

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton School of Art		
Course Code(s):	AA036H01UV AA036H31UV	Full-time Part-time	3 Years 6 Years
Course Title:	BA (Hons) Textiles and Surface Pattern		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Textiles and Surface Pattern Bachelor of Arts Textiles and Surface Pattern Diploma of Higher Education Textiles and Surface Pattern Certificate of Higher Education Textiles and Surface Pattern University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	11/Oct/2017		
Last Review:	2017/8		
Course Specification valid from:	2017/8		
Course Specification valid to:	2023/4		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Miss Sharon Watts
Head of Department:	Dr Jane Webb

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

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2017 Entry

- CCC from 'A' levels
- BTEC QCF Extended Diploma grade MMM, BTEC QCF Diploma grade DD
- Successful completion of a Foundation Course in Art and Design
- Access to HE Diploma full award (Pass of 60 credits - of which a minimum of 45 credits must be at level 3 including 18 at Merit or Distinction)
- If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact The Gateway for further advice before applying.
- Successful completion of the International Foundation Year in Social Sciences or International Foundation Year in Arts guarantees entry on to this course
- International entry requirements and application guidance can be found [here](#)
- Successful completion of the International Foundation Year in Social Sciences or International Foundation Year in Arts

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The twenty first century textile industry needs graduates that have practical, hands on skills, digital design expertise and market & product intelligence across all aspects of the discipline. This course offers you the opportunity to develop and refine these skills and attributes as you progress from a novice to expert designer.

BA (Hons) Textiles and Surface Pattern is assessed on 100% coursework.

The curriculum is delivered through a series of projects which will give you the opportunity to develop making and designing skills, conceptual ideas, contextual knowledge and understanding and experience of live industry briefs/ external projects in the public domain.

Studio and workshop culture is core to our courses and you will be encouraged to become part of the art and design community through time spent working in the studios, workshops and labs available to students across the week.

All courses in the School of Art are now available with a professional placement (sandwich year) option. A professional placement provides an opportunity for professional development in the work place and as such, greatly enhances the student's prospects of finding rewarding and relevant employment at the end of their studies.

The BA (Hons) Textiles and Surface Pattern Course is distinctive because it offers:

- Traditional and New Materials and Processes

You have daily access to an impressive range of materials, processes and technologies related to the creative development of textiles and surface pattern design. The department has screen print facilities for fabric and paper, a dye lab, textile digital printers and presses for synthetic and natural fabrics, a stitch room and comprehensive hand-tuft facility for rug. Alongside this you have access to a wide range of workshops which could include printmaking, glass, ceramics, laser-cut and 3-D printing, wood, metals and plastics, allowing you to be highly exploratory and inventive in your use of materials to arrive at product outcomes.

Innovation

- Due to the extensive specialist workshops, kit and technical expertise, students with an innovative forward looking approach to surface pattern can experiment and develop work that explores alternative surfaces and mediums to a highly professional standard

- Independence and Creative Risk Taking

You will engage in self-directed research, work on exciting assignments and group projects with your own cohort and with other international clients, markets and professional agencies. Innovative approaches, newness and exploration are encouraged to fulfil these briefs to make these professionals take notice of your design solutions.

- Employability

Preparing you for a dynamic creative career is a priority. Our course is designed to provide you with the best possible creative education centred on employability and student support. Live projects, industry focused briefs, guest speakers, bespoke career development sessions, creation of targeted promotional material, relevant portfolios and electronic resources all allow you to develop entrepreneurial attributes alongside possessing a highly appropriate skill base for careers in the creative industries

At each level, our yearlong modules allow you to experience and engage with projects of increasing complexity and varied timescales that reflect the breadth and flexibility of the commercial design world.

- Staff Team

You will be taught by a friendly academic team who are practicing designers with extensive international industry experience and renowned researchers, professionally involved in a range of fashion and textiles related practice, exhibition and publication.

