

Postgraduate
PGCert/PGDip/MA [full-time and part-time]

Bath Spa University Design: Fashion and Textiles





The MA Design programme has four routes: Brand Development; Ceramics; Fashion and Textiles; Investigating Fashion Design. The programme shares common principles in terms of its philosophy and research, particularly with regard to research methodologies, but acknowledges the diversity of individual design disciplines that collectively contribute so much to the cultural and economic life of 21st century society.

Fashion and Textiles aims to develop the creative process for designers in conjunction with valuable marketing and business skills.

The course is aimed at ambitious designers, designer-makers or textile artists who wish to develop opportunities within the profession and who may wish to set up on their own or with others in small teams.

Snapshot



Awards

- MA Design: Fashion and Textiles.
- Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip) Design: Fashion and Textiles.
- Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert) Design: Fashion and Textiles.

Course length

- MA full-time: three trimesters (one calendar year).
- MA part-time: six trimesters (two calendar years).
- PG Dip full-time: two trimesters (one academic year).
- PG Dip part-time: four trimesters.
- PG Cert full-time: one trimester.
- PG Cert part-time: two trimesters.

Course location

Sion Hill and Corsham Court campuses.

Key features

For designers, designer-makers or textile artists whose aim is to be fully engaged in the profession.

Applications

Application forms are available on the website and for any admissions enquiries please contact:
T: +44 (0)1225 875609
E: admissions@bathspa.ac.uk

Enquiries

For all enquiries about the course, please contact:
Frances Turner, Course Leader.
T: +44 (0)1225 876134
E: f.turner@BathSpa.ac.uk

The Course

Course structure and content

The course is offered in both full and part-time modes. It is normally one year (3 trimesters) in duration in full-time mode or 6 trimesters in part-time mode. The first two trimesters comprise taught sessions and assessed projects, while the Master's Project in the final part of the course is by negotiated project only. Completion of the first 2 modules on the course lead to the award of the Postgraduate Certificate, and completion of the first 4 modules leads to the award of the Postgraduate Diploma. Subsequent completion of the MA double module leads to the award of MA Design: Fashion and Textiles.

You will be introduced to research skills and methods, product development, design management and methods, with marketing and business skills. The emphasis of the course is learning how best to present ideas, and where and how to place them in the market.

The course is developed through seminars, lectures, tutorials, visiting speakers, group critiques, market research and personal research.

You are encouraged to trial a product in the market. This may be through first hand experience, or through working with studios and agents for designers, shops and craft markets (for designer makers), or with galleries or public spaces (for textile artists).

Students propose a route of study through the course to explore and research a chosen

area of textiles in knit, print, weave, or embroidery for fashion or interiors, or in fashion design.

Teaching methods and resources

The first trimester (PGCert) consists of two modules. Research Methodologies consists of a taught programme of lectures, seminars, group critiques, and assignments. You will also negotiate a programme of study for the Product, Market Research and Product Ideas module. The emphasis at this level is on ideas. During the second trimester (PGDip) you will take two further modules: Marketing Skills comprises of lectures, seminars and research; the Development of Product and Product Ideas is negotiated by each student. The final trimester, leading to the MA, involves a negotiated study which you will propose. The study will be research based resulting in a body of work for assessment.

Specialist facilities include computer studios with over 70 Macs, as well as flatbed and transparency scanners. There is a recently re-equipped digital media studio. Fashion and Textiles students benefit from specialist studio spaces for both digital and screen printing, knitting, weaving, embroidery, laser cutting and pattern cutting, using the latest digital technology for CAD/CAM. All students have access to workshops in photography, sound and video, etching and litho, as well as the specialist Art and Design library.



Modules

Research Methodologies

Part One introduces generic methodologies with Part Two considering subject specific data retrieval analysis and evaluation techniques.

The Development of Product, Market Research and Product Ideas

Developing ideas technically and aesthetically, in-depth investigation into techniques and researching to market.

Marketing Skills

Marketing and Business skills – developing an understanding of marketing requirements for textile designers and artists.

Product Sampling and Development and Research

Initial product sampling techniques and investigation. Developing and progressing ideas to enable the creation of new products. Range planning.

Student Profile

Caroline Ritchie MA Design: Fashion and Textiles

By the time I had completed my undergraduate degree in Creative Arts I had only just worked out a way that was right for me to design and produce my work, so I chose to do the MA Design: Fashion and Textiles course to help develop my skills and establish a good working practice.

