



Programme Specification:

**Pearson BTEC HNC Art and Design
(Fashion and Textiles)
(Millinery)**

Academic entry year: 2021-2022

Date of Programme Specification: October 2020

Date of revision of Programme Specification: September 2021

Precise title of the qualification: BTEC level 4 Higher National Certificate in Art and Design (Fashion & Textiles)

Name of the awarding body: Pearson

Institution at which the qualification is delivered: Morley College London

UCAS Institution code: M91

UCAS Campus Code: C (Chelsea)

UCAS Course Code: MILC

Description of the programme

The HNC in Art and Design focuses on Millinery and has been training industry-leading milliners for almost 20 years. Students on this course progress into all areas of millinery – couture fashion millinery, commercial design, theatrical and film millinery – some students have progressed on to MA level courses at leading fashion colleges.

The tutors on the HNC course are all professional milliners as well as tutors. They bring a wealth of diversity, skills and ideas to the course, and to the development of different career pathways for each student.

The course offers intensive investigation of millinery skills and industry preparation. This one-year programme is designed to give students in-depth millinery experience in order to prepare them for a career within the industry. The course consists of a series of projects covering different areas of millinery and is designed to develop varied technical skills and expand each students' individual design creativity.

Areas covered during the course projects include: specialist couture techniques, theatrical millinery, occasion millinery, commercial millinery and cut-and-sew techniques, historical and contextual research, design development skills, blockmaking, portfolio building and professional practice.

Mode of study:

The course is full-time with a combination of onsite, online and independent working. The teaching is structured around in-college practical activities and workshops supported by online tutorials via Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams. A strong focus on design skills and developing independent working practices is complemented by technical demonstrations, master classes, industry visits and presentations. Students benefit from a high level of contact time with tutors.

Entry requirements

Morley College London is committed to recruitment and admissions processes which are fair, explicit and implemented consistently across its range of provision. As such, the College aims to place their applicants on appropriate programmes with the support necessary for them to succeed. The admissions process will encompass a range of services, from the provision of information about programmes and services, through to the point of enrolment and beyond.

The College positively encourages applications from candidates from a diverse range of backgrounds, experience and ages, including those with disabilities. In line with government legislation, the College has an Equality Policy, to ensure that applicants participate in a fair and equal process for selection, regardless of sex,

sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, age, disability, religious beliefs or socio-economic background. Through implementation of these policies, the College will ensure that selection at interview is restricted to the academic ability to succeed on the course.

All applicants are required to apply through UCAS and will need to attend an interview with a member of the course team who can discuss the course and its requirements with the individual applicant so they can make informed decisions.

Applicants gain entry onto this course via interview. Applicants should have previous millinery experience although those with a variety of other art & design skills will be considered. It is not necessary to have completed a wide range of courses, but experience with foundation millinery skills and traditional materials and processes is important.

When applicants are invited for interview, they are asked to provide examples of their previous millinery work, usually 3 finished hats or headpieces, a portfolio of previous relevant work – e.g. other millinery, textile, fashion, art and design or craft work), and a sample of sketchbook work.

Entry is established at 48 UCAS points equivalent achieved through:

- Access to Higher Education Diploma
- A levels
- BTEC at level 3

With GCSE English grade 4 or C minimum, GCSE Maths is desirable.

Mature students: if you do not meet the entry requirements as outlined above, we will still consider your application based on previous employment or previous study. We appreciate that mature students may have extensive relevant experience gained through paid or unpaid work, or through other types of professional training or sector-related opportunities and this experience may be used to support an application. Please contact the Programme Lead on sarah.cant@morleycollege.ac.uk to discuss.

Learning support

Higher education students requiring additional learning support may be able to apply for [Disabled Students Allowance](#). Please follow the link for details.

English Language Requirements

Students undertaking higher level education need to have a commensurate level of understanding of the English language so as to be able to achieve their qualification. Morley College London require higher education students to have a minimum level of 5.5 (IELTS or equivalent) with no score lower than a 5 in listening and speaking and no score lower than a 5.5 in reading and writing.

Pearson higher national qualifications also require the same level of English language equivalency:

- o Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) level B2; or
- o Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) 42; or
- o Pearson Test of English General (PTE) Level 3; or
- o Pearson Versant English Test 58-68; or
- o International English Language Testing System (IELTS) 5.5; with both Reading and Writing elements at 5.5; or

- o Having recently completed (i.e. in the last 2 years) a formal programme of study in English at an appropriate level (such as a level 3 BTEC or 'A' level) prior to starting their Higher National

Please note that Morley College London does not hold Tier 4 status for international students seeking approval.

Employer engagement

The course has close industry links with The British Hat Guild, Fenwick Bond Street, Longines for Royal Ascot, and the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers, all of whom provide career developing support and opportunities for HNC students during the course. Former students are employed by the UK's leading milliners and have quickly established themselves in their chosen field.

There are a number of opportunities to take part in live industry projects and collaborations, as well as contact with industry experts throughout the year. There is a series of talks and visits embedded into the professional skills-building aspect of the course in which students get a chance to meet with industry leaders, hear about their career development, and structure of different kinds of millinery businesses and career pathways. The course culminates in an exhibition which attracts high levels of interest from professional milliners and other industry employers.

