



DIPLOMA IN APPAREL DESIGN & MERCHANDISING (T20)

Course Overview

If your passion lies in fashion, if you have an eye for style and if you dream of owning a label that will one day be fabled, this course is perfect for you. Unlike other similar programmes, you will receive a broad overview on the various aspects of the industry – from design, production to marketing before choosing to specialise in either Fashion Design or Retail Merchandising.

Exciting opportunities beyond the classroom await! From study trips to the design capitals of the world to planning, managing and choreographing fashion shows, and more, you will learn all about the exciting world of fashion and bloom into a style-leader and trendsetter.

[Download the Design EAE Interview and Portfolio Guide](#)

Entry Requirements

To be eligible for consideration for admission, applicants must obtain 26 points or better for the net ELR2B2 aggregate score (i.e. English Language, 2 relevant subjects and best 2 other subjects, including CCA Bonus Points) and meet the minimum entry requirements of this course. CCA cannot be used to meet the minimum entry requirements.

Subject	Grade
English Language (EL1)*	1-6
Mathematics (E or A)	1-7
Any two other subjects, excluding CCA	1-6
2021 Planned Intake	70
Net ELR2B2 aggregate range (2021 JAE)	5 - 12

Applicants must also have sat for at least one of the following subjects: Additional Combined Science, Additional Science, Art/ Art & Design, Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Combined Science, Computer Studies, Creative 3D Animation, Design & Technology, Engineering Science, Food & Nutrition, Fundamentals of Electronics, General Science, Higher Art, Human & Social Biology, Integrated Science, Media Studies (English), Media Studies (Chinese), Physics, Physical Science, Science (Chemistry, Biology), Science (Physics, Biology), Science (Physics, Chemistry), Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology).

Note: Applicants who have partial or complete colour appreciation deficiency should not apply for this course.

See also the minimum entry requirements for:

- [ITE Certificate Holders](#)
- [International Students](#)

What You'll Learn

YEAR 1

Get an overview of the fashion industry from concept to production. Be introduced to fashion trends and understand how they have shaped our fashion choices. You will also pick up basic technical skills in garment construction and merchandising.

TP Fundamentals (TPFun) Subjects

Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units
DCS1017	Communication & Information Literacy In this subject, you will learn how to conduct research for relevant information and validate information sources. You will also learn to recognise and avoid plagiarism, and follow standard citation and referencing guidelines when presenting information. In the course of learning, you will be required to plan, prepare and present information appropriately in written and oral form. You will also be taught to consider the Message , Audience , Purpose and Strategy (MAPS) when writing and delivering oral presentations.	2
DCS1018	Workplace Communication In this subject, you will be taught how to conduct effective meetings while applying team communication strategies and the skills for documenting meeting notes. You will be required to write clear emails, using the appropriate format, language, tone and style for an audience. You will also be taught to communicate appropriately in and for an organisation when using various platforms. In all aspects, the principles of applying Message , Audience , Purpose and Strategy (MAPS) will be covered.	2

^	DCS1019	Persuasive Communication	2	^
<p>In this subject, you will be taught how to use persuasive language in written documents. You will be required to use information to your advantage to verbally communicate and convince an audience about your idea, product or service. Skills such as persuasive vocabulary, language features, graphical illustrations, tone and style would also be covered. The Message, Audience, Purpose and Strategy (MAPS) will also be applied when engaging in verbal and written communication.</p>				
^	GCC1001	Current Issues & Critical Thinking	2	^
<p>This subject presents you with a panoramic view of current local and global issues, which may have long term implications for Singapore. You will learn to apply critical thinking tools to examine current issues, support your views with relevant research and up-to-date data, articulate an informed opinion and mature as civic-minded individuals.</p>				
^	DIN1001	Innovation & Entrepreneurship	2	^
<p>The Innovation & Entrepreneurship subject is designed for learners from all disciplines to embrace innovation in either their specialised fields or beyond. You will first learn the Design Thinking framework, where you will develop problem statements and ideate solutions. Next, you will discover the tools for prototyping and innovation, such as 3D printing and laser cutting, at TP's Makerspace+ facility. Finally, you will acquire commercial awareness through the LEAN Startup framework of idea crystallisation, prototype building, customer testing and validation, refinement of business model canvas, and crowdfunding or crowdsourcing avenues.</p>				
^	LEA1011	Leadership: Essential Attributes & Practice 1	1	^
<p>LEAP 1, 2 and 3 are three fundamental subjects that seek to cultivate in you, the attitude, skills and knowledge for the development of your leadership competencies. This character-based leadership programme enables you to develop your life-skills through establishing personal core values, which will become the foundation for your leadership credibility and influence.</p>				
^	LEA1012	Leadership: Essential Attributes & Practice 2	1	^
<p>LEAP 1, 2 and 3 are three fundamental subjects that seek to cultivate in you, the attitude, skills and knowledge for the development of your leadership competencies. This character-based leadership programme enables you to develop your life-skills through establishing personal core values, which will become the foundation for your leadership credibility and influence.</p>				

