istitutomarangoni

MASTER'S PROGRAMMES
MASTER IN RESPONSIBLE FASHION

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 Master's courses provide students with a focused and in-depth knowledge and *know-how* for a successful professional career at various levels of the above-mentioned industries. 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 fashion industry is under scrutiny as never before, as the environmental and social impacts of its operations have become clear. New kinds of fashion practitioners are needed, who are able to think critically, creatively and collaboratively, with the holistic understanding, vision and skills that will enable the fashion industry to transition to a responsible and regenerative future. This innovative, cross-disciplinary Masters programme provides an essential space for students with fashion, design, textiles, business or from other relevant backgrounds to gain and apply the important knowledge, critical thinking and problem-solving capacities required to innovate new responsible fashion systems that radically reimagine luxury for the Anthropocene.
Through a series of collaborative and individual projects, students will be provided with a strong theoretical framework that includes ecological design principles, systems thinking, alternative economics, regenerative systems, alternative sourcing, indigenous knowledge systems, the local, the politics of luxury, valued-led communication and crafting a compelling narrative, that they will respond to in a variety of ways that reflect their disciplines and goals. Within a framework of lectures, seminars, workshops, practical sessions and field trips, they will develop dynamic, cross-disciplinary collaborations to research, explore and conceptualise responsible fashion systems and processes that are not just less harmful but aim to be proactively positive to people and planet.
Assessed work from collaborative projects will largely be 'portfolio'-based, comprising a range of potential outcomes – such as annotated research book/s, samples, experiments, maquettes, designs, design models, speculative pieces, artefacts or system plans, proposals, essays, reports, campaign plans and reflective writing, allowing for fluid but rigorous interdisciplinary outcomes that represent the specific and varied contributions of individuals to a variety of team projects.
This programme is designed for students from a fashion or design or a business background but will consider applicants from other relevant disciplines and prior experiences who care passionately about fashion but are deeply concerned about its social and environmental impacts and wish to lead meaningful change. It is unique, in that students from across these disciplines will work together to comprehend and resolve the complex issues facing fashion, through a range of stimulating individual and group projects that explore the issues holistically. It will require a high degree of critical thinking, problem-solving, initiative and creativity – in relation to both business and design – and an open-minded, questioning, and optimistic mindset that is prepared to think outside the box!
This programme will equip students with the ability to engage with and respond to the seismic changes happening in the fashion industry and in the luxury sector specifically. The industry needs people that can help it find solutions rather than perpetuate its problems; it is therefore anticipated that this programme will produce highly employable, forward-looking graduates that will offer new insights that lead change rather than following existing industry practice.

Key themes of the course:
• Critical debates and ethical positions for fashion and luxury;
• Alternative economics, ecology and systems thinking for fashion;
• Human-earth relationships, local and indigenous knowledge systems;
• Regenerative approaches to fashion design/product development;
• Futuring and creative problem-solving;
• The synergies between theory and practice;
• New business models and new design practices for a responsible future.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Educational Outcomes

Students who attend this programme at Postgraduate level, on successful completion of their course of study, will be able to:
• Appraise and synthesise current debates that are the forefront of social, environmental, and economic sustainability to inform own
• Integrate a holistic understanding of different disciplinary theories, concepts, and their applications in the development of responsible fashion business or design practices. (Knowledge, applications)
• Demonstrate originality and creativity in the practical application of new and established techniques of research and enquiry, to create and interpret knowledge in your discipline. (Research, applications)
• Critically reflect on own and/or others' values, perceptions, and practices, reflecting on progress and taking appropriate action, in a process of continuous personal and professional development. (Critical thinking, empirical learning)
• Creatively employ advanced knowledge, techniques, and tools appropriate to your discipline. (Skills in disciplinary field)
• Anticipate the potential impacts of decision making at local level and further afield, assessing the consequences of actions and managing risk and uncertainty. (Ability to anticipate impacts)
• Manage complex issues both creatively and systematically, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences. (Decision-making)
• Relate self-direction and originality to tackling and solving problems, acting autonomously in planning, and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. (Professionalism)
• Develop effective working relationships using teamwork and leadership skills, recognising, and respecting different perspectives. (Collaboration)
• Find, evaluate, synthesise, and use relevant information from a variety of sources. (Research, sourcing information, applications)
• Express ideas persuasively and communicate information appropriately and accurately using a range of relevant media and/or technologies. (Communication)

Programme-Specific Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this specific Programme shall be able to:
• Develop a critical awareness of key theories, debates, and practices to inform responsible fashion value-systems, design processes and/or business models for the future.
• Interrogate and reimagine historic and emerging social, cultural, and personal paradigms of luxury in relation to fashion and the fashion product.
• Critically analyse new and alternative approaches to luxury fashion realisation.
• Articulate complex ideas creatively and systematically, effectively communicating them to specialist and non-specialist audiences in an appropriate format to your discipline - fashion or business, for example: through written, verbal, multimedia, or physical artefacts.
• Work collaboratively in interdisciplinary groups to formulate, design and test new, speculative systems, processes, products and/or theories.
• Critically reflect upon your own practice, and its interconnection to that of others, in a process of continual personal and professional development.
• Research, analyse, develop, test, and refine a personal concept or vision for a regenerative and responsible fashion system (design, business, other) in a final dissertation project.

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 requires 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

Unit Code	Unit Title	Credits
CDF	Critical Debates for Fashion	20
PL	Politics of Luxury	15
CCS	Contextual & Cultural Studies	15
RLF	Regenerative Luxury Fashion	25
RM	Research Methods	20
PDV	Professional Development	15
RFS	Responsible Fashion Systems	30
DP	Dissertation project	40

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.