

MA FASHION

Kingston University London



MA FASHION

Specialist Areas: Womenswear, Menswear & Knitwear

FAST FACTS

Further information, including fees

See www.kingston.ac.uk/pgartspace

Duration

FT: 1 yr PT: 2 yrs

Attendance

FT: 3 days per week PT: 1 day per week

Qualification, recognition and accreditation

MA

Entry requirements

A good first degree in fashion design or related subject and a first class portfolio of work.

We will also consider applicants with relevant work experience.

A portfolio of work, preferably on CD, must accompany your application.

International students must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

Interviews

We will invite all shortlisted applicants for interview. We can make alternative arrangements for international students based overseas.

Prior learning – AP(E)L

Applicants with prior qualifications and learning may be exempt from appropriate parts of a course in accordance with the University's policy for the assessment of prior learning and prior experiential learning. Download the University Guide to AP(E)L (PDF) for further information.

Fees

For the latest information on fees please visit:
www.kingston.ac.uk/fees

What is MA Fashion?

MA Fashion is a new and innovative postgraduate course launched at Kingston University this year. MA Fashion demands dynamic designers with a thirst for fashion innovation. The twelve month programme offers a unique focus, encouraging designers to question 'the body as architecture', 'the body as language' and 'the body as landscape'. Fashion acts as a barometer of our times. Students will observe and respond to contemporary rituals of dress, identifying new codes and modalities in the creation of future silhouettes within our Fashion Lab. Taught to identify creative narratives to produce and inspire future fashioning for the body, our students address the nuances that will drive and establish them as leading fashion thinkers.

What you will study

We encourage our students to address the role that fashion plays in the 21st century, and to engage with important areas of development. As the leading ateliers embrace the area of 'hybrid design', we too will explore new mediums to create fashion through digital design, rapid manufacture, soft technology, high-tech product processes, bio-textiles and nano-technology. The world's biotechnologists are engaged in developing 'super human bodies'; in laboratories they are growing skins and creating body augmentations for future generations. If we are at a juncture where the role of the human body and its skin are being redefined, then we believe that the body image makers – the fashion designers of tomorrow - have a responsibility in this design revolution.

Thought leaders and practitioners in the ever-expanding field of ethical, sustainable or slow-fashion will also participate in the course programme to engage, broaden and inspire students in relation to humanitarian design issues.

Who applies?

This course is designed for the most talented graduates who want the time and space to explore, debate and progress their project-led work to the very highest level, mentored through the development and evaluation of ideas and concepts toward an innovative and highly creative final project.

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THE COURSE

Course structure

Students will work in our Fashion Lab as a collective. With our well-established industry links and partnerships, the craft and skill of fashion is paramount at Kingston University and is developed through pioneering projects. During the course students will also participate in interdisciplinary modules established across the Schools of three-dimensional and communication design. In this way students are invited to expand their current design thinking and methodology, to experiment and transform their medium and to work in dynamic teams to exchange and create ideas.

Students will utilise our expertise in pattern cutting, concept development, experimental knitwear, marketing, exhibiting, styling, and experience of working with experimental practitioners in other disciplines.

The form of the course is that of a series of interdisciplinary projects that require students to explore, develop and critique their own creative process and work toward focusing and then realising an ambitious personal Master's project.

Modules

Process

Focus

Exploring Fashion

Master's Design Project Preparation

Interdisciplinary Practice Research

Master's Design Project

Stage 1 – Fashion Futures, Expression (12 Weeks)

During Stage One, students will carry out two elements to their postgraduate studies. A Process Module, studied in collaboration with MA Spatial/Product, MA For The Creative Economy, MA Design for Development, MA Screen Design, MA for Film and TV as well as the Fashion Context Module where our students develop a personal portfolio of 'fashion futures' in their specialist areas.

Process involves critical thinking a method of raw design is developed. Often significant cross faculty 'hybrid' collaborations forge, resulting in significant creative partnerships.

Process Module includes:

- Observations– identifying the creative eye.
- Mind Mapping - A series of techniques for design predictions and design themes.
- Systems – A process to generate design objects and techniques through material recreation.
- Iterations – The redefinition and critique of ideas.
- Exhibit – Contemporary process to show case ideas.

