

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	FdA Fashion and Textiles
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 5
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	FdA Fashion and Textiles
Named Exit Awards	CertHE Fashion and Textiles
Entry Requirements ⁴	64 UCAS points, interview conducted by one or more lecturers from the course where a portfolio of work will be presented
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Great Yarmouth)
UCAS Code	W230

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the FdA Fashion and Textiles course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2023-24 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

The Foundation Degree in Fashion and Textiles was designed in response to local requirements; progression for level 3 students who do not want to move away from the local area, students who want to continue their studies at levels 4 and 5 locally but aim to move away at level 6 and mature students who cannot move away to study due to family, care or work commitments. The course provides internal progression for the level 3 students at East Coast College (Great Yarmouth) as well as attracting applicants from local sixth form centres, colleges and international students. The programme is also intended as a professional

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

development opportunity for those who already work in industry who may not have had the opportunity to gain a qualification or further their education.

The foundation degree in fashion and textiles encourages students to be innovative and creative whilst gaining skills and experience of a wide variety of processes relevant to fashion and textiles for both working within the industries or as a freelance practitioner. The first year of the course lays the foundation of skills in fashion design, pattern construction, garment manufacture, printed and constructed textiles, drawing and digital applications. The second year of the course allows the student to develop research skills which, along with continued visual communication studies, provide the basis for the major project module which gives students the opportunity to choose a specialist fashion or textiles pathway, developing both creativity and technical expertise.

Work experience and live projects are a key part of the course and students are expected to take an active part in these over both years of the course where possible. Students have access to specialist equipment, tutors, and visiting lecturers (where feasible), and have a dedicated HE Arts Study Room. One to one support is available through regular module tutorials and personal tutorials. Students may have the opportunity to visit galleries, exhibitions and trade shows.

On completion of the foundation degree in fashion and textiles students have the opportunity to progress on to the one-year BA (Hons) Creative Arts Practice progression route at University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Great Yarmouth), to gain a full BA (Hons) degree or to seek employment or self-employment within the fashion and textiles industries.

Course Aims

- Provide a programme appropriate to degree level study in fashion and textiles.
- Equip students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for success in current or future employment/self-employment in fashion, textiles, and related areas.
- Provide a preparation for postgraduate study in fashion, textiles, and related subject areas.
- Equip students to meet changing circumstances, whether they arise from a shift in employment, promotion to management roles or changes in professional practice or technological advances.

Course Learning Outcomes – Level 5

The following statements define what students graduating from the FdA Fashion and Textiles course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 5 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

On successful completion of level five students will be able to:

1. Effectively use knowledge and understanding of the technical, creative and manufacturing disciplines underpinning the fashion and textiles industry.
2. Apply academic learning and principles to the fashion and textiles industries.
3. Identify, evaluate and demonstrate industry awareness of the roles, responsibilities and values which constitute the field of fashion and textiles.
4. Select and analyse from a range of information with minimal guidance from a range of sources in reference to sector issues, context and critical debate
5. Identify key elements of design concepts and creative and sustainable solutions for their resolution.
6. Critically analyse and evaluate your own work and that of others in regard to production, market and viability
7. Select and use of appropriate communication and information technologies for creative and practical applications.
8. Apply creative and technical production skills required for employers within the sector with reference to safe working practices
9. Work effectively within a team and demonstrate team leadership where appropriate within a professional business-based context.
10. Employ appropriate academic referencing/citation conventions consistently and to an appropriate standard of competency.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Art and Design (2020)

Course Structure

The Foundation Degree in Fashion and Textiles comprises modules at levels 4 and 5.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	1. Drawing and Design Techniques.	20	R

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

	2. Introduction to Materials, Techniques and Processes.	20	R
	3. Digital Applications	20	R
	4. Design Exploration in Textiles.	20	R
	5. Personal Development Planning (Work-based Learning)	20	M
	6. Introduction to Fashion Technology and Production	20	R
Level 5			
	7. Experimental Printed Textiles.	20	R
	8. Historical and Contextual Referencing	20	M
	9. Major Project	40	M
	10. Professional Practice in Fashion and Textiles. (Work-based Learning)	20	M
	11. Design Visualisation and Portfolio Building	20	R

Depending on the workplace setting of the module 'Professional Practice in Fashion and Textiles' students may be required to take a DBS check.

Awards

On successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules, students will be awarded a FdA Fashion and Textiles. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a CertHE Fashion and Textiles on successful completion of 120 credits including all mandatory modules at level 4.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Great Yarmouth). Students studying full-time on Foundation Degree in Fashion and Textiles are likely to have approximately 9 - 12 contact hours in a typical week, for level 4 and 9 – 12 contact hours, per week for level 5. The contact hours will be a mix of Lecture, demonstration, workshop, practical, directed and self-directed study. The course uses a blended learning model which gives students inclusivity and accessibility to tutors and module resources through the OLE where practically possible. Students will also be required to participate in 70 hours of work-based learning per level of study. Students will normally be expected to undertake 26 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module’s intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be 100% coursework, including practical and digital outcomes, Sketchbooks, Research, Essays, Presentations, and Portfolios.

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking FdA Fashion and Textiles will be charged tuition fees as detailed below:

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£8,220 per year
Part-time UK	Not applicable
Full-time EU/International	£14,598 per year
Part-time EU/International	Not applicable

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students may be required to pay additional costs for trips, amounting to a maximum of £1,000 payable at a later date.

Students are likely to incur other costs for equipment, materials, optional field trips and exhibitions amounting to approximately £150 per year.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).