^	LEA1013	Leadership: Essential Attributes & Practice 3	1	^
<p>LEAP 1, 2 and 3 are three fundamental subjects that seek to cultivate in you, the attitude, skills and knowledge for the development of your leadership competencies. This character-based leadership programme enables you to develop your life-skills through establishing personal core values, which will become the foundation for your leadership credibility and influence.</p>				
^	LSW1002	Sports & Wellness	2	^
<p>This subject will help you develop both the physical and technical skills in your chosen sports or fitness activities. Through a structured curriculum that facilitates group participation, practice sessions and mini competitions, you will learn to build lifelong skills such as resilience, leadership, communication and teamwork. Physical activity sessions will be supplemented by health-related topics to provide you with a holistic approach to healthy living.</p>				
^	MCR1001	Career Readiness 1	1	^
<p>This Career Readiness programme comprises three core subjects - Personal Management, Career Preparation and Career Management. It seeks to help you understand your career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It also equips you with the necessary skills for seeking and securing jobs, and to develop professional work ethics.</p>				
^	MCR1002	Career Readiness 2	1	^
<p>This Career Readiness programme comprises three core subjects – Personal Management, Career Preparation and Career Management. It seeks to help you understand your career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It also equips you with the necessary skills for seeking and securing jobs, and to develop professional work ethics.</p>				
^	MCR1003	Career Readiness 3	1	^
<p>This Career Readiness programme comprises three core subjects – Personal Management, Career Preparation and Career Management. It seeks to help you understand your career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It also equips you with the necessary skills for seeking and securing jobs, and to develop professional work ethics.</p>				
^	DGS1002	Global Studies	3	^
<p>This subject provides essential skills and knowledge to prepare you for an overseas experience. You will examine the elements of culture and learn the key principles of cross-cultural communication. In addition, you will gain an appreciation and awareness of the political, economic, technological and social landscape to function effectively in a global environment.</p>				

^	DGS1003	Managing Diversity at Work*	3	^
		This subject explores the concepts of identity, diversity and inclusion at the workplace. It examines the relationship between identity and diversity, the benefits and challenges of diversity and the strategies that promote inclusion and inspire collaboration in a diverse workplace. Examples of the elements of diversity covered in this subject include nationality, generation, ethnicity and gender. A one week residential stay is mandatory for this subject.		
^	DGS1004	Global Citizenship & Community Development*	3	^
		Students will examine the meaning and responsibilities of being a Global Citizen, in order to contribute towards a more equitable and sustainable world. In addition, students will learn how sustainable solutions can support community development, and, execute and critique a community action plan that addresses the needs of a specific community/cause.		
^	DGS1005	Expressions of Culture*	3	^
		This subject provides a platform for an understanding of culture and heritage through modes of expression. Students will be introduced to global and local cultures via everyday objects, places and human behaviour seen through time and space. Students will explore issues and challenges in culture and heritage sustainability in community, national and global contexts.		
^	TGL1001	Guided Learning	3	^
		The subject introduces students to the concepts and process of self-directed learning in a chosen area of inquiry. The process focusses on four stages: planning, performing, monitoring and reflecting. Students get to plan their individual learning project, refine and execute the learning plan, as well as monitor and reflect on their learning progress and project. The learning will be captured and showcased through a curated portfolio. The self-directed learning project will broaden and/or deepen a student's knowledge and skills.		

* Students must choose to take either one of these three subjects or TGL1001 Guided Learning.