Stage One's Expression Fashion Context Module is studied as two-part programme:

- Dimensions, Perceptions, Body, Spheres, an abstract body based assignment encouraging students to establish future silhouettes, body formations, codes and modalities for 21st Century Dress.
- Coat No Coat a Humanitarian design journey, which identifies consciousness toward ethical body and fashion design.

Stage 2 – Fashion Futures, Meaning (18 Weeks)

Stages Two will establish significant skills for major project. Knit workshops are offered to the students in our high tech knitting lab for those who wish to explore knitted structures and textile forms within their project work. Students will work for major designers to assist their studies leading up to the February fashion show calendar. Kingston Fashion department is renowned for its established industry links, several highly respected art and design practitioners will visit the 'Fashion Lab' to set projects and work with our students to strengthen their Expression and Meaning Projects.

Stage Two also offers the opportunity for significant design work experience, students have the option to work across the design sectors gaining fashion experience alongside opportunities to join forces with commercial 'futures thinkers' from Product to Predictions. Students will also identify and build partnerships with potential sponsors and collaborators for their Major

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The Focus Module continues to be taught as part of the interdisciplinary programme. This project examines emerging design 'hot spots', the students are asked to enquire and develop intellectual concepts in product/fashion provocations as part of their interdisciplinary practice. Past themes have included 'Health, Care and Wellbeing' in 2009 and 'Inclusive Design' in 2008, The 2008 'Live' Project studied barrier free lifestyles and was in collaboration with the government funded Vassell Centre in Bristol.

The 'Meaning' Fashion Context Module Develops the Fashion Portfolio in 2D& 3D, projects include Ingredients; Materials Explorations and Forms with Philippa Wagner from WGSN. 'RRRR' a contemporary tailoring project, Skin - Base Layer, developing future silhouettes and structure as innovative contours. The Meaning Semester also includes an intensive illustration project with Illustrator Nina Chakrabati.

Stage 3 - Fashion Futures – Resolution (15 Weeks)

During Stage Three students identify their personal design signature. The Resolution design module allows for a period of consolidation prior to beginning the Masters Project and Exhibition. During this time students formalize the philosophical, strategic and poetic scope for their Masters Projects. The Masters Project and Exhibition is a self-initiated in depth practical design investigation. It is a culmination of their MA experience and the most ambitious expression of individual motivation, creativity and ability to deliver. A finished portfolio will be produced in parallel to the Major Project outlining all their previous design modules, competitions and personal ventures.

Students are assigned an artistic or design mentor to enable them to reach their goals intellectually, creatively and practically. They will work together with their peers across the art, design and architecture schools to identify a contemporary exhibition of collective Major Project's. Past exhibitions have included a showcase at The BargeHouse on the South Bank and at the Stanley Picker Gallery at The Knights Park University campus. These exhibitions are highly regarded and visited by past Kingston Alumni, Industry partners and as well as leading art, design and architecture practitioners.

Assessment

Design projects, written submissions, presentations, major project.

Course features

The MA Fashion provides the opportunity to develop your professional practice and extend your creativity.

Visiting staff and seminar presentations provide a critical framework for discussing theoretical research.

Project modules allow you to focus on an area of particular interest and gain valuable practical skills. These culminate with a major public exhibition/event and accompanying publication.

You also have the chance to:

- undertake site visits to supplement your learning;
- display work in the University's galleries and other exhibition spaces;
- collaborate with external organisations and individuals within other specialist areas; and
- extend your professional practice experience through a placement and residency.

Alongside your academic studies, you develop workplace skills in:

- problem solving and organisation;
- data collation, review and synopsis;
- communication (oral, written and electronic);
- time management;
- computing;
- and co-operation and teamwork.

We also offer a part-time study option to help you fit your MA around other commitments.

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Special features

As part of the Expression, Meaning and Resolution stages students will work with specialist industry creative's to develop a professional dialogue for their fashion portfolio. Key projects give the students the opportunity to work in 3D with Kingston Universities highly trained pattern cutters, garment engineers and 3D Material Specialists in our labs and workshops. Students are given the option to craft projection based body cutting, known in our faculty as Digital Draping, a unique design methodology created specifically at Kingston University. They will also be expected to exhibit and profile their work in magazines and publications throughout the year.

