolitan University* <http://goo.gl/S5NHRi>
This course is another fashion course that focuses on technology and innovation within the industry. Although it is a science and technology based course there are still lots of opportunities for design and creativity. The entry requirements don't state that an art or design qualification is required but an interest in fashion is essential. It is important to consider how this will be showcased particularly if a student has not done an art or design qualification which might limit their portfolio work.
- *Performance Sportswear Design, Falmouth University* <http://bit.ly/2cyngFh>
Sportswear is a fast growing area of design and the course has links to the types of things studied on a traditional fashion course with the added study areas on innovation, the use of new technologies and materials, along with understanding the specialist needs of designing for the global sportswear market in areas such as surfing, snowboarding, running, climbing, and mountain biking. In an increasingly high tech industry these skills are transferable to other areas.



- ***Fashion Design & Technology: Sportswear, Manchester Metropolitan University*** <http://goo.gl/JBmZXh>
This is a women's and menswear fashion course with a focus on sportswear, new technologies and cutting edge equipment. As well as being creative there is an emphasis on technology and business. Business focused courses can give transferable skills for career areas outside the textiles industry.
- ***Textile Science and Technology, University of Manchester*** <http://goo.gl/DUYuIX>
This course focuses on the skills required to enter the high performance technical textiles sector of the industry, whether it be apparel or other textiles uses. This is a science based course that is a combination of textiles, physics, engineering, chemistry and maths but which still allows opportunities for design thinking. This course would be of particular interest to students interested in cutting edge design of clothing that reacts to climate changes, clothing that integrates electronics, and uses of textiles in applications such as medicine. Entry requirements include maths & science or 2 sciences.
- ***Materials Science & Engineering with Textiles Technology, University of Manchester*** <http://goo.gl/UQkzZ9>
This course is very science based with lots of traditional science and technology related to textiles for uses in technical textiles, including smart textiles, sportswear, aerospace and automotive materials, and biomedical implants. Entry qualifications are challenging and include A grades in 3 sciences. Graduates are highly sought after and the qualification can lead to a variety of careers.



Other fashion and textiles related courses

There are a range of courses that are fashion and textiles based but which focus on developing other skills, for example, business skills, photography or journalism.

- ***Fashion marketing, University of Leeds*** <http://goo.gl/gP8qAV>
Whilst still fashion based, this course focuses more on the aesthetics of design and style in fashion products, as well as on consumer behaviour. It also looks at the history of design and fashion as part of a focus on developing trends and styles. The course might lead to different careers including buying, product developer, and visual merchandising, as well as those linked to marketing, brand development, PR and journalism. It also has transferable skills beyond the textiles industry, for example skills linked to business, research, critical thinking, communication, and problem solving.
- ***Fashion Communication: Fashion Journalism, Central St Martins*** <http://goo.gl/zjCYqM>
This course is designed for students interested in fashion and how the industry works but who also have a talent for writing, either as a traditional journalist or in areas such as social media. Students applying for places will need a specialist portfolio to demonstrate their writing and research skills.
- ***Fashion Management, Nottingham Trent University*** <https://goo.gl/k0Z7KZ>
This course focuses on the management of the entire fashion chain, from design development, product sourcing, manufacture, sales and marketing to the end consumer. This course is suitable for a student interested in fashion who also wants to develop business skills. No creative portfolio is required for interview on this course.
- ***Fashion Buying Retail Management, University for the Creative Arts*** <http://goo.gl/KQvpqT>
This course is ideal for someone who has a strong interest in fashion but who is also interested in business and retail. The content includes sourcing, supply chains, buying, finance and operations management and prepares students for careers in fashion retail management or buying. This course doesn't require a portfolio but applicants have to be able to talk about relevant experience.
- ***Fashion Photography, Solent University*** <http://goo.gl/1JQtsM>
This course is designed for students who are interested in fashion and how the fashion industry works but who want to focus more on their practical photography skills and developing a career in that area. Students are expected to have a photographic portfolio for interview.
- ***Interior Design, Falmouth University*** <http://bit.ly/2axiiqt>
The interiors industry ranges from decorative arts to interior architecture and this course reflects this diversity. The focus is on any space we inhabit and the complex design requirements they have.

