



**istitutomarangoni**



**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION  
FOUNDATION IN FASHION & DESIGN**

Version 01

## ISTITUTO MARANGONI ACADEMIC MISSION

Over the past 85 years Istituto Marangoni has grown and developed alongside the thriving Italian fashion and design industry. Through an exciting curriculum aimed to develop practical, creative, and management skills which are subject specific and relevant to the international fashion, design or art fields. Istituto Marangoni foundation course provides students with a focused and in-depth knowledge and *know-how* for a successful progression onto degree level programmes. There is a strong focus on project-based, industry-linked teaching methods of delivered by experienced industry specialists and professionals.

## PROGRAMME INFORMATION

### EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

Istituto Marangoni's academic approach is shaped by the following educational aims:

- develop a flexible and updated approach to programme delivery and student support which reflect the needs and expectations of all students;
- provide a supportive and inclusive learning environment which will enable success for all learners;
- encourage and nurture the development of students' intellectual and imaginative powers, creativity, independence, critical self-awareness, imagination and soft skills that will enhance global employment opportunities in all programmes;
- establish a culture of constant improvement in learning, teaching and assessment that is anticipatory, enabling, supportive, rewarding and fully aligned with the Institutions vision and strategic objectives;
- provide a learning experience that is informed by research, scholarship, reflective practice and engagement with the industry and the professions.

## CONTENTS' OVERVIEW

### Curriculum

**The Foundation in Fashion and Design at Istituto Marangoni London is a fast-paced dynamic programme designed to equip students with a broad range of creative skills. It will enable you to make an informed transition into higher education and will build confidence, knowledge and technical ability through a range of practical and specialist creative projects.**

This course is suitable for learners wishing to explore a range of specialist creative disciplines within fashion or design, before deciding on an appropriate progression route. It is also suitable for learners who may need to build creative or language skills prior to starting higher education.

The foundation programme offers students a broad knowledge of the practical, theoretical and technical skills that support a chosen degree pathway within the arts. You will start by actively exploring the materials, techniques and processes that relate to Art and Design. You will understand how creative disciplines influence each other and will be guided through the process of presenting ideas visually, using hand-rendered and computer-generated techniques.

You will progress to select a fashion or design pathway and undertake a range of innovative projects associated with your chosen specialism. The fashion pathway will undertake practical projects in fashion design, styling and business and the design pathway will experience projects exploring interior design, visual design and product design. This will enable you to build an extensive portfolio, understand more about the career opportunities associated with each discipline and decide on an appropriate progression route for higher education.

You will ultimately be guided to propose and implement a substantial creative project in a specialist area of your choice. This project will demonstrate Your creative direction and define your individual practice. The course is underpinned by theory through a programme of contextual studies that develops your critical understanding of art and design. It will develop your appreciation for the ethical considerations related to the creative arts and broaden your understanding of the specialist language and terminology required for higher education.

By the end of the foundation course, you will have developed the capacity to be creative within a chosen specialist area. You will understand the phases of a specialist project and be able to apply intellectual enquiry to practical assignments, communicating outcomes to intended audiences with your own aesthetic sensibility. You will have built skills in teamwork but will also be able to work independently on projects. You should be able to critically reflect on your own process and the arts as a source of inspiration and should be aware of the diverse practices and ethical considerations that relate to the subject. You will communicate your learning through termly unit outcomes, a substantial final project and a portfolio of creative work that supports your future studies and career goals.

As agreed in the Academic Contract, the School is entitled to make reasonable changes to structure, contents and facilities aiming towards the continuous improvement of the Programme.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

### Programme-Specific Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this specific Programme shall be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of different practices, principles and perspectives within the creative arts.
- Use critical, evaluative and reflective thinking skills to investigate and develop ideas and solve complex creative problems.
- Adapt, explore and safely use suitable practical methods and skills to communicate creative ideas.
- Understand the phases of the creative process and apply this knowledge to own research, development and outcomes.
- Develop and present a portfolio of work that supports progression to undergraduate study.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Course teaching methods are based around a wide variety of formats, such as frontal lectures, workshops, seminars, case-studies and self-directed study: experienced professionals and visiting specialist Lecturers (industry professionals) make valuable contributions and enrich the learning experience of all students.

### Self-Directed Study

This plays a major role in the programme, as students are expected to spend time researching and analysing subject matters independently to support and substantiate taught material.

### Frontal Lectures

An integral part of the programme - with formal delivery of subject-specific contents to the whole cohort of students. At this level it is expected that students will use the lectures as a stimulus for further study/reading.