All our students are inducted into the university's high tech workshops to develop their skills within the design faculties 'Design Through Making' Programme.

The students are offered the option to enter into creative competitions to assist their fashion studies.

Graduation

When graduating, students will have achieved an unmistakable personal identity through their major project and their portfolio, and they will have gained the potential to become established future fashion design practitioners.

Links with business and industry

Companies who have recently collaborated on projects by offering internships in Italy and America over the summer vacation include:

- Thomas Pink,
- Gas Jeans,
- Brooks Brothers,
- Burlington and
- Abercrombie & Fitch.

Students have also visited companies in the UK and in Italy as part of their industrial projects.

As part of the new School of Three Dimensional Design at Kingston, you will have access to an extensive range of physical workshops and digital resources, a premier filming space and an enhanced photography/imaging department, and you will study alongside colleagues in related and complementary fields including product and furniture, spatial and film production design, within a Faculty including communication arts, fine art, architecture and a vibrant research culture.





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STAFF PROFILES

Who teaches this course?

The Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture teaches this course. The Faculty has its roots in the studio-based approach of Britain's art school system (the original School of Art was founded in the 1890s).

Today, most of your learning still takes place in our specialist studios. Each subject area has its own fully-equipped studio, where you take part in classes, tutorials and critical reviews with fellow students. This strong studio culture also ensures regular interaction between students and tutors.

Our industry connections mean we provide unique study opportunities, such as:

- the chance to have your work seen by eminent members of your profession
- 'live' projects, site visits and placements in prestigious companies or institutions
- project work and workshops with visiting lecturers and industry specialists

Our excellent reputation means that industry leaders regularly visit our student shows to see the best of the new talent. Most members of staff are professional practitioners, which keeps your learning cutting-edge. You will benefit from Kingston's expertise in pattern-cutting, concept development, experimental knitwear, marketing, exhibiting, styling and work with experimental practitioners in other disciplines.

Nancy Tilbury: Course Director, MA Fashion

Research Interests: Hybrid Interdisciplinary Design, Fashion Futures, Technology & The Body, Skin (The Future of Skin), Soft Technology - Smart Textiles, Ethical Fashion (Own-Fashion)

Nancy is a liberated thinker, a fashion designer by training, but with a wide curiosity, and an instinct for sensing emerging societal trends and an openness to work with any other discipline to innovate. She has worked in collaboration with Philips Design on many conceptual and strategic design projects; a current example is 'Skin Probes Dresses', exploring technological atmospheres in and around the body. Past commissions have included a program with Nike where she worked in a team to develop a strategic business model for the Digital Athlete. As well as a connected clothing line for Levi's

Europe titled 'ICD+', this product was positioned in boutiques as the first wearable technologies for the fashion industry. Nancy's client list includes EMI music, UK television channel ITV, Goose Advanced Apparel Design Agency, London and Philips Design in The Netherlands.

David Lawrence BA (Hons) Architecture, DIP. Arch., PhD, FRSA

Dr. David Lawrence is Head of the School of Three-Dimensional Design. Leaving a career in the clothing industry, he trained in architecture at Kingston University and the University of Westminster. David has a background in design, architecture and the history and practice of both disciplines, and prior to his present role was a lecturer at several British universities. He is a regular contributor to radio and television. Current projects include completion of a book on the architecture of London's Underground system; a history of entertainment venues; a study of roadside dining and culture; a series of photographic essays.

Elinor Renfrew

Elinor graduated from St Martins School of Art with an MA in Fashion. After fifteen years working in the fashion industry including launching her own label, she began her career in Higher Education in Melbourne, Australia. On returning to the UK she was a part-time lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University. After gaining a PGCE she became Senior Lecturer and then Course Leader at Ravensbourne College of Design & Communication establishing the Placement Programme which won the Governors' Award for Excellence. She then moved on to become Course Director of the BA (Hons) Fashion course at Kingston University, raising the profile of the department and securing International sponsorship internships and destinations for the course.