- *Costume Design and Making, Nottingham Trent University* <https://goo.gl/kcBwXL>
This course develops designing and making skills for costumes used in the theatre, film, ballet, events, festivals, concerts and historical contexts. A portfolio is required at interview including evidence of the ability to make garments and costume related products such as masks and hats. (Images from the NTU degree show 2016. See more about this work at <https://goo.gl/jd9XQo>)



General design courses

Textiles as a material is used on a range of degree courses other than those specifically related to fashion and textiles. Textiles materials can, for example be used on product design, furniture design and graphic design courses. With textiles materials now being used in a range of unusual ways, along with non traditional materials being used more and more in textiles applications, these types of courses might suit students interested in experimenting with a broad range of materials particularly as from 2017 students will focus on a broader range of materials as part of their GSCE studies.

- *Product Design, Nottingham Trent University* <https://goo.gl/hd6oji>
This course would appeal to students interested in a range of materials and not just textiles. It's probably one of the most common general design courses with a focus on understanding the needs of a user in different situations and designing the best possible solution to meet their needs, rather than just focusing on a solution in a particular material. The 2016 degree show at Nottingham Trent University included a strong emphasis on textiles materials as part of the product design course. A portfolio is required at interview that reflects an interest in product design. (Images from the NTU degree show 2016. See more about this work at <https://goo.gl/KHcvFT>).



- *Furniture and Product Design, Nottingham Trent University* <https://goo.gl/3MScYQ>
Like the product design degree, this course would appeal to students who are interested in working with a variety of materials and skills, including those used in textiles. (Images from the NTU degree show 2016. See more about this work at <https://goo.gl/qoOse0>)



- *Graphic Design, Nottingham Trent University* <https://goo.gl/3Do6IV>
Like the product design degree and furniture degrees, graphic design students often use a variety of materials including textiles. This type of course is suitable for students who are interested in graphic design and who might want to specialize in textiles in this area. (Images from the NTU degree show 2016. See more about this work at <http://goo.gl/qUb2cj>).



REMEMBER the courses and universities listed here are only examples and students should do their own research to identify other courses across a wide range of universities.

How do you find the right degree course?

What do you need to think about to find the right course that suits your individual needs?



Choosing a Degree Course

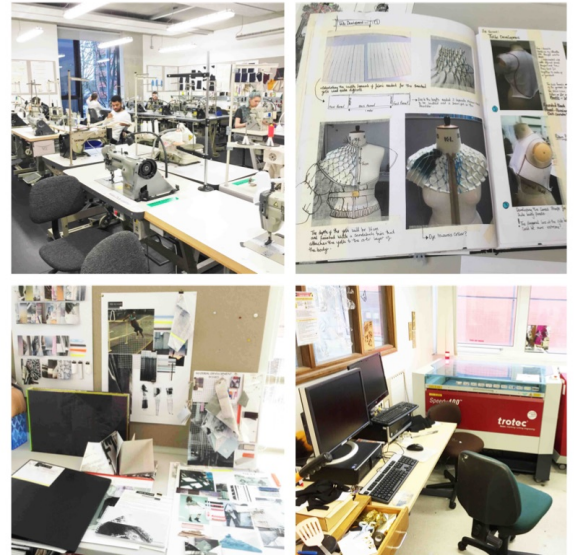
Where do you start?

There are a wide range of degree courses and universities that offer fashion and textiles related courses and navigating university websites can make it quite challenging for students to understand all of their options. This is why it is important for students to do lots of research both on what courses are available and what is currently happening in the industry.

There is no 'best' university or 'best' degree course as this will vary from individual to individual depending on a range of factors. There are lots of universities that are famous and which have an excellent reputation such for fashion and textiles such as Central St. Martins, the London College of Fashion, and the University for the Creative Arts. The Russell Group universities are also widely respected as prestigious universities (take a look at the case study on the University of Leeds for more information on Russell Group universities). There are many universities and courses that could be listed here as excellent but the most important thing is that each student considers what the course offers them personally, both in terms of their time at the university, as well as beyond that in terms of career prospects.

The UCAS website (www.ucas.com) is a good starting point as this can be searched using keywords and areas of the country making finding courses easier. It also has lots of other good advice for anyone considering going to university.