- Collaboration

The unique curriculum structure in the School of Art allows many opportunities for you to collaborate with other students. In your second year you will be encouraged to make creative collaborations with students from complimentary courses such as Interior Design, Illustration, Fashion or Furniture Design. You will be also able to liaise with the photography department in order to stylishly showcase your work in a photographic portfolio.

Studio Culture

- Studios in the School of Art are open all week. You will have your own dedicated studio desk space within a warm friendly studio atmosphere. Alongside workshops and adjacent seminar spaces this is where you will be taught.

External Facing.

- This course keeps pace with the fast moving creative industry offering opportunities to exhibit professionally, attend and exhibit at trade events, participate in national and international competitions and catwalk shows promoting exposure of your work to an international audience.

Work placements, national and international study visits and live briefs help you to establish skills that are

essential to the needs of a global fashion and textiles industry.

The option of a placement year will give you extended understanding of a global fashion and textiles industry.

History

- The course was originally established to service the regional flooring/carpet industry and many graduates have established successful careers globally within this sector.

The global flooring market is highly competitive and driven by technology and new trends in innovative floor designs and construction solutions. The textile and surface pattern course at Wolverhampton continues to engage in the flooring market and offers students a unique textile opportunity to develop work for this sector supported by expertise and traditional and new technologies. Long established relationships with Industry partners, for example, John Lewis, expose student's work to a live audience. Students work in hand tufting, carving, peg boarding and use specialist carpet software. A specialist tutor ensures a rich and varied exposure to this fascinating area of interior textiles

Educational Aims of the Course:

BA (Hons) Textiles and Surface Pattern is a highly creative course designed to equip you with the skills, attributes and passion you need to work within the broad, fast paced exciting world of cutting edge textiles and surface design.

The ethos of the course is based on employability and creativity underpinned by hands on textile design processes, studio based professional practice and contextual understanding.

This course allows you to develop as an individual designer and explore innovative design approaches, take part in industry relevant practical projects that offer insight into current design practice whilst encouraging speculative and creative risk taking in the design process.

This creative and challenging programme covers design for a wide range of contexts including: Surface pattern design, textile design for interiors and print design for fashion.

As you progress through the course you will have the opportunity to develop your creative identity via a curriculum that can offer you the choice of becoming a specialist in one of these fields or explore a wider range of approaches to textiles and surface design from a commercial or conceptual perspective.

The twenty first century textile industry needs designers who have design intelligence, versatility and a range of skills incorporating both practical, hands on, material practice and the broader knowledge of product application, market awareness and innovation. This course is designed to offer that level of scope and diversity.

You will be exposed to a range of design possibilities through research, workshops, design projects, engagement with industry, personal investigation, product outcome to prepare you as designers for the opportunities the modern, global fashion and textile industry offers.

We aim to:

- Provide an exciting, inspiring studio environment, encouraging student centred learning, creative expression and an emerging self-reliance in preparation for a career in the global fashion and textiles arena.
- Provide opportunities for small group learning and one to one support from expert tutors throughout the course
- Provide the opportunity to study a dynamic course that promotes individual creativity and collaborative work centred on textile design.
- Develop creative thinking and risk taking.
- Develop your skills in visual and contextual research, aesthetic awareness and design translation.
- Promote professional involvement in the textiles industry via live briefs, placement opportunities and work based learning (including a sandwich option which provides the platform to integrate your personal creative expression with the needs of the industry).

- Create an awareness of ethical business practice and design responsibility.

Each level of the course has been planned to ensure progressive learning. In summary:

In your first year the focus is about orientation, skill, concept and creative thinking. You will be introduced to the different aspects of textile design, through a combination of traditional and new technology. Design through process will be key.

Practice is underpinned by creative thinking, visual and theoretical research, CAD and drawing. Exploration of drawing is integral to the course informing skills and processes, transforming you from novice to expert.

Introduction to workshop practice is vital at this level and allows you to explore textile/surface processes as an important part of developing specific subject knowledge. Such as: dye, hand-screen print, digital print processes, CAD, rug tufting, creative stitch. You will explore design through material knowledge and experimentation.