Elinor is currently an External Examiner for the MA Fashion & Textiles programmes at Edinburgh College of Art, Winchester School of Art and Central Saint Martins PGCE in Creative Pattern Cutting this year. She is now a consultant with Aquent recruitment agency in London and has recently been commissioned by AVA publishing to co-write a fashion text book with her husband Colin Renfrew, who is Dean at LCF.

Elinor is also on the British Fashion Council Colleges Council Steering Committee.

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Tony Brotheridge

Tony graduated from Newcastle Polytechnic in Menswear after studying Fine Art initially. After graduation, he worked at a design consultancy doing menswear trend forecasting. He then worked at Gieves and Hawkes on Savile Row, helping out the tailors on the bespoke menswear and 'Gieves' ready to wear range.

He worked closely with the designer, Hussein Chalayan, to produce the innovative engineered catwalk pieces. He is now working with Richard Nicoll, working on production patterns through to one-off showpieces and Biba developing patterns from original pieces.

Basia Szkutnicka

On graduating from Central Saint Martin's School of Art in 1988, she was described as 'A breath of fresh air, by Susie Menkes at her first and last catwalk show. She has collaborated with stylists and fashion editors (Isabella Blow, Judy Blame, Zanna) on a number of unique photographic, film and music projects. Currently Study Abroad Director at London College of Fashion, an associate lecturer (womenswear & footwear) on a number of programmes at the College as well as visiting lecturer on the Fashion Masters programme at Kingston University.

Basia's House – an Ebay site, selling vintage ephemera, clothes & accessories and 'fabulous stuff' was launched in January 2006.

Erika Trotzig

Erika is a Senior Lecturer and year leader on the BA Fashion course at Kingston. Born in Sweden in 1971, she graduated from Central Saint Martins in 1988, and went on to work for Belgian designer, Josephus Thimister in Paris before returning to London to launch her own label. She was awarded New Generation sponsorships, and sold in boutiques and department stores across the world, had catwalk shows during London Fashion Week, and exhibited in Paris and Tokyo.

Erika's approach to fashion is very creative, and in her teaching she strives to make the student question the boundaries and possibilities of fashion, as well as gaining an appreciation of the skills involved. She is currently working on a new project of one-off garments, whose aesthetic lies somewhere between haute couture and fine art.

Hannah Jordan

Since graduating from Central Saint Martins postgraduate innovative pattern cutting course in 2000, Hannah has completed an MPhil (titled: The Establishment of an Electronic Archive Detailing the Cut of Women's Clothes from 1944-1955). On a professional level Hannah has been working as Visiting Lecturer at Central Saint Martins MA Fashion course for the past 6 years, as well as working for various fashion houses such as Adam Entwhistle, Alistair Carr, Buddhist Punk, Julian MacDonald, Temperley and Richard Nicoll. Hannah is currently a Senior Lecturer leading the creative pattern cutting provision at Kingston.

James Church

James graduated from Ravensbourne College of Design and Communication in 1999, with a 1st Class Honours degree in Fashion with Textile Design and also has a PGCE. For the past eight years, James taught part-time on BA and MA courses at both Ravensbourne and Kingston University whilst working in industry. Since graduating and completing his PGCE, James has worked for various companies which include Philips Design, as a Researcher, John Lewis, in Management and Gary Rooney UK as a sample designer.

James is currently leading and developing an innovative Knitwear provision at Kingston.

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Philip Rowland

In 1981 after formative training as a design engineer with Rolls Royce, he completed a BA (Hons) Degree in Fashion and Textiles and after graduation worked for Daniel Hechter in Paris and the USA.

Working for Design Intelligence from 1983-1985, an international trend prediction service based in London, he worked with international clients including Calvin Klein and Ralph Lauren before joining Coats Viyella International to drive their sourcing business with Marks & Spencer. His role included global market research, analysis of seasonal trends and developing niche product with innovative suppliers in the Far East and South America.

In 1994 he joined Samsung Corporation in South Korea as a design consultant leading the design and product development of national and licensed fashion brands within the men's apparel division including DKNY, Slazenger, YSL and Nautica. He contributed to an increase market share across all brands by providing international market research from Europe, USA, Japan and the Far East.

He returned to Coats Viyella Branded Menswear in 1999 as Creative Director and was on the main Board of Directors.