The Guardian University Guide to Courses might also be useful particularly as this has league tables of universities (visit <https://goo.gl/gJpTWi> and look in the subject tables). Be careful of paying too much attention to league tables though as they often don't tell the bigger picture and just because a university or course is perceived as excellent doesn't mean it is the best one for everyone.



Some questions to ask yourself and others

- What is happening within the industry and what skills are needed (not just now but in the future)?
- What do you enjoy doing in fashion and textiles as a degree is hard work so you will need to feel motivated (but be careful not to just base all of your decisions on this as it may reduce your options)?
- What are your long term goals and aspirations?
- What courses are the most popular – do you want to consider a degree that offers different skills in order to stand out in a competitive market?
- Do you want a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BSc)? Is the course an honours degree? Can you take it to Masters level?
- How long do you want your course to be as they can vary between 3 and 4 years (longer if you want to do an art foundation course first)?
- Are there opportunities for work placement or industrial experience?
- Think about your ideal university: Are you looking for a city campus? Do you want to be able to travel home easily? Do you want a big university or one that's small and friendly?
- Visit universities to get a feel of the campus and the city, halls of residence, shopping, nightlife and anything else that will be important to you. How do different universities compare to each other?
- Visit degree shows to see work from courses you are interested in. Does it interest and excite you?
- Speak to students from the course: What do they think is good/bad about the university? What's a typical day/week/term like? What support systems are there if you have a problem?
- Find out specific details about the course. How many are there on a course and what is the student to lecturer ratio? What is the background and experience of lecturers? What is the typical student intake e.g. age, gender? What will the materials costs per term be?
- What type of work is involved in the course you are interested in: Is there lots of practical? How is theory taught? How are you assessed?



- How are things taught e.g. lectures, small group work? How many contact hours with lecturers do you get? What about seminars and tutorials? Do you have a personal space for working as well as storage so you don't have to carry things backwards and forwards all the time? How easy is it to access spaces to work e.g. use of the library, access to specialist rooms and equipment outside of lecture time?
- What is the employment rate after students get their degree? What typical jobs do students go into?
- What support is there for while you are settling in (many courses require high levels of independent learning so what do they do to support you developing these skills)? What about support during the rest of the year if there are problems?

Entry requirements

Many fashion and textiles related degree courses require an A level (or equivalent qualification) in an art or design based subject, or alternatively an art foundation course. A qualification in a subject linked to fashion and textiles, such as art textiles or D&T textiles, may give applicants an advantage but other creative courses may be considered if the student can evidence a passion for textiles and an ability to be creative. It's important to look at the entry requirements for courses to get accurate information on this.

Art textiles and D&T textiles A level courses develop similar skills whilst also developing skills in slightly different areas. Students studying each type of qualification would benefit from gaining some experience in the area they are not studying e.g. art textiles students would benefit from understanding some of the science behind textiles and D&T textiles students should experience projects that allow for experimentation and creative use of materials and ideas.

It is worth noting that there are a growing number of courses that prefer a science or maths background rather than an art one because of the high tech developments in the industry. Some courses even require A levels in science or maths, whilst others require a good GCSE grade or simply an interest in these areas. If students are interested in these types of courses it's worth noting that the design and technology textiles qualifications, both at GCSE and A level, have a strong science and maths content which may be an advantage on applications for these types of courses.

Most courses require a portfolio to be taken to interviews. It is important to research what each course and university requires, as expectations can be different. As well as showcasing creative skills portfolio work is often seen as a way of getting to know the student so it is important to be able to talk about the work with passion and enthusiasm. Students might also be required to show evidence of essay type writing and sketchbooks.



What does a fashion and textiles department look like at university?