You will also be introduced to a variety of textile areas through a series of projects incorporating design for wallpaper, furnishings, rug and carpet, print for fashion and innovative surfaces.

This will be further supported by a growing contextual understanding and the development of market intelligence.

In your second year the focus is on consolidation, translating ideas within creative professional contexts. You will examine textile design and the broader creative industries in detail and consider the developments and changes that impact on design in your chosen area in a global context.

Second year is diagnostic - you will now begin to develop a specialist approach dependent on which strand of textile practice you feel you have an affinity with and develop expertise in one of the following:

- Textiles for interiors encompassing design and product for wallpapers, furnishing fabrics, carpet, hand-tufted rug, and hard flooring.
- Print for fashion which covers a vast range of design outcomes and product with the emphasis on fabric, including digital and hand rendered processes such as dye, screen print, laser-cut and embellished surface.
- Surface Pattern, focusing on designing through studio practice, CAD and innovative technology leading to a variety of design answers for multiple surface applications.

Live projects are major aspects of the course and during this year you will engage in industry focused briefs, national and international competitions and have the opportunity to collaborate on projects within the course or in collaboration with other areas including Illustration, Interior Design, Furniture Design, Product Design or Fine Art.

As a practical and theoretical course, lectures, seminars and group discussion in historical and contextual studies will enable you to explore areas of textile production, innovation and global issues. This will also help you to frame your studio practice and develop your critical thinking skills.

In your final year the focus is on defining and refining individual creativity through negotiated projects.

Your year-long Major Project will allow you to research extensively and explore in depth your chosen area of specialism, refining expertise from second year, and developing a creative and individual body of work with your future career in mind.

You will also engage with industry through live projects allowing your design expertise to flourish in a focused professional manner. In your final year high levels of independence, risk taking and innovation are encouraged alongside well developed critical analysis and mature understanding of potential fashion and textile markets.

Employability is a key aspect of the course, through lectures, seminars, visits from industry experts and specialist career advisors you will develop a sound knowledge of the career opportunities within the creative industries and focused intelligence in relation to your own specialism

In support of your practice you will prepare extensive, career focused promotional material ranging from a

professional promotional portfolio, website and targeted electronic presentations as well as learning about professional use of social media platforms for promotional purposes.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3050.00
2020/1	Overseas	Part Time	£6125.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4VA009	Methods and Media	60	YEAR	Core
4VA012	Design Practice	60	YEAR	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5VA011	Advanced Process	60	YEAR	Core
5VA016	Textiles and Surface Pattern:Design Focus	60	YEAR	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 3

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6VA017	Textiles and Surface Pattern:Major Project	60	YEAR	Core
6VA018	Professional Practice	60	YEAR	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

AFRSC/17/6.2.3 FoA Undergraduate Arts Degree Portfolio.

Section 1.3.1 - Exemption to exceed normal module credits within the standard University Academic Framework allowing for use of all 60 credit taught modules (Level 3 to Level 6) delivered Year Long on the following programmes;

BA (Hons) Commercial Photography

BA (Hons) Digital Art

BA (Hons) Fashion

BA (Hons) Fine Art

BA (Hons) Furniture Design

BA (Hons) Glass and Ceramics

BA (Hons) Graphic Design

BA (Hons) Illustration

BA (Hons) Painting and Printmaking

BA (Hons) Sculpture and Environmental Art

BA (Hons) Textiles and Surface Pattern

BA (Hons) Visual Communication

BDes (Hons) Interior Design

BDes (Hons) Product Design.

Effective date: September 2018.

APPROVED (by Chair's Action on 6/10/2017).