Since 2003 he has worked in the design education as Senior Lecturer in Fashion Design and Promotion with the University College for the Creative Arts where he is now responsible for income generation and knowledge transfer. He joined Kingston as a part-time lecturer on the MA Fashion in 2008 for the Creative Economy and BA (Hons) Fashion courses.

Jane Chadwick

Jane qualified from Dundee College of Art and has been working as a part-time lecturer at Kingston University in the fashion department for over fifteen years. Her company, Quinton + Chadwick was formed in 1996 with business partner Jessica Quinton, designing and producing knitwear which to this day are produced in the UK. Their style is feminine and fun with unusual detailing. They were one of the first companies to put techno fibres such as Tactel and Tencel into knitwear using it in our own collections or as consultants for these brands.

An accessory range, QC, was introduced in 2002 which included hats, scarves and gloves and was sold to top global boutiques and department stores. Quinton Chadwick are presently showing their Autumn Winter 08 collection at London Fashion Week as well as continuing to develop own label cashmere collections for a selection of boutiques in the UK. A Quinton Chadwick Classic line will be launched in September 2008 which will sell through their on-line shop/boutiques in the UK.





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SCHOLARSHIPS

Annual Fund Postgraduate Scholarships

The Development Office is offering two postgraduate scholarships for UK and EU students for the 2008-2009 academic year. They are available for any subject and will pay 50% of the fees for a one-year, full-time or two-years, part-time masters programme (excluding MBA). Applicants should:

- be classed as "home" for fees purposes; and
- have already received an offer of a place for 2008 entry.

For further details email scholarships@kingston.ac.uk

International scholarships

The International Office is offering awards totalling £250,000 for 2008 entry, with each scholarship worth £3,000. These are open to prospective full-time postgraduates in any subject area on a one-year taught masters degree.

You can apply for an international scholarship if you:

- are an international student (classified as "overseas" for fee purposes)
- have an offer of a place on a course at Kingston for 2008 entry
- are not currently registered on a postgraduate course at Kingston University

You might also be eligible for an international loyalty bursary if you are Kingston University alumni or have a family connection with the University.

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RESEARCH AT KINGSTON

The Faculty of Art, Design & Architecture has a well-established research culture that encourages and supports high-quality research activity across the wide range of visual, spatial and material practice and culture. This rich spectrum includes practitioners, theorists and historians engaged in the creative and performing arts, curating, design, architecture, fashion, film, and town planning. Our aim is to foster a stimulating environment that encourages an exchange of ideas within and across the disciplines. Support was also received from the public sector, including the Department of Trade and Industry, the Arts Council, and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

Student research

You may be able to publish any research you undertake on the Kingston University Research and Innovation Reports (KURIR) website. This site gives anyone associated with Kingston University the opportunity to publish articles, which will be permanently available to the academic community.

See www.kingston.ac.uk/kurir

Fashion research

There is also the option to study research specific fashion and body themes across the faculty:

MA Fashion by Research, MPhil in Fashion and a Fashion PHD.

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RESEARCH GROUPS AND CENTRES

All staff and student researchers in the Faculty are part of a research centre through which they engage both with collaborative and individual projects and with a range of local, national and international research events, including workshops, seminars, visiting lecture series, conferences and symposia.

CONTEMPORARY ART RESEARCH CENTRE: CENTRE FOR USELESS SPLENDOUR

The recently established Contemporary Art Research Centre provides an intellectual and creative milieu for innovation in contemporary fine art. Taking its identity from Andre Breton's articulation of the imagination, we draw on that legacy of surrealism to conceptualise our project of innovation. In this way, researchers – staff and students – seek to imagine and enact possibilities of contemporary art in contingency with social politics, technology, models of knowledge and modes of experience.

The Centre focuses on four interconnected research spaces.

Foyer

Art and social context that explores propositions for agency and the generation of expanded and hybrid modes of socially sited artistic production through collaboration, curation, writing, publishing, broadcasting and other modes of dissemination.

Machine Room

Art and technology, where research focuses on how technologies, methods and processes might be understood, employed, detoured and reinvented.