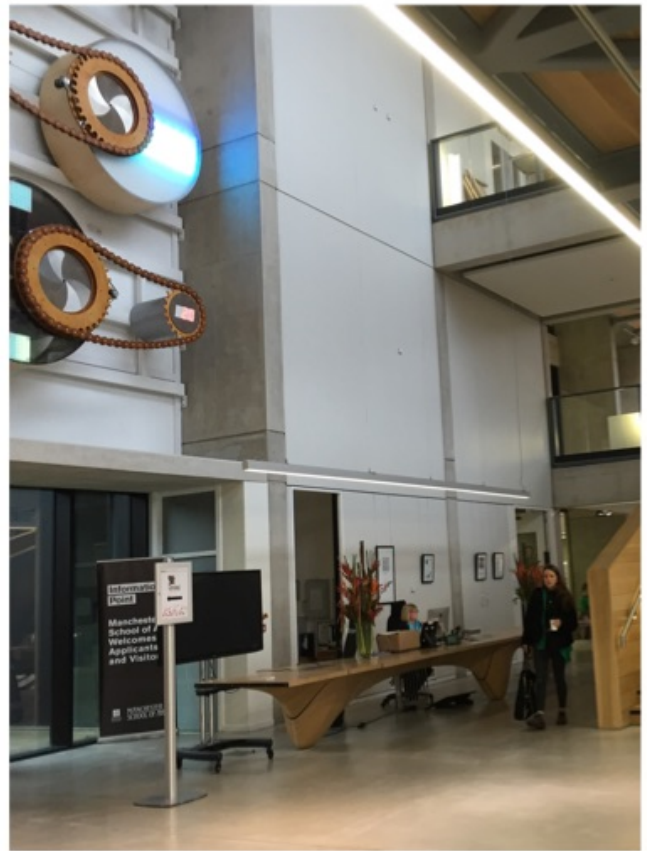
Which universities have an Open Day or Degree Show you can visit?



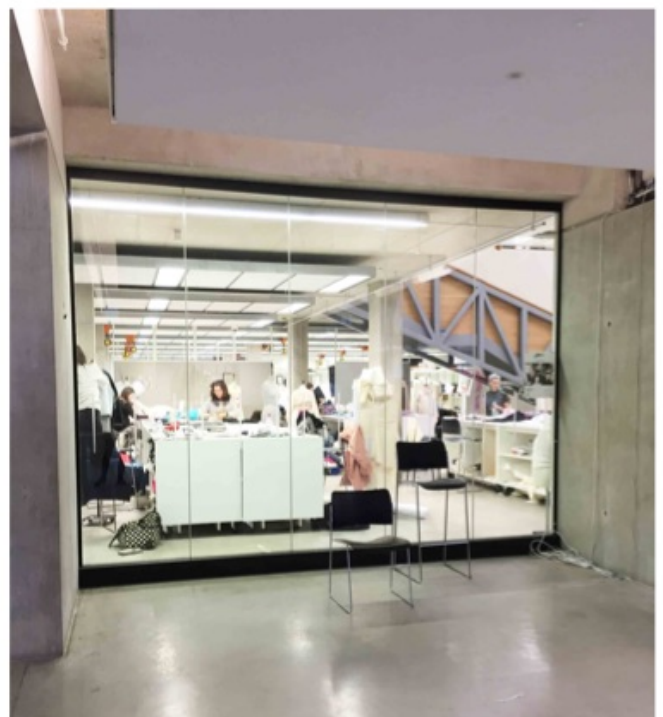
These case studies give general information on some of the fashion and textiles courses at 3 universities. The photos and information may not apply to all courses at the university. The case study is provided as an example of a typical fashion and textiles degree environment as equipment and set ups are similar across different universities. Being featured as a case study is not a recommendation for the university or the course.

Case Study: Manchester Metropolitan University

Textiles courses at the university are situated in a number of different buildings across the campus. The Benzie Building houses some courses and is impressive with the textiles industrial heritage of the area is celebrated and on show. One of the first things you see by reception and the student cafe is a window that looks straight into one of the fashion studios giving textiles a high profile position.



The Benzie building is characterised by lots of very large open plan spaces that are deliberately designed with the aim that students from different courses will mix therefore encouraging a multi media approach e.g. graphic artists sharing ideas with textiles designers. The building has a nice vibe to it and although the open plan layout makes it look messy in places it is a very busy, creative environment.



By contrast other buildings where textiles courses take place are less overwhelming and smaller but no less impressive. Across all buildings and courses there is a lot of access to a wide range of equipment including industrial machines, digital printing, embroidery machines etc.

Students are expected to be very self directed and self motivated so developing these types of skills in school is important. A particular emphasis is placed on open ended starting points & experimentation so students will have an advantage if they are used to this.