Employability skills

Students on this course will develop a diversity and depth of skill which will be applicable to a wide range of millinery career pathways. Students will develop competence and confidence in:

- design process skills including ideas generation, design development, contextual, historical and cultural research
- Experimentation with materials, processes and techniques,
- technical areas of millinery including: 3D shape development, surface decoration, dyeing, flowermaking, blockmaking, foundation structures, finishing techniques
- have an understanding of the specific demands of theatrical millinery, commercial millinery, couture and occasion millinery
- Cut, sew and pattern draft for soft hats
- Planning, developing and managing a millinery collection
- Working with traditional and non traditional materials
- Professional practice and presentation via branding, visual communication, portfolio building using illustration and CAD skills
- Independent working and developing own ideas to a professional level

Former students of the HNC Millinery course regularly gain employment with the UK's leading milliners, establish their own businesses or progress onto BA and MA courses at leading fashion colleges.

Programme structure

A Higher National Certificate is made up of 120 credits at level 4.

Units are usually 15 credits (or multiples thereof) for Higher Nationals. The Total Qualification Time (TQT) is an estimate of the total amount of time expected to complete the qualification. This includes guided learning, directed learning, and assessment. Each 15 credit unit equates to approximately 150 hours which includes 60 hours of guided learning. As a student you can expect:

TQT for HNC = 1,200 hours

Including Total Guided Learning = 480 hours

That leaves 90 hours per unit of self-study, directed study, and assessment time per 15 credit unit.

Unit structure

Type of unit (core, specialist, optional)	Unit number	Unit title	Credit value	Level
core	1	Professional Development	15	4
core	2	Contextual Studies	15	4
core	3	Individual Project	15	4
core	4	Techniques and Processes	15	4
specialist	7	CAD	15	4
specialist	9	Fashion and Textiles Practices	15	4
optional	21	Accessories	15	4
optional	23	Fashion Collection	15	4

Learning and teaching

A blend of in college practical activities and workshops supported by online tutorials via Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams. The balance of onsite and online teaching will vary according to the Department of Education guidance.

There is a strong focus on design skills and developing independent working practices is complemented by technical demonstrations, master classes, industry visits and presentations. Students benefit from a high level of contact time with tutors.

The course is structured around 8 core units taught through 7 projects designed to develop a broad and detailed millinery skill base. Each project focuses on a different area of millinery and build familiarity with a different range of materials, skills, and industry knowledge.

Each project gives the opportunity to follow the design process and work to the conditions of a brief, allowing students to build up a confidence and understanding of their own process and how it can best be developed in order to support progression into industry.

Assessment takes place at the end of each project, starting with self-assessment, a group crit and discussion, and finally, written feedback and one-to-one tutorial to discuss strong points and areas for development. At the end of the course, exit tutorials will focus on each students' development over the course, and how each student can best be supported as they progress into industry.

Resources

The dedicated millinery studio is equipped with a wide range of millinery equipment. Students have individual work stations equipped with poupee heads, steamer, iron and power points. Shared facilities include: wooden blocks, industrial steamers, fume cupboard, sewing machines, sink and dye facilities.

Additional costs

Students pay a one-off equipment fee of £25 towards maintenance of blocks. Additional material expenses occur as students work on projects. Whilst material and equipment demands vary by student and brief, and are entirely determined by the student, it is expected that they will need to purchase materials, small size tools and equipment for each project.

Programme outcomes

Students who complete the HNC qualification will be able to do the following at level 4:

- Devise a project and follow the design process from visual research into historical and cultural contexts, ideas generation, design development, sampling and experimentation, through to finished product
- 3D shape development, surface decoration, dyeing, flowermaking, blockmaking, create foundation structures, finishing techniques
- confidently design and make for different contexts: theatrical millinery, commercial millinery, soft hats, couture and occasion millinery
- Plan and manage the design and making of a 5-piece collection
- Work with traditional and non traditional materials
- Demonstrate industry knowledge and ability to represent themselves professionally
- Communicate visually through portfolio, illustration and sketchbook
- Use CAD skills to refine presentation, portfolio, illustrations
- Develop own skills and techniques through independent problem-solving

Progression opportunities

Students who complete the HNC can progress directly into the millinery industry, working for other milliners, for theatrical or film productions, designing for commercial production, or starting their own businesses.

Students who have completed the HNC course can progress on the HND qualification in the following academic year.

It is also possible to progress directly to MA level from the HNC, please refer to individual university requirements.

Quality assurance and methods of improving quality

The College assures that it is meeting its standards by a variety of methods. Each curriculum team has to internally verify its assessments and assessment decisions to ensure that assessment and marking is fair.

Each of the courses are assessed externally via an External Examiner appointed by the Awarding Body (Pearson).

The College has its own Quality and Standards Office and a Learning and Teaching Office, both of these function to support the delivery of courses across the College.

We hold termly Programme Management Boards which enable students to consult with the course delivery team on how their course is running. We have opportunities for students to become representatives of their student cohort and join these Board meetings. We also run surveys across the year to understand how students feel about their place in the College itself and how they are progressing on their course. We use students' feedback to help shape the course in-year (if timing permits) or for future cohorts.