Hall of Records

Art and epistemology, which considers how histories and bodies of knowledge might be generated, re-imagined and re-inscribed through work with archives and physical collections, found objects, constitutions, laws and manifestos.

Lumber Room

Art and materiality, explores the relationships between matter, experience and translation and how knowledge is developed through embodied temporal encounter in a wide range of practices, including performance and drawing.

Director Elizabeth Price

Co-Director Louis Nixon

E contemporaryart@kingston.ac.uk

www.kingston.ac.uk/design/contemporaryart

DESIGN RESEARCH CENTRE

Kingston University's Design Research Centre provides a transdisciplinary, intellectual and creative environment for researchers engaging with the cultural, environmental and presentational contexts of design practice in its widest sense. Research in this diverse area is developed through five interrelated design thematics that inform and support our postgraduate courses in design, the creative industries and the built environment.

Design Innovation focuses upon the presentational contexts of contemporary design practice in which design products and activities are formulated, disseminated and displayed. Individual and collaborative research projects bring an experimental or laboratory-like quality to the design process, which situates the activities of the designer within the broader context of commerce, industry, cultural institutions and the general public. Research benefits from the longstanding participation of several leading figures from the professional design arena, including the design, manufacture and production of fashion, interiors, and product and furniture.

Curating the Contemporary researchers focus on new initiatives and perspectives on curating, including the interface between design, craft and fine art. Research activities include regular themed conferences with leading international museum curators, a visiting professor programme, and collaborative projects with Kingston's on-site Stanley Picker Gallery. Design for Environments is an interdisciplinary focus for researchers engaged in the theory and practice of design for diverse environments. This includes design for well-being, health and micro-environments, as well as more spatial, aesthetic and critical enquiry into building typologies and cultural analysis of urban and leisure environments. Funded research projects range from the study of interior design schemes in hospitals, hospices and prisons, to systems of display in public transport networks and museums.

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RESEARCH GROUPS AND CENTRES

Design for Screen research focuses on interdisciplinary practice-based enquiry into screen-based media. Presentation and context is central to their critical investigation of the screen arts and industry, and researchers engage with documentary and experimental film-making, multimedia-based projects, mainstream film design and animation.

Sustainability focuses on multidisciplinary research into issues of sustainability across innovative product and packaging design, recycling and materials innovation. Research resources include the Recycling by Design Research Unit, the Inspirecycle web resource and the Creative Resource recycled materials' library, funded by the AHRC. Research outcomes range from product design and installations to consultancy reports and web-based resources.

Director Hilary Dalke
Associate Director Professor Catherine McDermott
Associate Director Professor Sarah Chaplin
E designresearch@kingston.ac.uk
www.kingston.ac.uk/design/designresearch

VISUAL AND MATERIAL CULTURE RESEARCH CENTRE

Situated at Knights Park, Kingston University's Visual and Material Culture Research Centre (VMCRC) provides the focus for energetic interdisciplinary research in modern and contemporary visual and material culture and the histories of art, film, design and architecture. The Centre enables academics, emerging scholars and students to conduct research within a stimulating and collegiate environment that actively seeks to shape the future of these fields of inquiry. Researchers are engaged in both individual and collaborative projects with a shared emphasis on modernity and its futures, and, since 1997, have organised a series of conferences and symposia in collaboration with major London museums and galleries.

Distinct inter-animating areas of study are: Historical and Critical Studies engaging with issues of patronage, the art market, avant-gardes, and the history of the art school; Place, Space and Global Futures, which focuses on local, national, and international identity; and Gender, Technology and the Human Image.

Director Professor Fran Lloyd
Associate Director Dr Marquard Smith
E vamcrc@kingston.ac.uk
www.kingston.ac.uk/design/VAMCRC

For further information on research within the Faculty, and to find out more about research opportunities, contact our research administrator:

T +44 (0)20 8417 7416

E e.day@kingston.ac.uk

www.kingston.ac.uk/art-design-arch-research

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FACILITIES

The Faculty of Art, Design & Architecture began an ambitious and ongoing programme of investment during 2007. Consequently, we have been able to make significant improvements to our workshops and some other resources in order to support your learning.