Bath Spa University has a great textiles department which is in a fabulous location. There are excellent facilities, a wealth of knowledge in the department, and a friendly and supportive student body and atmosphere.

I did the course part-time, which was a real benefit to me. The first year I mainly concentrated on establishing my working routine. During the second year I feel that I had time to explore new techniques and skills in order to give another dimension to my work.

Since finishing my MA I have set up my business, Corita Rose, which specialises in fabrics and furniture. The knowledge gained during the course, and the time to hone my skills, was more important to me than the postgraduate qualification as I am running my own company. However, later in life the qualification may be of more significance.



Tutors

Frances Turner (Course Leader) is a Senior Lecturer whose international experience incorporates all aspects of fashion and textile design, buying and marketing.

Kerry Curtis is head of the Fashion, Textiles and Three Dimensional Department. Experienced in working for international design houses.

Professor John Miles is a visiting professor who has an international reputation in the industry and education.

Sue Bradley is a Senior Lecturer/Course Leader of Creative Arts who is known internationally for her work as a knitwear/knitted textile designer.

Tim Parry-Williams is a Senior Lecturer/Course Leader of Weave who is a practicing weaver with international experience.

Louise Pickles is a Senior Lecturer/Course Leader of Fashion whose experience includes the design and development of Knitwear, Childrenswear, Ladies Casualwear and Sportswear.

These staff will be supported by a team of visiting lecturers.

Employability

The main aim of the course is for students to identify their own employment opportunities. Other possibilities may include textile design, product or fashion design, retail or sales and marketing opportunities, teaching, trend prediction and promotion, or further research in industry or education, and exhibiting in galleries as a textile artist.

Assessment methods

The PGCert is assessed by studio exhibition and/or portfolio presentation with a marketing report. The PGDip involves a written report including market analysis of your chosen product field. Practical work is presented by studio work and/or portfolio. For the MA you will present a cohesive body of creative work, supported by written work.

Entry requirements

Admission is normally based on a good undergraduate degree in a design or media discipline together with an interview. Applicants with a good honours degree in a related discipline and/or with relevant work experience will also be considered. To help applicants – especially those from overseas – to decide if this course is appropriate for them, it is advisable to contact the Course Director prior to application.

Fees

The following fees are provisional for 2011/12 and may be subject to change. Fees are revised each year and the latest fee information can be found at www.bathspa.ac.uk/services/finance/students/

UK/EU students

£4,410 for the full-time MA or £735 per module plus £1,470 for the dissertation.

Overseas students

£9,690 for the full-time MA.

Channel Island and Isle of Man students

As UK/EU students plus a one-off registration fee of £625 paid at the start of the course.

Studio fees are also payable, and for Design: Fashion and Textiles these are £225.

Fees are paid in total at the beginning of each academic year, or in instalments by standing order throughout the duration of the course. Please note that students contract to pay the fees for their full course when they register, and fees are not normally refundable. Students failing to complete their course must continue to honour any instalment plan, even in the event of a subsequent withdrawal.

Frequently asked questions

Q. What qualifications do I need and should I have studied Fashion and/or Textiles before I can consider an MA?

A. In the ideal world we would like all students to have studied on a BA (Hons) Fashion and/or Textiles course with a good prior knowledge of Fashion and/or Textiles. However, we do interview all students who apply for the course with a portfolio of his or her creative work to assess if we can give you enough skill background to achieve your aims and objectives on the course. We are looking for students with potential for development.

Q. How many days of the week will I have to attend University and do I get my own workspace?

A. All full-time students are given a workspace. Part-time students are not given an individual space but have access to tutorial rooms and general work areas. Attendance of one day per week is essential for all students full or part-time. Students have access to workshops and general University equipment on an individual basis.

Q. Do you accept mature students?

A. We welcome students of all ages. We are looking for the very best students we can find.

Notes

We advise you to obtain a copy of our postgraduate prospectus for full details of Bath Spa University and its programmes of study.

The contents of this leaflet are correct at the time of going to press. We will try to publicise any changes to it.

Please check the continued availability of the course and its modules before you apply by telephoning Student Services on +44 (0)1225 875875.

The operation of each course or module depends upon recruiting viable numbers. We may not be able to provide a course or module if insufficient numbers enrol. Our offer to you and your acceptance of a place here will be subject to this express condition.

Bath Spa University,
Newton St Loe, Bath,
BA2 9BN, UK

T +44(0)1225 875875
F +44(0)1225 875444

enquiries@bathspa.ac.uk
www.bathspa.ac.uk