Diploma Subjects - Core Subjects

	Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units	
^	DAD1101	History of Costume	3	^
		Learn how costumes evolve from antiquity to the present day. Understand how the historical perspective impacts the design of today's contemporary fashion; including the new paradigm shifts of the 21st century.		
^	DAD1148	Textiles Fundamentals	3	^
		The subject covers the fundamental knowledge on the production of fibres, yarns and fabrics. You will also learn about the characteristics and applications of these materials, particularly their use in the fashion-related industries.		

^	DAD1164	Production Drawings	3	^
<p>Technical drawings are vital to apparel production. In this subject, you will learn both traditional drawing skills by hand as well as digital technical drawing skills using the latest drawing software.</p>				
^	DAD1165	Brand Concept	3	^
<p>The subject covers the concept of branding. You will learn how a product's characteristics, benefits and its consumer profiles can lead to identifying the brand positioning of a brand.</p>				
^	DAD1166	Fashion Illustration	3	^
<p>In this subject, you will pick up the fundamental skills of drawing the human figure through the principles of lines, shapes and volumes. The subject also expands on the artistic areas of fashion illustration using various art media and techniques.</p>				
^	DAD1167	Sewing	3	^
<p>You will learn how to operate and use sewing machines such as the industrial-grade machines and home embroidery machines. You will also learn basic garment construction and sewing techniques that are in line with industry standards.</p>				
^	DPD1436	Visual Presentation	3	^
<p>This subject develops a range of presentation skills to produce strong and informative design concept presentation. You will experiment with different graphic presentation techniques, media and digital tools to effectively enhance and communicate design ideas.</p>				
^	DPS1031	Design Fundamentals	3	^
<p>The subject introduces you to art and design fundamentals, aesthetic awareness and cultural appreciation. It will develop an understanding for the art and design processes, and enable you to reflect and see the world from a designer's perspective. Through this subject, you will discover how to express yourself visually and with confidence in areas of art and design.</p>				
^	DPS1032	Collaborative Design	3	^
<p>The subject will cover the necessary ability to research, analyse and organise information relating to societal issues in a collaborative manner. It will introduce the various collaborative strategies, design frameworks and integrate critical thinking. It will also cover innovative and conceptual approaches in the context of design.</p>				
^	DVC1509	Digital Essentials	3	^
<p>Computer software knowledge is integral to the creative process in the design industry. This subject teaches you the fundamental knowledge and skills to carry out almost all forms of design solutions on the computer. From manipulating photos, illustrating your own graphics, to designing your very first layout — you will learn the digital tools that are essential in creating your own designs</p>				

Time to specialise! With advice from your tutors, you can decide to specialise either in retail merchandising or in fashion design. Continue to consolidate your skills through projects, sometimes with industry. Look out for study trips too!

Diploma Subjects - Core Subjects

Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units
^ DAD2113	Sourcing & Costing In this subject, you will learn about the principles of sourcing and cost structures in the global textile and apparel industry. You will be taught how to compare suppliers, analyse prices and evaluate profit margins.	3 ^
^ DAD2157	Fashion Imaging Through the technical skills of photography and image editing, you will learn how to visually express and communicate fashion ideas and how to create a lookbook.	3 ^
^ DAD2158	Brand Development This subject covers the importance of developing a brand story and a brand personality that will help differentiate a brand for its intended audience and guide in executing the brand style.	3 ^
^ DVC2572	Tactile Design You will explore beyond common reproduction techniques when crafting your final design solution. New techniques may include silk-screen printing, lino/woodblock printing, etc. The tactility of materials chosen for print will also be explored and experimented to allow for more innovative usage of materials in design.	3 ^

Diploma Option Subjects

Fashion Design Option (Year 2)

Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units
^ DAD2163	Sewing 2 The subject covers complex specialised sewing techniques. You will learn how to select the appropriate interface and lining for sophisticated garments. You will also learn specialised techniques to manage fabrics that may be challenging to handle.	3 ^
^ DAD2164	Drafting You will learn how to make flat patterns and construct skirts and pants. This process includes the taking of accurate body measurements to the production of actual garments.	3 ^

^	DAD2165	Drafting 2	3	^
		Covering an advanced level of knowledge and techniques of draping, you will learn how to achieve a variety of designs by creating different drape effects using various types of fabrics.		
^	DAD2166	Draping	3	^
		In this subject, you will acquire the basic skills of draping. This includes the preparation of dress forms and the application of basic dart manipulation skills to achieve the desired design for a top and a skirt.		
^	DAD2168	Apparel Design Project	6	^
		Learn to conceptualise, design and make ready-to-wear styles of womenswear and menswear. You will also learn about quality control and the use of care labels commonly used in the apparel industry.		