Reference Points:

Quality Code - [Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards](#). Including :

[Qualifications Frameworks](#)

[Characteristics Statements](#)

[Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements](#)

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Art-and-Design-17.pdf>

Quality Code - [Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010)

Learning Outcomes:

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

Demonstrate experience of working with a range of materials, processes and technologies associated with textiles and surface pattern.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

Be experimental and show the ability to use speculative and reflective approaches to making and designing.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

Research and respond to contemporary historical and cultural contexts and show the curiosity to develop personally focused research.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

Evaluate and reflect on your performance and that of your peer group in relation to appropriate contextual references and audiences.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (CHECLO5)

Document and communicate with others about how your ideas have evolved and explain your decision making in support of project outcomes.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (DHECLO1)

Demonstrate specialist skills, techniques, processes, technologies and material knowledge relevant and pertinent to contemporary practice in textiles and surface pattern.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (DHECLO2)

Explore a range of creative, speculative and research methods in your work and use the knowledge to inform the development of your practice.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (DHECLO3)

Understand the external contexts of textiles and surface pattern and resolve projects through informed decision making in relation to these contexts.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (DHECLO4)

Research, identify and evaluate appropriate contextual knowledge relevant to textiles and surface pattern through written and verbal presentations.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (DHECLO5)

Develop an engagement with external communities and audiences and use appropriate forums to discuss and reflect on your practice.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 6 (DHECLO6)

Demonstrate a sustained commitment to discussion and engagement with your art and design community.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

Think creatively to resolve your work to a professional standard within your discipline.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

Demonstrate knowledge of the specific critical and contextual dimensions of your practice and engage in the work of practitioners and theorists relevant to your final project.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

Employ models of professional presentation appropriate to the dissemination of your work.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

Demonstrate knowledge of the specific critical and contextual dimensions of your work and engage in the work of practitioners and theorists relevant to your final project.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

Critically reflect on and benefit from engagement with others and utilise personal development planning effectively to progress your practice.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

Think creatively to resolve your work to a professional standard within your discipline.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

Demonstrate knowledge of the specific critical and contextual dimensions of your practice and engage in the work of practitioners and theorists relevant to your final project.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

Employ models of professional presentation appropriate to the dissemination of your work.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

Demonstrate a sustained ability to reflect on your work and use the information to develop new work and an informed understanding of your practice.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

Understand and locate your work appropriately within the broad and specialist contexts of your subject and research appropriate personal and career objectives.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
4VA009	Methods and Media	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4, CHECLO5, CHECLO6
4VA012	Design Practice	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4, CHECLO5, CHECLO6
5VA011	Advanced Process	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5VA016	Textiles and Surface Pattern:Design Focus	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
6VA017	Textiles and Surface Pattern:Major Project	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6VA018	Professional Practice	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Teaching is focused in (though not limited to) a studio environment in which tutor-student engagement and peer-to-peer learning supports a professional and independent approach to development from Level 4 onwards.

The course is structured over three years as two year long 60 credit units (per year), which are designed to facilitate both full and part-time routes. Each module has points of formative assessment that provide key indicators for staff teams to assess student progress and trigger support mechanisms. Summative assessment takes place at the end of each module. Students will therefore have a number of opportunities throughout the year to achieve learning outcomes and to further develop aspects of their practice. This continual review process will be tracked through project feedback within the module, and will also be supported by their personal tutor.

The modules embed theoretical and contextual practice within studio-based teaching. This constitutes a third of teaching a year (across the two modules) and interconnects to practice throughout. Level 4 is structured around a range of contextual learning opportunities from traditional lectures to creative thinking workshops that mirror the breadth of practice based research, communication skills and contextual understanding that students experience within their disciplines. Levels 5 and 6 provide opportunities for students to develop their own trajectories in a way that reflects their practice in the studio through a choice of theoretical and theory-practice combined assessment routes.