These include:

- Faculty wide technical resources available to students on all courses;
- significant improvements to the 3D workshops with an investment in new equipment, which now includes a CNC controlled 3D router, a rapid prototyper 3D printer, a 3D scanner and a 2D plotter/cutter;
- the creation of a state-of-the-art filming environment and animation suite;
- the development of an industry standard photographic suite with two new digital darkrooms;
- the newly specified Digital Media Workshops I & II, with hardware and software upgraded to a professional level;
- the creation of a bookable, inter-disciplinary project studio;
- ongoing refurbishment of studios.

The University has its own on-site galleries, including:

- Dorich House – home of the sculptor of Dora Gordine;
- the Stanley Picker Gallery – featuring exhibitions of contemporary art plus exhibition space for students; and
- project spaces in the main University campus, which you can book for the construction of large-scale work.

You also benefit from:

- well-equipped lecture theatres, seminar rooms and workshops;
- the library's extensive book and journal collection – as well as over 150,000 slides and visual references dating back to the 1600s;
- computer resources; and
- the dedicated Graduate Centre on campus – including IT facilities, seminar rooms and social spaces.

Resources in London

Kingston is just a 25-minute train journey away from central London. Here you can access a wealth of exhibitions and galleries, including the Tate Modern and the National Gallery.

Learning support

We want to make sure you get all the support you need while you are with us. Here you can see the range of support we can offer you while you're doing this course.

When you arrive at Kingston, we will allocate you a personal tutor to make sure you have access to appropriate advice regarding your academic development. You will also be able to use the University's Careers Service and counselling service.

Personal training plans

We offer all students training sessions when they arrive at Kingston University, covering:

- project management;
- communication skills; and
- information research and retrieval.

The aim is to give you the chance to improve your study, research and life skills.

Blackboard

Blackboard is an online learning management system. It is a potentially limitless resource for lecture notes and interactive teaching including:

- access to course materials – such as lecture notes, backup materials, presentations and previous exam papers;
- online chatrooms and bulletin boards – so you can interact with staff and other students; and
- multimedia features – such as video tutorials.

Because you can use Blackboard from any internet-enabled computer at any time, you can choose when and where you study.

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StudentSpace

The Kingston University student intranet provides a fast, easy way to find information and work online. It provides everything you need to know about student life at Kingston.

You can also use StudentSpace as a virtual workspace, customising it to include:

- your chosen web-based applications;
- favourite web links;
- a useful calendar; and
- your recently opened files.

The Graduate School and Centres

All postgraduate students at Kingston have the support of the Graduate School. The Graduate School:

runs special training programmes for research students;

works with academics and administrators to develop graduate education and reinforce the links between teaching and research; and

helps to introduce new initiatives to postgraduate activities.

It also manages the Graduate Centres, dedicated spaces for graduate students. These are ideal for private study or holding meetings.

Language support

International students can access plenty of language support, both before and during your course:

Pre-sessional English Language Course – improve your English language skills and learn about study methods and life in the UK

English Language Support Programme – after you enrol, this free programme offers a range of academic English courses and tutorial support throughout the academic year.

Where is the Faculty based?

Most students in the Faculty are based at the University's Knights Park campus, with surveying courses based at Penrhyn Road. Our well-equipped facilities offer a modern study environment so that you graduate with cutting-edge skills and knowledge.

After you graduate

This brand new Masters programme is expected to build upon the success of our long established undergraduate programme which has had graduates working at:

- Abercrombie & Fitch,
- Biba,
- Burberry.
- H&M,
- Karen Millen,
- Paul Smith and
- Reiss,
- Stella McCartney,

In 2007, eight graduates leave to take up positions at American Eagle and Abercrombie & Fitch in New York, Zara and Massimo Dutti in Spain, and Hugo Boss in Germany.

Portfolio Advice/Interview Process:

The portfolio should identify you as talented graduate or designer who wishes to return to education to with an aspiration to discover, debate and progress. A portfolio is needed and interviews will take place for UK based residents at Kingston University or at off site venues where appropriate. Overseas students should submit a CD to show the extent of their previous design practice. Interviews are also held via the Internet. Candidates should contact the course director (n.tilbury@kingston.ac.uk).

CONTACT

Postgraduate Admissions Administrator

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