### Seminars

Used to build on themes that are connected to the contents part of the Study Plan. Students are encouraged to make an active contribution by sharing in the argument and debate, while expressing their views.

### Case Studies

A detailed discussion and in-depth analysis of real-life situations and existing Brands - to substantiate and assess concrete examples of contents and theories studies in class.

### Workshop / Laboratory / Practical Sessions

Used to enable and nurture the creative and practical skill development of the student in an environment which simulates what happens in the industry.

### Team Work

Requires students to operate as a member of a group or team and they usually have clearly identified roles. The emphasis is on collective responsibility, individual responsibility to the group and joint decision-making.

### Study Trips (when applicable)

An exciting opportunity to enhance the students' learning path and consolidate their understanding of specific-subject contents. If assessment is dependent on information collected whilst undertaking the study trip, the trip would be considered mandatory. The cost of study trips can be either the responsibility of the student or on occasion included in the annual study fee. If the visit is within the city students pay for public transport.

## ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

The assessment strategy for the programme is designed to incorporate a variety of assessment methods to enable all students to demonstrate their learning in a fair and comprehensive manner.

### Assessment Methods

Formative assessment is used as an interim review of student work undertaken at key points during the semester. It provides an indicative measure of progress, allows students to consider their work in relation to that of their peers, allowing students to agree with staff any adjustments that are necessary to make in order to satisfy course requirements. It is designed to help improve student performance.

Summative assessment provides an evaluation of student progress and learning during an entire semester: it generates a final mark, constructive feedback and confirms the conditions (if any) for exam recovery in the allowed modalities.

Peer and Self-assessment require students to assess their own work and that of fellow students. It encourages:

- a sense of ownership of the process of assessment;
- assists the student to become an autonomous learner;
- helps to develop a range of transferable skills;
- makes assessment part of the learning process rather than an adjunct to it.

### Assessment Types

- Portfolio Assessment is used to assess a variety of projects that have been developed.
- Practical and Class Based Projects – allow the students to demonstrate their understanding of a specific subject area and application of practical areas of the programme.
- Written Reports are required in some study areas, where a clear and structured brief is provided and the students are asked to submit work to be marked independently and anonymously by staff.
- Formal Examinations – will be used in some subjects to permit students to demonstrate their understanding of a subject within a constrained timeframe.
- Individual / Group Presentations are used in some subjects to allow the student to develop their professional communication, presentation skills and to argue critical reflection and interpret findings.

### Avoiding Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as stealing another person's ideas and presenting them as though they were the student's own. The reference framework adopted in all Istituto Marangoni Schools is the Harvard Referencing System - please refer to the Student Handbook for further details.

### STUDY PLAN

Year	Unit Code	Credits
TBC	Visual Culture	30
TBC	Creative Thinking for Specialist Practice	30
TBC	Creative experience and Portfolio	30
TBC	Global Panorama Or Language Panorama	30

### CAREER SERVICE FOR MASTER'S COURSES

The purpose of the Istituto Marangoni Career service is to bridge the gap between course completion and entering the world of work. Monitoring, guidance and counselling activities are organised throughout the academic year. The careers service organises various activities including seminars and round table discussions with fashion professionals, HR managers and head-hunter agencies on specific topics such as future career paths, personal research methods and job profiles. Individual meetings are also arranged to assist with CV preparation, revise portfolios and encourage students to talk about their career goals and expectations.

### STUDENT SUPPORT STRATEGY

Istituto Marangoni administers policies to enhance the student experience, in an academic, practical and pastoral way:

- Programme Leaders / Directors of Education: the first point of call to acquaint students with regulations and issues arising on the programme;
- Student Support Officers for student referral where appropriate;
- programme and student handbooks;
- induction programmes for facilities including: Library, IT, online resources (where available), school facilities and media services;
- student group representatives (student voice).

#### Student Support Officers

A dedicated Student Support Officer is available for all students on the programme.

For academic counselling, Student Support Officers will liaise with tutors and programme leaders to offer practical advice to resolve specific academic difficulties.

A written record of these tutorials will be kept in the student's file for reference and to assist in the monitoring of student progress.

For matters of pastoral care the Student Support Officers will help in:

- finding their way around;
- managing their time;
- getting the best from their course;
- understanding and applying the school's rules;
- anything else the officers can advise on.

One-to-one appointments may be made by phone, through the receptionists or by email. Where possible students can expect to be seen almost immediately, or contacted to arrange a suitable time.