

# NCAD - YOUR PORTFOLIO – YOUR WAY

## Fashion Design Guidelines

The following guidelines may be used when applying to **Fashion Design**. Please note that these are simple guidelines to get you started on your portfolio journey and do not have to be followed. If you do decide to follow them, we suggest that you come up with your own ideas for the guidewords.

Pick one or more of the following guide words to explore.

Expansion	Territory	Remnant
Departure	Encounter	Restriction
Gradient	Hurdle	Affinity

For example; if you were to take a **departure** from the traditional fabrics used in an item of clothing for the body, demonstrate what material you would use instead and why? If you design an item of clothing for the body for a dancer, what **restrictions** would there be on your item of clothing and how would you overcome this if it were to be constructed? Look at the world around you in terms of fashion; what fashion is worn in your own different **territories**, or places and why is this? Can you design an item of clothing for the body that could be worn in your different territories? Eg. something comfortable you wear at home that you could wear to a formal event, such as a Debs and how you would transform it.

Your Portfolio will be assessed using the following criteria:

### **1. Research and observation**

Look around you to observe the world of Fashion. What looks good/bad, and why? Look at how different wearable items move with different body movements, look at how an item of clothing drapes, or falls on a body. Fashion is designed to be worn; really observe how a body moves and think about how this might affect different wearable pieces. Research other Fashion Designers you admire.

### **2. Creative ideas - outcomes of your research and observation**

Use your research to generate lots of ideas – practical, fantastical or innovative. Draw your ideas and note which materials you would use. Think about colour, texture, fit and who would/could wear it. Be creative and do not restrict your ideas.

### ***3. Developed creative work***

Taking some of your creative ideas, bring at least one to a conclusion. This does not have to be in the form of an item of clothing, it could be a completed design range, clearly outlining all materials, with swatch examples, showing off your creative Fashion flair. This is your opportunity to present your design skills alongside your creative thinking and your ability to develop your work through different stages.

#### **Creative Notebook**

Your notebooks can show any extra project development like planning, thoughts and notes. They should be full of ideas from your Observation and Research stage, right through to your final conclusions. We are also interested in the designers that inspire you, the drawings that didn't quite fit in the portfolio or the hobbies, art, school projects or work experience that you didn't get chance to show. We would suggest that you try to get into the habit of bringing a notebook with you at all times so that you never miss a good idea.

For information on the practicalities of submitting your portfolio to NCAD, [please CLICK HERE](#)

#### **Helpful Information**

Throughout the year, NCAD runs several Portfolio Information sessions, workshops and clinics. These will be in November and January and will be clearly advertised on our website. These events are specifically designed by our expert portfolio assessment teams to help you with your portfolio. If at all possible, you should try to attend at least one of these events. These events are free but places are limited, so be sure to check back on the website regularly in order to book your free place.