FASHION DESIGN - B.F.A.

College of the Arts
School of Fashion Design and Merchandising
www.kent.edu/fashion

About This Program

The Fashion Design B.F.A. program offers a specialized curriculum, experienced faculty and real-world opportunities to help you develop your creative talent and succeed in the fashion industry. Enroll now and take your design skills to the next level. Read more...

Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers

- Fashion designer
- Creative director
- Illustrator
- Product developer
- Print designer
- Technical designer
- Textile designer
- Knit designer
- Knit programmer
- Sourcing

Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Admission to this degree is selective and not open to new students at Kent State University. The B.F.A. degree requires applicants to have a minimum 2.750 overall Kent State GPA and the support of the Fashion Design faculty. To be considered for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, students must be enrolled in junior-level fashion design studio courses and submit a letter of intent and B.F.A. proposal by the established deadlines.

Students who do not meet the criteria for admission to the Fashion Design major may be eligible for admission to the Pre-Fashion Design and Merchandising non-degree major. In addition, students who do not meet the admission criteria may initiate the process for declaring the B.A. degree in Fashion Design after completing minimum 12 credit hours of non-developmental coursework at Kent State University and earning a minimum 2.750 overall GPA.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning a minimum 71 TOEFL iBT score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score, minimum 47 PTE score or minimum 100 DET score, or by completing the ELS level 112 Intensive English Program. For more information on international admission visit the admissions website for international students.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
FDM 10010	FASHION FUNDAMENTALS	3
FDM 10023	FASHION VISUALS	1
FDM 10024	FASHION VISUALS LABORATORY	2
FDM 10033	FASHION FABRICS	1
FDM 10034	FASHION FABRICS LABORATORY	2
FDM 10043	SUSTAINABLE FASHION THINKING	1
FDM 10044	SUSTAINABLE FASHION THINKING LABORATORY	2
FDM 10053	INTRODUCTION TO FASHION TECHNOLOGY	1
FDM 10054	INTRODUCTION TO FASHION TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY	2
FDM 15055	BASICS OF APPAREL CONSTRUCTION	3
FDM 20013	HISTORY OF FASHION	3
FDM 20050	FASHION TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS	3
FDM 20121	FASHION DRAWING	3
FDM 20123	FASHION DESIGN CONCEPTS	3
FDM 20156	2-D FASHION DESIGN PRACTICE	3
FDM 20157	3-D FASHION DESIGN PRACTICE	3
FDM 35010	CONTEMPORARY FASHION DESIGNERS (WIC) [1]	3
FDM 40099	SENIOR FASHION DESIGN THESIS I (ELR)	6
FDM 40121	FASHION PORTFOLIO I	3
FDM 40122	FASHION PORTFOLIO II	3
FDM 40199	SENIOR FASHION DESIGN THESIS II (ELR)	3
FDM 45292	INTERNSHIP IN FASHION DESIGN (ELR)	3
Fashion Study Away Requirement [2]		
Additional Major Electives, choose from the following: [3]		10
Any Fashion Design and Merchandising (FDM) course		
Any Accounting (ACCT) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Architectural Studies (ARCS) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Art History (ARTH) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Art Studio (ARTS) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Business Administration Interdisciplinary (BUS) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Business Analytics (BA) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		

Any Computer Information Systems (CIS) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Design Innovation (DI) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Economics (ECON) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Entrepreneurship (ENTR) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Finance (FIN) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Management (MGMT) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Marketing (MKTG) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Media and Journalism (MDJ) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Theatre (THEA) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Visual Communication Design (VCD) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Fashion Design Studio I Electives, choose from the following:		6
FDM 30161	FASHION DESIGN STUDIO I	
FDM 30189	FLORENCE FASHION DESIGN STUDIO I (DIVG) (ELR)	
FDM 30190	NEW YORK CITY FASHION DESIGN STUDIO I (ELR)	
FDM 30389	PARIS FASHION DESIGN STUDIO I (DIVG) (ELR)	
Fashion Design Studio II Electives, choose from the following:		6
FDM 30162	FASHION DESIGN STUDIO II	
FDM 30289	FLORENCE FASHION DESIGN STUDIO II (DIVG) (ELR)	
FDM 30290	NEW YORK CITY FASHION DESIGN STUDIO II (ELR)	
FDM 30489	PARIS FASHION DESIGN STUDIO II (DIVG) (ELR)	
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
ECON 22060	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS (KSS)	3
MATH 10041	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS (KMCR)	4
MKTG 25010	PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		3
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Humanities		3
Kent Core Additional		6
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		**120**

[1] A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

[2] Students are required to participate in a study away opportunity. Students must have a minimum 2.500 overall GPA to participate in this study away requirement. Choose from the following: FDM 30189; FDM 30190; FDM 30289; FDM 30290; FDM 30389; FDM 30489; FDM 35070; FDM 35080; FDM 35089; FDM 35589; FDM 35689; FDM 35789; FDM 35889; FDM 35989; FDM 36589; FDM 45392; FDM 45589; FDM 45590; FDM 45689; OGE 10095.

