

Course Title**Fashion Major – Beginner Level II: Sustainable Design & Ethics****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Course Objectives**

Students explore sustainable fashion concepts and ethics, learning the environmental and social impact of design choices. Skills developed include sustainable fiber analysis, upcycling, intermediate sewing, draping, and sustainable branding. The course culminates in a capstone collection showcasing sustainable practices.

Unit Title

Textiles and Sustainable Fibers

Time Frame

3 weeks**Unit Title**

Intermediate Sewing and Stitch Library Practice

Time Frame

3 weeks**Unit Title**

Upcycling and Creative Use

Time Frame

5 weeks**Unit Title**

Draping and Pattern Manipulation

Time Frame

4 weeks**Focus of the Unit**

Students will examine textiles and fibers popularly used within the fashion industry. Students will be able to differentiate between each fabric from look, hand, luster, weight, and other descriptors. Students will understand natural vs synthetic fibers and also connect with sustainable fabrics- what is good or beneficial for the Earth.

Focus of the Unit

Students will learn and explore new sewing techniques such as binding, finishing on different machines, and incorporating new techniques for high quality results. Students will add these to their portfolio and library.

Focus of the Unit

Students will challenge themselves to create new garments from previous clothing. Students will explore new techniques within sustainable design including zero waste design, minimal seaming and altering, and upcycling. Students begin with a small upcycling project to understand and explore the new concepts.

Focus of the Unit

Students will learn how to drape on the form and create new and interesting garments with a dress form. Students will understand pattern making from scratch while using a body as a template, understanding curve, shape, and building with fabric to create unique pieces. Students will enrich their pattern making skills and start completing custom work.

Board Approved 8/2026

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ARTS ACADEMY**Course Objectives**

Students explore sustainable fashion concepts and ethics, learning the environmental and social impact of design choices. Skills developed include sustainable fiber analysis, upcycling, intermediate sewing, draping, and sustainable branding. The course culminates in a capstone collection showcasing sustainable practices.

Unit Title

Fabric Manipulation and Exploration

Time Frame

4 weeks**Unit Title**

Fashion Production and Manufacturing

Time Frame

4 weeks**Unit Title**

Sustainable Fashion and Upcycling Collection

Time Frame

6 weeks**Unit Title**

Project Runway: Creative Fashion Challenge

Time Frame

6 weeks**Focus of the Unit**

Students learn to manipulate fabric to create shapes and patterns and add depth to their looks. Students will learn techniques such as smocking, gathering, pleating, and others to add texture and visual design to fabric.

Focus of the Unit

Students examine how fashion products move from concept to consumer, exploring fast fashion, avant garde, and sustainable practices in manufacturing and supply chains. Students will understand the difference between fast fashion, slow fashion, made to order, and one of a kind. Different business models and how they operate within the industry.

Focus of the Unit

Students explore environmental and social issues in fashion, examining sustainability principles and ethical decision-making in design. Students learn the creative and technical processes for upcycling existing garments into new designs. Students will design a mini collection and create 2 complete looks from sustainable fashion techniques.

Focus of the Unit

Students will experience unique and fun design challenges similar to the show Project Runway. Students will be tasked with completing looks according to a challenge and learn to collaborate with peers within fashion and in various other arts. Students will present their looks and showcase what they completed in a limited time frame.

Unit Title**Textiles and Sustainable Fibers****Time Frame****3 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How can we tell the difference between fabrics?

**Focus of the Unit**

Students will examine textiles and fibers popularly used within the fashion industry. Students will be able to differentiate between each fabric from look, hand, luster, weight, and other descriptors. Students will understand natural vs synthetic fibers and also connect with sustainable fabrics- what is good or beneficial for the Earth.

Standards

PA Arts: 9.2.12.C, 9.2.12.D, National Core: VA:Re7.1.1a, VA:Cn11.1.1a, FCS: 16.2.3

Learning Targets

I can identify and examine fabrics successfully.

Learning Targets

I understand fabric hand, weight, luster, and look.

Learning Targets

I can explain natural vs synthetic fibers.

Learning Targets

I can determine what a sustainable fabric is.

Resources

Fabric detail videos, Fabric swatches, Fabric classification WS

Unit Title**Intermediate Sewing and Stitch Library Practice****Time Frame****3 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How can we enhance our sewing skills to produce high quality garments?

**Focus of the Unit**

Students will learn and explore new sewing techniques such as binding, finishing on different machines, and incorporating new techniques for high quality results. Students will add these to their portfolio and library.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.1.12.C (Art production tools) National Core Arts: VA:Cr3.1.I (Refine art skills) Family & Consumer Sciences: 16.4.4 (Demonstrate advanced sewing) Core: Math (precision measurements), Science (fabric properties)

Learning Targets

I can practice new stitch techniques.

Learning Targets

I understand the different stitch needs certain fabrics need.

Learning Targets

I can add new techniques to my portfolio and stitch library.

Learning Targets

I can troubleshoot sewing problems independently.

Resources

Stitch finishings video, Fabric swatches, thread, machines

Unit Title**Upcycling and Creative Use****Time Frame****5 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How does upcycling differ from recycling?
What skills are needed to transform old clothes into new fashion?

