

Fashion & Technology: Bachelor of Design

Chip and Shannon Wilson School of Design	kpu.ca/design
Fashion Design and Technology / Fashion Marketing	kpu.ca/fashion
Implementation Date	01-Sep-2015
Start Date(s)	September
Intake Type	Limited intake
Instructional Cycle	Semester-based
Program Type	Undergraduate
Credential Granted	Baccalaureate Degree
Offered At	Richmond
Format	Full-time
How to Apply	www.kpu.ca/admission

DESCRIPTION

KPU's Bachelor of Design, Fashion and Technology program is the only four-year program of its kind in Western Canada. Renowned for delivering a seamless balance of academic rigor with hands-on, industry-focused experience, this unique program continues to develop a world-class reputation for graduating fashion industry leaders. We prepare students for successful careers in the global apparel industry, with most graduates working in roles that focus on leadership, project management, and creative and technical specialties.

Under the guidance of fashion design and technology experts, students in this program master the process, skills and terminology of the apparel industry, from design concept through production and commercialization. Progressing from design theory, fundamental drawing, pattern-making and garment construction to specialized and digital techniques, the program's curriculum is noted for its industry-based focus and on fostering a community of emerging, forward-thinking designers.

This dynamic program features industry-relevant education and training using leading-edge technology, collaborative projects linked with prominent apparel companies and an extensive workplace practicum for further application of learning experiences. In the last year of the program, students showcase their final collections in what has become one of Vancouver's signature fashion events. The year-end professional fashion show is anticipated by industry and media alike with apparel community members eager to view and interact with graduating designers and their work.

KPU stands apart from any other similar program in large part due to passionate, dedicated teachers. The diverse faculty at KPU's Fashion Design & Technology program are industry leaders who are 'plugged in' to the global fashion scene and offer not just theoretical knowledge, but practical, industry-specific connections that are acutely relevant in today's marketplace.

The program simulates a professional working environment through the use of relevant, industrial equipment and technology with strict adherence to punctuality, scheduling and deadlines. Garments designed throughout the program reflect market trends by balancing creativity with marketability and are produced using industrial drafting and garment construction techniques. Students

benefit from the opportunity to further integrate their learning through industry-linked, guest speakers and presentations on current design issues. Additional consideration is focused on the development of proficient standards in critical thinking, analysis, problem solving, teamwork skills and leadership development.

High quality production equipment includes: industrial straight sew machines, sergers and specialty machines such as coverstitch and flatlock, seam sealer, steam irons, a vacuum press and a fusing machine. The integration of computer software is used for design, spec drawing, technical specification packages, buyers' kits, media kits, costing, pattern manipulation, grading, marker making and digital portfolio development.

The four-year, selective-entry program is organized into eight semesters with a minimum of 120 credits in total. The program is taken on a full-time basis. The diploma, which is the first two years of the degree program, consists of 62.5 credits in total. General education courses and electives in English, marketing, business and other courses from a wide range of offerings at KPU provide exposure to a breadth of study further enriching students as designers and global citizens.

Visit kpu.ca/fashion for more details.

STUDENT PROFILE

Most people who apply to the program have a passionate, lifelong interest in fashion with an aptitude for creative design, technical construction and an appreciation for fabric, prints, colours and trend forecasting. They are recent high school graduates, transfer students from other institutions, mature individuals returning to the profession or making a career change, or industry personnel seeking an upgrade in skills.

KPU boasts student exchange agreements with fashion schools in London, England; Helsinki, Finland; Taipei, Taiwan; Melbourne, Australia; Berlin, Germany and is developing further exchange opportunities to broaden global experiences.

Applicants with previous experience in the fashion industry may gain credits through Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). Graduates from a two-year fashion program who wish to pursue a degree will be assessed on an individual basis for potential advanced entry.

