

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	80 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 2021-22 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 development opportunity for those who already work in industry who may not have had the opportunity to gain a qualification or further their education.

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

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 CAD. 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. Students have access to specialist equipment, tutors, and visiting lecturers (where feasible), and have a dedicated HE Arts Study Room. The Arts IT Suite has current Adobe software and photography studios and equipment are available to the students as well. One to one support is available through regular module tutorials and personal tutorials. Students 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) Arts Practice top up course 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 4

The following statements define what students graduating from the CertHE 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 4 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

On successful completion of their level four studies students will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Source, select, evaluate and manage information from a variety of sources.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major developments in 19th and 20th century fashion/textile design.

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

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Mental or Cognitive Skills

1. Study independently, set goals, manage workloads and meet deadlines.
2. Use experimental visual language to communicate information to a specified audience or purchaser.

Subject Specific and Practical Skills

1. Implement experimental procedures and techniques towards a range of completed outcomes.
2. Be familiar with and apply current health and safety regulations within a studio context.

Key Skills

1. Work towards the completion of coursework projects in a disciplined fashion according to deadlines.
2. Make effective use of academic libraries, archives, and range of appropriate electronic media for research purposes.
3. Deliver presentations using an appropriate range of communication technologies/presentational aids.

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 4 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁷

At the end of the course students will be able to demonstrate:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Effective use, knowledge and understanding of the disciplines underpinning the fashion and textiles industry.
2. The application of academic learning and principles to their work environment.
3. Identification and evaluation of the roles, responsibilities and values which constitute the work environment.

Mental or Cognitive Skills

1. Selection and analysis of a range of information with minimal guidance from a range of sources in reference to sector issues, context and debate.
2. Identification of key elements of problems and selection of appropriate methods for their resolution in a considered manner.
3. Critical analysis and evaluation of their own work and that of others.

⁷ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Subject Specific and Practical Skills

1. Selection and use of appropriate communication and information technologies.
2. Application of skills required for employers within the sector with reference to safe working practices.

Key Skills

1. Work effectively within a team and demonstrate team leadership where appropriate within a professional context.
2. 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 (2008)

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 ⁸
Level 4			
	1. Drawing, Composition and Visual Techniques.	20	R
	2. Introduction to Materials, Techniques and Processes.	20	R
	3. CAD	20	R
	4. Design Exploration and Textiles.	20	R
	5. Introduction to Design and Personal Development. (Work-based)	20	M
	6. Design Exploration and Fashion.	20	R
Level 5			
	7. Experimental Printed Textiles.	20	R
	8. Historical and Contextual Referencing	20	M
	9. Opt a. Major Project - Textiles	40	O
	10. Opt b. Major Project - Fashion.	40	O
	11. Prof Practice in Fashion and Textiles. (Work-based)	20	R

⁸ 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

	12. Drawing Tech & Approaches	20	R
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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 Foundation Degree in Fashion and Textiles. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a CertHE in 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 360 contact hours for level 4 and 360 contact hours for level 5. The contact hours will be a mix of Lecture, demonstration, workshop, practical, directed and self-directed study and students will also be required to participate in 70 hours of work placement per level of study. Students will be expected to find their own placement. 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 outcomes, Sketchbooks, Research, Essays, Presentations, and Portfolios.

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	£13,725 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.

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

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](#).