[3] Maximum 6 credit hours of FDM 45093 can be used as an Additional Major Elective. Maximum 6 credit hours from each non-Fashion Design

and Merchandising (FDM) subject area can be used as an Additional Major Elective.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.500	2.500

- Participation in a study abroad/away experience
- Minimum 2.500 overall GPA required for internship
- Minimum 2.500 overall GPA required for study away

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

	Semester One		Credits
!	FDM 10010	FASHION FUNDAMENTALS	3
	FDM 10023	FASHION VISUALS	1
	FDM 10024	FASHION VISUALS LABORATORY	2
	FDM 15055	BASICS OF APPAREL CONSTRUCTION	3
	UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
		Credit Hours	**16**
	Semester Two		
!	FDM 10033	FASHION FABRICS	1
!	FDM 10034	FASHION FABRICS LABORATORY	2
!	FDM 10043	SUSTAINABLE FASHION THINKING	1
!	FDM 10044	SUSTAINABLE FASHION THINKING LABORATORY	2
	FDM 10053	INTRODUCTION TO FASHION TECHNOLOGY	1
	FDM 10054	INTRODUCTION TO FASHION TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY	2
	MATH 10041	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS (KMCR)	4
	Kent Core Requirement		3
		Credit Hours	**16**
	Semester Three		
	ECON 22060	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS (KSS)	3
	FDM 20050	FASHION TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS	3
!	FDM 20121	FASHION DRAWING	3
!	FDM 20156	2-D FASHION DESIGN PRACTICE	3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
		Credit Hours	**15**
	Semester Four		
!	FDM 20013	HISTORY OF FASHION	3
!	FDM 20123	FASHION DESIGN CONCEPTS	3
!	FDM 20157	3-D FASHION DESIGN PRACTICE	3
	MKTG 25010	PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING	3
	Additional Major Elective		3
		Credit Hours	**15**
	Semester Five		
	FDM 35010	CONTEMPORARY FASHION DESIGNERS (WIC)	3
!	Fashion Design Studio I Electives		6
	Additional Major Elective		2
	Kent Core Requirement		3
		Credit Hours	**14**

	Semester Six		
!	Fashion Design Studio II Electives		6
	Additional Major Elective		2
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours		**14**
	Third Summer Term		
	FDM 45292	INTERNSHIP IN FASHION DESIGN (ELR)	3
	Credit Hours		**3**
	Semester Seven		
	ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
!	FDM 40099	SENIOR FASHION DESIGN THESIS I (ELR)	6
!	FDM 40121	FASHION PORTFOLIO I	3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours		**15**
	Semester Eight		
	ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
!	FDM 40122	FASHION PORTFOLIO II	3
!	FDM 40199	SENIOR FASHION DESIGN THESIS II (ELR)	3
	Additional Major Elective		3
	Credit Hours		**12**
	Minimum Total Credit Hours:		**120**

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	**36-37**

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Describe the fashion industry, fashion markets, fashion products and services.
2. Integrate conceptual, technical and production design knowledge and skills, leading to a synthesis of the design process from concept to production.
3. Apply skills in the use of basic tools, techniques and processes sufficient to produce work from draft or specifications to finished product, including skills in portfolio preparation.
4. Use conceptual and critical thinking skills that are applicable to the fashion industry.
5. Employ research processes and practices used in the fashion industry.
6. Demonstrate professionalism and communication skills in the appropriate creative industry.

Policies
Physical Activity and ROTC Courses

No more than 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses or the first 16 credit hours of ROTC courses—Aerospace Studies (ASTU) and Military Studies (MSCI)—may apply to the 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Veterans who have completed a minimum of one year of active duty may receive PWS credit for military basic training according to branch of service, as follows:

- Army and Marine Corps, 3 credit hours;
- Navy and Coast Guard, 2 credit hours;
- Air Force, 1 credit hour.

Requirement Audit

Upon completion of 60 credit hours, each student is required to contact the College of the Arts Advising office to obtain a current evaluation of progress toward completion of the student's chosen degree program. Requirement evaluations are not a substitute for meeting with a faculty advisor. Students may access GPS (Graduation Planning System) audit through their FlashLine account which provides them with information about their academic progress. Questions about GPS audits are answered in the College of the Arts Advising office.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Fashion Design integrates conceptual, technical and production design knowledge and skills, leading to a synthesis of the design process from concept to production. These processes include color, design and trend research; technical sketching and rendered illustration; pattern-making and garment construction; analysis of appropriate fit and fabric selection; best practices in sustainable methods and knowledge and the ability to

communicate specifications for production using industry standards appropriate to specific markets.

The degree program prepares students for professional careers by developing technical competency, creative/independent problem solving and conceptual understanding necessary for the challenges of a career in the creative industries. Students develop portfolios for presentation at industry interviews and are prepared to be strongly competitive for any entry-level design position in the industry.

Students participate in a study abroad/away experience, which includes opportunities to study for a semester in New York City; Florence, Italy; and Paris, France, as well as through collaborative partnership programs with universities in Hong Kong, South Korea and London.

The B.F.A. degree in Fashion Design engages students in a focused-study thesis project (collection development) as a capstone experience that results in submitting their collection for formal review by faculty and industry designer-critics, followed by public presentation in a fashion venue and completion of a thesis "magazine" (print collateral).