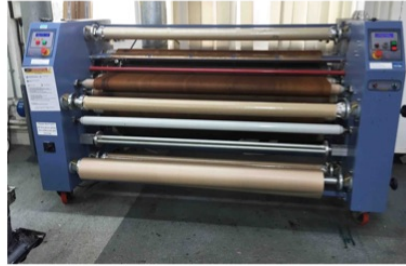
Textiles students at the university regularly win awards and because of this and the excellent reputation the university has most courses are heavily oversubscribed. The university offers a wide range of textiles courses including ones on fashion, interior design, buying and merchandising, sportswear, textiles in practice (which includes print/weave/knit/embroidery), fashion futures (focused on future technology and innovation), textiles science and technology, fashion and business management, fashion design and technology, and fashion promotion. For up to date information on courses that are offered visit <http://www2.mmu.ac.uk>.



This case study gives general information on some of the fashion and textiles courses at Manchester Metropolitan University. The photos and information may not apply to all courses at the university. The case study is provided as an example of a typical fashion and textiles degree environment as equipment and set ups are similar across different universities. Being featured as a case study is not a recommendation for the university or the course.

Case Study: De Montfort University

The fashion and textiles department has an impressive 75% employment rate for graduates before they even complete their final year, something that is an important influencing factor for students when they choose courses. Lecturers say their courses focus a lot on students thinking about employability skills and what the industry wants in the real world. This includes a detailed understanding of the technical side of textiles, including fabric and product testing, which they say is the basis of designing and manufacturing and a key to employability.



The university offers a range of textiles and fashion courses with those focusing on retail buying etc. being particularly popular as they aim to give students a wider set of skills but still have the designing and making elements that are found on traditional fashion courses.



Courses include ones on fashion, accessories, textile design (includes print/knit/weave/mixed media), fashion management, buying and marketing, footwear, and contour fashion (which includes lingerie, swimwear, corsetry, sportswear, menswear, nightwear).

For up to date information on courses that are offered visit <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/>



This case study gives general information on some of the fashion and textiles courses at De Montfort University in Leicester. The photos and information may not apply to all courses at the university. The case study is provided as an example of a typical fashion and textiles degree environment as equipment and set ups are similar across different universities. Being featured as a case study is not a recommendation for the university or the course.

Case Study: University of Leeds – A Russell Group University

The University of Leeds is a Russell Group university. This is a group of 24 universities that are widely perceived as being the best universities in the country because of their focus on research and reputation for academic achievement.

The University of Leeds has a long history of textiles, indeed part of its origins stemmed from the local textiles industries wanting to compete with the rapid development of new technologies in Europe. The university remains a world leader in research and development in fashion and textiles and their courses are recognized as some of the best in the country.



The University of Leeds offers a number of courses including Textile Design, Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing and Fashion Technology. The last course is fairly new and is typical of some of the newer courses being offered by a range of universities focusing on both the traditional creative side of textiles and fashion as well as the links to science.

These types of courses are developing in response to the increasingly high tech materials and technologies being used in fashion and textiles applications. Science is used in these courses in an applied way helping students understand the high tech materials and equipment available in today's industry and how they can use them to be innovative. This course, and

similar courses at other universities are often keen for students to have science and maths qualifications, although Leeds in particular is interested in students who have studied Design and Technology GCSE and A level because of the science and maths content in the qualification.

The University of Leeds, University of Manchester, University of Edinburgh and University of Southampton (Winchester School of Art which is part of the university) are all Russell Group universities that deliver fashion and textiles degrees. The fact that these prestigious universities offer these types of courses reflects how the subject is valued and recognizes the academic content in fashion and textiles courses, something which is often not fully understood by those outside of the subject. A good degree from a Russell Group university can make job applications stand out, especially in a competitive market, but it is important not to choose a university just because of this.



A lot of Russell Group universities also run broader degrees that are material science and engineering based and which include some textiles, usually in the form of composites, polymers and technical materials. These are not creative courses but may be of interest to students who want to focus more on chemistry and physics relating to textiles and other materials.

This case study gives general information on some of the fashion and textiles courses at the University of Leeds. The photos and information may not apply to all courses at the university. The case study is provided as an example of a typical fashion and textiles degree environment as equipment and set ups are similar across different universities. Being featured as a case study is not a recommendation for the university or the course.

What other routes are there into the fashion & textiles industry?

Not sure about going to university or doing a degree?



Other Routes into the Fashion and Textiles Industry

Types of qualifications other than a degree

A degree is not the only entry point to the textiles industry and there are a number of other qualifications that can be studied at further and higher education level. Many focus on the skills and knowledge to do a particular job in a particular industry.