**Focus of the Unit**

Students will challenge themselves to create new garments from previous clothing. Students will explore new techniques within sustainable design including zero waste design, minimal seaming and altering, and upcycling. Students begin with a small upcycling project to understand and explore the new concepts.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.1.12.B (Art processes), 9.4.12.C (Social issues in art) National Core Arts: VA:Cr2.1.1 (Organize and develop ideas) Family & Consumer Sciences: 16.4.2 (Use textiles creatively) Core: Math (pattern measurements), Science (material properties)

Learning Targets

I can plan a design using recycled garments.

Learning Targets

I can explain the environmental benefits of upcycling.

Learning Targets

I can deconstruct and reconstruct clothing for creative reuse.

Learning Targets

I can determine what a sustainable fabric is.

Resources

YouTube tutorials on upcycling, Examples from designers like Marine Serre

Unit Title**Draping and Pattern Manipulation****Time Frame****4 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How does draping differ from flat pattern drafting? Why is pattern manipulation crucial for original designs?

Focus of the Unit

Students will learn how to drape on the form and create new and interesting garments with a dress form. Students will understand pattern making from scratch while using a body as a template, understanding curve, shape, and building with fabric to create unique pieces. Students will enrich their pattern making skills and start completing custom work.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.1.12.A (Technical production) National Core Arts: VA:Cr2.1.I (Develop art) Family & Consumer Sciences: 16.3.2 (Pattern design) Core: Math (geometry in pattern work), Science (material behavior)

Learning Targets

I can drape on a form with fabric to create shape.

Learning Targets

I can create a pattern from scratch.

Learning Targets

I can alter commercial patterns for custom fits.

Learning Targets

I can alter and create custom garments.

Resources

Pattern-making books (e.g. "Patternmaking for Fashion Design") Dress forms

Unit Title**Fabric Manipulation and Exploration****Time Frame****4 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How can we enhance fabrics to add depth to designs?

**Focus of the Unit**

Students learn to manipulate fabric to create shapes and patterns and add depth to their looks. Students will learn techniques such as smocking, gathering, pleating, and others to add texture and visual design to fabric.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.1.12.C (Art production tools) National Core Arts: VA:Cr3.1.I (Refine art skills) Family & Consumer Sciences: 16.4.4 (Demonstrate advanced sewing) Core: Math (precision measurements), Science (fabric properties)

Learning Targets

I can identify the different fabric manipulation techniques.

Learning Targets

I understand fabric hand, weight, luster, and look.

Learning Targets

I can successfully create at least 2 fabric manipulations.

Learning Targets

I can creatively add shapes and patterns to fabric.

Resources

Fabric detail videos, Manipulation tutorials

Unit Title**Fashion Production and Manufacturing****Time Frame****4 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

What happens between design and store shelves? How can mass production be sustainable?

Focus of the Unit

Students examine how fashion products move from concept to consumer, exploring fast fashion, avant garde, and sustainable practices in manufacturing and supply chains. Students will understand the difference between fast fashion, slow fashion, made to order, and one of a kind. Different business models and how they operate within the industry.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.2.12.C (Cultural context) National Core Arts: VA:Re7.2.1 (Analyze context) Family & Consumer Sciences: 16.2.2 (Evaluate global issues in fashion) Core: Social Studies (economics), Science (industrial processes)

Learning Targets

I can trace the journey of a garment from design to retail.

Learning Targets

I understand the difference between fast and slow fashion.

Learning Targets

I can explain sustainable manufacturing processes.

Learning Targets

I can differentiate and classify business models.

Resources

Documentary “The True Cost” Fashion Transparency Index

Unit Title**Sustainable Fashion and Upcycling Collection****Time Frame****6 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How can my designs promote sustainability? How do collections reflect a designer's values?

Focus of the Unit

Students explore environmental and social issues in fashion, examining sustainability principles and ethical decision-making in design. Students learn the creative and technical processes for upcycling existing garments into new designs. Students will design a mini collection and create 2 complete looks from sustainable fashion techniques.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.1.12.A, 9.1.12.B (Production and performance) National Core Arts: VA:Cr3.1.I (Refine and complete artworks) Family & Consumer Sciences: 16.5.2 (Fashion presentation skills) Core: English (presentations), Math (budgeting)

Learning Targets

I can design a cohesive sustainable minicollection.

Learning Targets

I can present my collection professionally.

Learning Targets

I can create garments using sustainable methods and materials.

Learning Targets

I can explain sustainable and social issues in fashion.

Resources

Previous work from earlier units Mood board templates

Unit Title**Project Runway: Creative Fashion Challenge****Time Frame****6 weeks****INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How can I work within a challenge? How can I collaborate within the arts?

**Focus of the Unit**

Students will experience unique and fun design challenges similar to the show Project Runway. Students will be tasked with completing looks according to a challenge and learn to collaborate with peers within fashion and in various other arts. Students will present their looks and showcase what they completed in a limited time frame.

Standards

PA Arts & Humanities: 9.1.12.E – Communicate a unifying theme or point of view through the production of works in the arts. 9.3.12.D – Analyze and interpret works in the arts and humanities using discipline-specific vocabulary National Core Arts Standards (Visual Arts): VA:Pr6.1.HSIII – Make, explain, and justify connections between artists or artwork and social, cultural, and political history. Family and Consumer Sciences: 16.4.3 – Create original fashion designs and construct garments to express design concepts.

Learning Targets

I can design within a challenge constraint.

Learning Targets

I can present my collection professionally.

Learning Targets

I can collaborate with different art majors for my project.

Learning Targets

I can create a look that correctly displays the challenge.

Resources

Previous work from earlier units Mood board templates