Industry personnel who wish to take a specific course or courses on a part-time basis to complement their job skills may do so based on seat availability and with permission from the Program Coordinator. Some course prerequisites may be waived based on work experience. Contact the Program Coordinator for further information.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

With over 300 apparel companies in the Lower Mainland, the well-established B.C. fashion industry offers many career choices. Graduates work in the design, marketing and production departments for vibrant lower mainland companies such as Arc'teryx, Aritzia, International Fashions, ivivva, Karma, Kensie, Kit and Ace, lululemon, Mountain Equipment Co-op, Mustang Survival, Oak and Fort, Peekaboo Beans, Plenty and Sugoi Performance Apparel. Similar opportunities are available worldwide with graduates currently at Nike, Abercrombie & Fitch, Nordstrom, and Volcom in the U.S. and Chloe in Paris, France.

Depending upon capabilities and interests, students work for large companies as members of design, production or marketing teams, for smaller design houses, working in all aspects of the business, engage in entrepreneurial (examples include Allison Wonderland, TrunkShow, Flaming Angels, Osei-Duro and Jolie Couture) or freelance endeavors. In all instances, graduates need

to be well versed in all three aspects of the business (design, production and marketing) to fully contribute as a team player. Emerging designers prosper best if they have a solid background and experience in production and marketing.

Fashion students interested in a career as a high school teacher of clothing and textiles may be eligible for entry to UBC's Bachelor of Education program in Home Economics upon completion of KPU's fashion degree, including a combination 18 credits of English, Sociology, Psychology and Family Studies courses. Family Studies courses may be taken at UBC as either a visiting student at UBC while completing KPU's fashion program (using these courses as electives towards the completion of the fashion degree) or as a UBC student following graduation from KPU's fashion program.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the Faculty's Admission Requirements, which consist of KPU's undergraduate English Proficiency Requirement, the following program admission requirements apply:

- English 12 with a minimum grade of 'B' (or equivalent)
- Portfolio Review and Orientation Session

Portfolio Review and Orientation Session

Prospective students should consult with an Academic Advisor, or with the Chip and Shannon Wilson School of Design prior to applying. Faculty will review the eligibility of candidates based on the contents of their portfolio. For detailed information about the Fashion and Technology portfolio requirements and review process, visit the department's website at kpu.ca/design/portfolio

Qualified applicants will receive an invitation in early April to the required Portfolio Review and Orientation session to take place in late April or early May. Alternative portfolio review arrangements are possible for students who live outside the Greater Vancouver Region and who cannot attend in person. It is, however, in the best interest of applicants to make every effort to attend in person.

Upper-Level Program Admission

In addition to the Program Admission Requirements, applicants with prior post-secondary experience may be eligible for advanced standing to the program at the upper level. Placement into the program is based on the results of the portfolio review, provided the following lower-level requirements have been previously satisfied:

- Completion of a fashion design diploma (or equivalent) with minimum 60 credits from a recognized college or university with a cumulative GPA of 2.7 or higher
- FASN 2200 (or transferable equivalent) with a minimum grade of B-
- FASN 2220 (or transferable equivalent) with a minimum grade of B-
- Successful completion of CMNS 1140 (or transferable equivalent)
- Successful completion of ENGL 1100 (or transferable equivalent)
- Successful completion of FASN 1205 (or equivalent courses in Adobe Illustrator® & Microsoft Office®)
- Successful completion of MRKT 1199 (or transferable equivalent)

CONTINUANCE REQUIREMENTS

Registration access to third or fourth year courses is awarded to students who have completed:

- all requirements for years 1 and 2 with minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7
- a minimum grade of B- in FASN 2200 and FASN 2220

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

The first year introduces students to the various facets of the fashion industry, elements and principles of fashion design, drawing, pattern drafting and industrial sewing and includes important support courses in English, computer applications for fashion and marketing. The second year is more focused on fashion discipline-based knowledge and skill development and includes designing for industry linked projects in collaboration with local apparel companies such as Lululemon, Plum and Oliver and Lilly's.

The third and fourth years feature opportunities to apply previous studies to real world applications. Students design for both mass and niche markets, combining creativity with marketability and practice production planning from both a local and global perspective. An Internship with a local design company will increase students' knowledge of industry practices and develop contacts in the industry. The final semester culminates in a fashion show presented to an audience of over 2,000 people. Most electives are taken in the senior years, but students may take electives in the order that best suits their schedules.