Some examples of qualifications are:

- City and Guilds
- Higher National Certificates (HNC)
- Higher National Diplomas (HND)
- National Vocational Qualifications
- BTEC (British Technology Education Council)

Visit <https://goo.gl/dLTjwT> for a full list of the different types of qualifications and what level they are at.

For general information on choosing a course and deciding on further and higher education options visit:

- <https://www.studential.com>
- <http://www.careerpilot.org.uk> (although this is a careers website for the South West of England it has lots of useful information for everyone)
- Also take a look at the careers websites mentioned earlier as these have lots of general information on qualifications especially <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>

Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship gives you hands on experience in the workplace along with a salary and the opportunity to gain qualifications. Many apprenticeships cover much of the content of the degrees mentioned above, with some also resulting in a degree qualification.

An apprenticeship combines work with on the job training which is usually one day a week. It usually takes between one and four years to complete an apprenticeship depending on which level you take.

There are a range of apprenticeships in a number of different industries. The ones most relevant to fashion and textiles are:

- Fashion and Textiles
- Costume and Wardrobe
- Fashion and Textiles: Technical
- Retail

There are also a range of other creative career areas with apprenticeships including design, engineering, construction, jewellery and silversmithing.

When you apply for an apprenticeship you will have to attend an interview so it is important to prepare well beforehand e.g. researching the company and role. The National Careers Service has useful tips on apprenticeship applications and interviews (<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>)

For more on apprenticeships take a look at:

- <https://www.getingofar.gov.uk> (a user friendly website on apprenticeships)
- <http://www.fashion-enter.com> (one of the leading providers of fashion and textiles apprenticeships)
- <https://goo.gl/jHzaK8> (government documents on apprenticeships)



Also take a look at the careers websites listed earlier in the booklet as these also have information on apprenticeships.

Just for Teachers

Resources and ideas for the classroom



Raising the Profile of Careers in Fashion and Textiles

The teacher's role

- Keep up to date with the types of courses and careers that are available in design and how things are changing in the industry, for example the current growth in jobs available within industry and the increased importance of science in relation to some areas of textiles.
- Don't just focus on what you like as a teacher and your own career experience. Make sure there is a balance of information available to students about different career opportunities from very art based textiles options to more science based textiles.
- Take into account that the new GCSE D&T qualification will create a group of students who are passionate about textiles but who may also have an interest in other material areas so they might be interested in courses and careers teachers themselves hadn't previously considered or experienced.

Bring careers into lessons

- Start talking about careers as early as year 7. Introduce things in short chunks and relate work in lessons to the real world of design.
- Create displays showing career routes and case studies.
- Use badges or stickers to allocate career roles to individual students in lessons e.g. quality controller.
- Have a 'Featured Career of the Month' (or other timeslot) and make reference to the career at different points in relation to the learning.
- Use textiles in the daily news as starters and plenaries and for display.
- Start to develop portfolio and interview skills and as early as possible including the ability to present and talk about work with passion and enthusiasm.
- Create a set of careers activities that can be used as stand alone extension activities and for cover lessons. Research on different careers and portfolio activities are particularly suitable for this.
- Collect job adverts and get students to create their own.
- Get students to research university courses and other qualifications. Allocate letters of the alphabet to groups of students who research colleges and universities starting with their allocated letter creating a class A-Z of all courses and universities.
- Get students to analyse products from the perspective of the different people that played a key part in the production of the product from its conception and manufacture, to its use and disposal.
- Organise visits to local universities for degree shows and open days.
- If it is difficult to get out of school for visits many universities and colleges will give talks to schools for free and these can be interesting and motivational. Some speakers will even produce custom sessions that covers content that will support learning e.g. delivering an element of the curriculum, talking about deadlines.
- Make links with any local business who are in some way linked to textiles e.g. student visit, talks in school, design briefs written by the company, mentoring, case study profiles.
- Keep an alumni record of where students move onto next. Collect quotes about how useful their GCSE and A level qualifications were in their career journey. Produce case studies on the career route they took. Even better get them in to talk to students about their experiences.

