

## COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

**Academic School/Department:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**Programme:** Study Abroad

**FHEQ Level:** 4

**Course Title:** History of Fashion

**Course Code:** HIST FASH/4601

**Total Hours:** 120

Timetabled Hours: 45

Guided Learning Hours: 0

Independent Learning Hours: 75

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits

3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course analyses the history of fashion from a sociological perspective – covering the period from the beginning of the modern period to the present. Relationships between dress, fashion, class, political power, ethnicity and gender are investigated. While the primary focus is upon the historical development of western fashion, global interconnections are investigated throughout the course.

### **Prerequisites:** None

Students will not be able to take the four-credit version of this course if they had previously taken this three-credit course.

**Aims and Objectives:**

- To study the international history of fashion in cross-cultural contexts.
- To address the relationships between fashion and factors such as power, class, ethnicity and gender.
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields which require articulate, clear-thinking individuals with a grasp of international history.
- To foster the acquisition, development and consolidation of a variety of historical and transferable skills through the study of particular themes in international history.
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of primary and secondary historical sources, and the development of both a succinct writing style and the ability to present complex arguments orally.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A4I

B4I

C4I

D4I

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of international history as it applies to the theme of fashion.
- Demonstrate broad insight into how the history of fashion can be approached from a dynamic and cross-cultural perspective.
- Demonstrate the accumulation of a detailed body of comparative historical knowledge regarding fashion and dress, as well as an understanding of the main themes raised by this knowledge.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyse a wide range of primary and secondary sources relating to the history of fashion, textiles and dress.
- Show a fundamental grasp of methods for reading and interpreting printed primary source material.
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 4000-level course.

**Indicative Content:**

- Fashion and dress in the early modern period
- Class, morality, power & dress in the 17<sup>th</sup> century
- Clothing & commerce in the 18<sup>th</sup> century
- Modernity & fashion in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Fashion, politics and power between the wars
- Gender, culture & fashion in 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Fashion & globalization in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and are located at <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

**Teaching Methodology:**

This is a survey course and taught through a combination of lectures, museum visits and seminar classes. Lectures are primarily designed to give an overview of the issues and problems on a particular topic, thereby providing guidance for visits and seminar discussion. Seminars will be used for debates and group/sub-group discussion and are intended to provide an interactive and participatory learning environment. Students are expected to do the set readings for each week, and to be prepared to contribute to class discussion and discussion sub-groups. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of learning.