For transfer students, some courses in the lower-level of the program (FASN 1115, FASN 1150, FASN 2130, FASN 2240) may be taken while in the third year, subject to availability. Some credits from courses taken elsewhere may be used to fulfill the elective requirements in the third and fourth years. Transfer credits are assessed on an individual basis. For information on the transfer credit process, visit www.kpu.ca/transfercredit.

Year 1 and 2 Requirements

SEMESTER 1

All of:

FASN 1100	Fundamentals of Fashion Design	3 credits
FASN 1115	The Apparel Industry	2.5 credits
FASN 1120	Production Basics I	3.5 credits
FASN 1150	Fashion Retail Work Experience	2 credits
MRKT 1199	Introduction to Marketing (or any 1st year post-secondary, 3 credit marketing course)	3 credits

SEMESTER 2

All of:

FASN 1205	Computer Applications for Fashion	3 credits
FASN 1215	Textile Science	3 credits
FASN 1220	Production Basics II	6 credits

FASN 1230	Fashion Drawing I	2 credits
ENGL 1100*	Introduction to University Writing (or any 1st year, post-secondary, 3-credit English course),	3 credits

* Note: Completion of ENGL 1100 with a minimum grade of "C" (or an approved writing intensive course at the 1100 level or higher) is a graduation requirement. It is recommended that this course be taken prior to Year 2.

SEMESTER 3

All of:

FASN 2100	Fashion Design I	3 credits
FASN 2115	History of Costume	2.5 credits
FASN 2120	Style Production I	7 credits
FASN 2130	Technical Fashion Drawing	2 credits

SEMESTER 4

All of:

CMNS 1140	Introduction to Professional Communications (or any 1st year, post-secondary, 3 credit business communications course)	3 credits
FASN 2200	Fashion Design & Drawing II	5 credits
FASN 2220	Style Production II	7 credits
FASN 2240	Computer-Based Pattern Drafting	2 credits

Upon successful completion of the first four semesters (62.5 credits), students are eligible to exit the program and receive a Diploma.

Year 3 and 4 Requirements

SEMESTER 5

All of:

FASN 3100	Textile Design	3 credits
FASN 3120	Mass Manufacturing	7 credits
FASN 3130	Draping	4 credits
FASN 3150	Preparation for Fashion Industry Internship	1.5 credits

SEMESTER 6

All of:

FASN 3200	Product Development	3.5 credits
FASN 3250	Fashion Industry Internship	3 credits

And one elective (see below).

SEMESTER 7

All of:

FASN 4100	Line and Portfolio Development	5.5 credits
FASN 4150	Apparel in the Global Economy	4 credits

And two electives (see below).

SEMESTER 8

All of:

FASN 4210	Event Planning and Promotion	4 credits
FASN 4220	Collection Production	7 credits

And two electives (see below).

Electives

Electives must include:

- Minimum of two general education courses: (recommend one at the 3rd year level) courses from non-fashion areas of study that develop a breadth of knowledge and integrate with learning acquired in the program
- Minimum of one course, course number 1100 or higher, from the Faculty of Business
- Minimum of two other electives from any area of study, course number 1100 or higher (recommend business, marketing and fashion courses such as FASN 4250).

ADDITIONAL FASN COURSES

- **FASN 4130 Advanced Computer Studies in Fashion** is an elective course for 4th year students wanting to increase visual communication skills with the use of advanced 2D to 3D imaging, desktop imaging software, and product management software.
- **FASN 4250 Self-Directed Study** is an elective course for 4th year students wanting to study an area of fashion in more depth, subject to instructor approval.

CREDENTIAL AWARDED

Upon successful completion of this program, students are eligible to receive a **Bachelor of Design, Fashion and Technology**.

Upon successful completion of the Year 1 and 2 Requirements, students are eligible to receive a **Diploma in Fashion and Technology**.