A little bit of textiles everyday

- Encourage students to immerse themselves in textiles in ways that mean it isn't a chore e.g. use of a sketchbook or online record, use of social media to follow key figures in the industry, watching relevant television programmes, reading newspapers and magazine articles.
- Use school social media accounts to drip feed and share information regularly.
- Encourage students to visit exhibitions related to fashion and textiles as well as to design and art generally to broaden their experiences. Provide students with a pro forma of things to think about and analyse when they visit somewhere new.
- Get students to be more aware of their everyday interactions with textiles e.g. by photographing every textiles related item they come into contact with in a day.
- Flag up textiles around us that are hidden or which aren't necessarily seen as textiles items e.g. air filters, geotextiles, materials like carbon fibre that start off as soft fabrics but which become hard and plastic like once made into a composite.
- Encourage students to go shopping, not to buy things but to be reflective and analytical on what they see. Provide students with a pro forma of things to think about and reflect on so that this type of thinking becomes a habit.

Showcase textiles beyond the lesson

- Create high profile displays about careers in textiles in prominent areas of the school. Make cross curricular links to other subject areas such as maths, science, English and display specific careers information relating to those subjects in their teaching areas.
- With the increase in science based textiles courses build links to the science department to demonstrate the science in textiles and how academic it is. This will educate others about what textiles is and raise the profile of textiles in the school.
- Students who study science may not do a design subject but might still have an interest in a textiles related degree or career. Science teachers may not be aware of the full range of potential opportunities in this area so promote textiles careers to science teachers and students.
- Set up an after school workshop or club focused on careers in textiles and developing portfolio and sketchbook skills. This could be open to all students even if they don't study textiles and it's a particularly good way of raising the profile of textiles if you don't have A level, as well as being a good way to showcase textiles generally.
- The Extended Project Qualification might also be a useful opportunity to include textiles related study. Again this is a good way of raising the profile of textiles even if you don't have A level textiles.
- Run assemblies showcasing courses, careers and the work of both current and ex-students.

Worksheets to use with students

The next 3 pages have worksheets that might be used with students:

- A list of careers that can be printed onto stickers or made into badges (they are designed for Avery J8160 labels which are 63.5mmx38.1mm). These can be used to allocate roles in a lesson or could be handed out at open evenings.
- A worksheet for researching career roles in more detail.
- A chart to enable students to compare college and university courses.

If teachers want editable images used in this document to create displays these can be accessed in the resource to buy. This includes the whole document in Word document format along with jpegs of all of the images. For more information on this resource visit the 'shop' page on the website or visit <http://goo.gl/LQA4xA>.

Please remember

Teachers can adapt this resource to suit their needs e.g. handouts, wall displays, information for students & parents. In particular it has been designed to be printed off in sections to meet different needs of students and teachers during a school year. The resource, & any resources adapted from it, must not be shared with anyone outside of the organisation that purchased it.

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Fashion Designer | Pattern Cutter | Quality Controller |
| Fashion Journalist | Retail Manager | Weaver |
| Fashion Photographer | Sample Maker | Textiles Technologist |
| Textiles Teacher | Trend Forecaster | Production Planner |
| Production Planner | Dyer | Textiles Engineer |
| Fabric Technologist | Costume Designer | Interior Designer |
| Garment Technologist | Fashion Buyer | Footwear Designer |

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF.....

MY JOB TITLE IS

5 KEYWORDS THAT
SUM UP WHAT I DO

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE
NEEDED TO GET MY JOB

SIMILAR JOBS

USEFUL WEBSITES & BOOKS TO FIND OUT MORE

5 KEY FACTS YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW ABOUT
MY JOB

GOOD AND BAD POINTS
ABOUT MY JOB

Comparing Courses, Colleges & Universities

(extend the number of columns depending on how many comparisons you want to include)

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Name of college / university | | |
| Course title | | |
| Qualification level & length | | |
| Entry requirements (including portfolio requirements) | | |
| Course content | | |
| How things are taught e.g. lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent work, group sizes, space & storage available, what equipment is available | | |
| How things are assessed | | |
| About the campus & city | | |
| Material & equipment costs | | |
| Open day dates | | |
| Degree show dates | | |
| Work placement / industry opportunities & links | | |
| Other information e.g. student support, employment rates, | | |
| Web links | | |
| Advantages & things I like | | |
| Disadvantages & things I don't like | | |
| Questions I want to ask | | |