Retail Merchandising Option (Year 2)

	Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units	
^	DAD2159	Online Retail	3	^
		With online shopping very much a part and parcel of life today, you will learn the fundamentals of running an online business; in particular, those related to fashion products. They will also learn how to manage online sales operations.		
^	DAD2160	Retail Space Planning	3	^
		Here, you will learn how to make the best use of available floor space in a brick and mortar retail store to maximise profits. You will learn to match assigned spaces to sales revenues and costs, in order to effectively increase product sales.		
^	DAD2161	Retail Design	3	^
		You will learn what makes a successful retail store design and how to best present the correct image of a store to reflect its brand identity. You will also learn how to reinforce the store image to attract shoppers.		
^	DAD2162	Retail Merchandising Project	6	^
		Why do certain brands succeed? This subject covers the dynamics behind the retail environment of fast fashion brands like H&M or Forever 21. You will study the key concept of brand, merchandise mix, target customers, pricing and promotions and how these combine to make a successful retail brand.		

^	DAD2167	Retail Buying	3	^
<p>What to buy and how much to buy - these are some of the questions retail buyers grapple with in making buying decisions. This subject teaches the principles of merchandising mathematics frequently used by buyers. You will also learn how to develop buying plans for different retail organisations.</p>				

YEAR 3

A busy year that includes an internship and the all-important Major Project. You will work on launching your own brand as an entrepreneur and focus on either creating a runway collection or pop-up store concept booth with strong branding according to your option. Your outcome will be showcased for the grand finale at the Diploma Graduation show!

TP Fundamentals (TPFun) Subjects





Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units		
^	DSI3024	Student Internship Programme	12	^
<p>This structured programme is designed to link your learning with the real work environment. You will be placed in organisation(s) with opportunities to apply the concepts and skills acquired in the course of your study. Besides reinforcing technical concepts and mastering of skills in areas that you have been trained, the practical training will enable you to build important skills such as problem-solving, communication, teamwork, and to cultivate good attitude and a strong work ethic.</p>				

Diploma Subjects - Core Subjects





Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units		
^	DAD3161	Brand Experience	3	^
<p>You will learn how to create strong brand experiences that will emotionally engage consumers, and to look for new ways to enhance visibility and improve the overall brand experience.</p>				
^	DAD3166	Industry Studio Project	6	^
<p>The subject provides the experience of working on live project briefs provided by industry professionals. From researching on current consumer trends to developing creative ideas to execute the brief. The subject also reinforces the practice of working as a group.</p>				
^	DMP3012	Major Project: ADM	9	^
<p>The major project is the culmination of the skillsets learned in the entire three-year course. This is an entrepreneurship project, which will cover concept proposal, market research, target customer identification, conceptualisation, solution development, execution and final presentation.</p>				

Diploma Option Subjects

Fashion Design Option (Year 2)

Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units
 DAD3164	Apparel Design Project 2 The subject covers conceptualising, designing and production of haute-couture style of womens' wear and men's wear, which involves advanced level of pattern making and sewing techniques.	6 
 DAD3165	Draping 2 The subject covers advanced level of knowledge and techniques of draping to achieve variety of designs by creating different draped effects using various types of fabrics.	3 

Retail Merchandising Option (Year 2)

Subject Code	Subject	Credit Units
 DAD3162	Digital Marketing In this subject, you will discover what makes online businesses successful. You will also learn strategies in social media marketing and other marcom methods to connect online stores with the right customer bases in order to expand sales.	3 
 DAD3163	Retail Merchandising Project 2 Luxury brands command a certain niche market. In this subject, you will study the dynamics of the retail environment behind luxury fashion brands. The subject examines the key concepts of brand, merchandise mix, target customers, pricing and promotions and how these combine to make a successful brand.	6 

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Cumulative Grade Point Average	min 1.0
TP Fundamentals Subjects	36 credit units
Diploma Subjects - Core Subjects	60 credit units
Diploma Subjects - Option Subjects	27 credit units
Total Credit Units Completed	min 123 credit units