

TEXTILES AS/A2

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

There is a wide variety of careers that you could follow with an art textile qualification. The following are a small selection: fashion graphics, fashion designer, packaging designer, milliner, photographer, stylist, advertising designer, jeweller, interior designer, stage/costume designer, fashion journalist, marketing manager, printmaker, fabric designer, buyer, merchandiser, fashion events' co-ordinator, freelance designer, fashion prediction, shoe and bag design, self-employed artist or teacher!

THE PROGRAMME

Over the two year course, students will complete two coursework and two exam units. This course requires students to work in sketchbooks, researching and developing ideas towards a final outcome. In the AS course, candidates will develop a coursework portfolio based on 'Life's a beach' leading to the designing and making of a bodice. All units of work will include looking at the work of other textile artists and fashion designers, supported by visits to galleries and museums. In Year 13 students will produce a personal, practical investigation of their own choice, supported by a 3,000 word written reflection.

This is followed by an externally-set exam unit, where students can choose from a range of themes that is developed into a final response in a 15 hour practical exam. Students will be introduced to a wide range of new techniques and media, beginning with observational drawing and sampling in sketchbooks. They will explore and experiment with a range of textile techniques, such as silk painting, appliqué, fabric transfer, machine embroidery, printmaking and batik, before designing and making individual outcomes which can include fashion outcomes, accessories or wall hangings. Teaching is directed at the needs, strengths and interests of the individual student.

All units of work are tailored to allow the individual to explore original and creative solutions in any or several of the techniques they have experienced. Teaching includes activities to demonstrate different skills and technical work, self and peer assessment and one to one tutorials. Students choosing to do the full A2 course will be assessed on their personal investigation 60% and externally set unit 40%. This is internally marked and externally moderated. For students opting to only complete AS, the coursework portfolio (60%) and externally set unit (40%) is internally marked and externally moderated.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Textiles embraces creativity and will give a grounding in a broad range of skills which play an important role in today's design world. Transferable skills such as complex analysis and critical thinking will help in any career you choose.

This course will allow you to develop desirable skills that universities and employers would look for, such as being able to work towards deadlines, being organised, having a strong work ethic, good communication skills, IT literacy and flexibility. Textiles allows you to be creative and respond to the world around you through a variety of materials and techniques.