Employability is core to the ethos of the School of Art's learning and teaching. At Level 5 students will work

on subject-specific briefs but with emphasis on off-site/live projects/placement that offer opportunities for trans-disciplinary collaborative practice. In addition, the university offers a Career Development Week, which is intended to provide cross-curricula activities that enable students to extend or galvanise their skill and employability goals. At Level 6 there will be more emphasis on develop self negotiated projects with considerable provision for interdisciplinary teams working together on ambitious final outcomes where appropriate and support for students to maintain placement learning and external networks established at Level 5.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

General University support:

The university has an extensive range of support options for students. For Art and Design students this begins with Arts Support Central, an online resource through which academic study support, careers and enterprise, counselling, enabling services, Chaplaincy services, nursery and carer support, financial services and distance learning can all be accessed. Students can access student advisors and mentors and there is support and representation also offered by the Students' Union and can also find support based on whether they are International students, TNE students, research students, mature students or students with families.

Course Specific Support

The course has a personal tutor system in which students see a tutor assigned to them regularly throughout the year and this provides them with pastoral support outside of their immediate academic studies on specific modules.

The course has a number of peer support assistants who are level 5, 6 and 7 students employed to support students at Level 4.

There is a specialist Art and Design librarian who works closely with the staff team to support the subject-specific research and writing skills of students at all levels. University Learning Centres also provide general academic skills support to all students. You can make an appointment with a study skills advisor for help and advice on areas such as academic writing, assignment planning, and time management. In addition, there is a timetable of drop-in and bookable workshops covering broad subjects such as digital literacy skills and academic referencing. This support is situated within the library, which has an extensive and long-standing collection of printed materials and monographs that can be accessed 24 hours a day in term time. Students can also access a range of texts and journals electronically both on campus and at home.

Our academic and technical staff team are available to support your studio work outside of timetabled sessions, ensuring access to advice and support for your studies is available throughout the week. Additional technical workshops allow you to learn, develop and hone your skills.

You can also expect to receive support and guidance in the area of Personal Development Planning, enabling you to understand and develop your skills during your transition from student to practitioner; readying you for employment effectively and successfully.

Employability in the Curriculum:

The aim of the course is to produce graduates who are professional, skilled and dynamic. All of our students have the opportunity to engage with an additional 'Employability Award' associated with their degree, and a high percentage of our students achieve the gold standard as a result of our employment-focused curriculum.

All courses in the School of Art are now available with a professional placement option. A professional placement provides an opportunity for professional development in the work place and as such, greatly enhances the student's prospects of finding rewarding and relevant employment at the end of their studies. The course assists students in securing work placements, undertaking live briefs, engaging directly with employers and developing key employability skills. The School is committed to raising student awareness of the opportunities that exist post-graduation.

Employment opportunities include:

- Textile Design

Textile design for fashion, including all facets of Women's wear and Children's wear, Babywear, Menswear, Swim, Scarves, Lingerie, Active wear

Textile design for interiors including Furnishing Fabrics, Wallpapers and flooring.

Textile/Surface design for Table Top and Lifestyle products

Employment within specific textile areas, for example design for the rug carpet and hard flooring industry

Design for contract spaces/ Interiors

Interior Designer

Write for textile publications, blogs magazines

Business

- Art Director, design Studio

Studio Manager

Styling, for national and global brands

Fashion or Furnishings Retail Buyer

Visual Merchandising

Colour/ Trend Forecasting and Market prediction

Interior Styling

Fashion, Textiles, home wares retail manager

Surface Pattern/ Design

- Surface Pattern Design for the card and gift wrap industry

Book Illustration,

Design for paper products

Branding and packaging

Education

- Teaching-Secondary, Further Education or Higher Education.

Researcher

Textile Historian

Write for academic journals.

Gallery curator.

Textile Technician

Community workshops and Specialist master classes

Study to postgraduate level on our MA programme or other postgraduate courses

Art

- Textile Artist

Art Therapy.

Print Maker

Designer/makers: entrepreneur

Community Artist

Arts and crafts administration,

Theatre costume and set

You will also have the opportunity to engage in freelance work, sell design work through agents and design studios, and work to commission

We encourage entrepreneurial development and access to business start up schemes, enabling you to run your own business and sell through retail or within other design, arts and crafts outlets.



THE UNIVERSITY OF OPPORTUNITY