

ISTITUTO MARANGONI LONDON

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY 2024-2029

Introduction

Istituto Marangoni London has equipped its students with the skills, knowledge and professional competencies required to join a rapidly-evolving Fashion and Design industry for more than 20 years. With our roots in the world-renowned Italian luxury fashion industry and our location in the vibrant and provocative hub of London's Shoreditch, IML actively nourishes the distinctive creative synergies of this dynamic in the development of first class learning and teaching strategies and experiences that enable our students to flourish. Our diverse, international tutor team brings first-hand, current industry practices and global perspectives to inform teaching that is offered from Foundation through to Masters level, across all our subject specialisms.

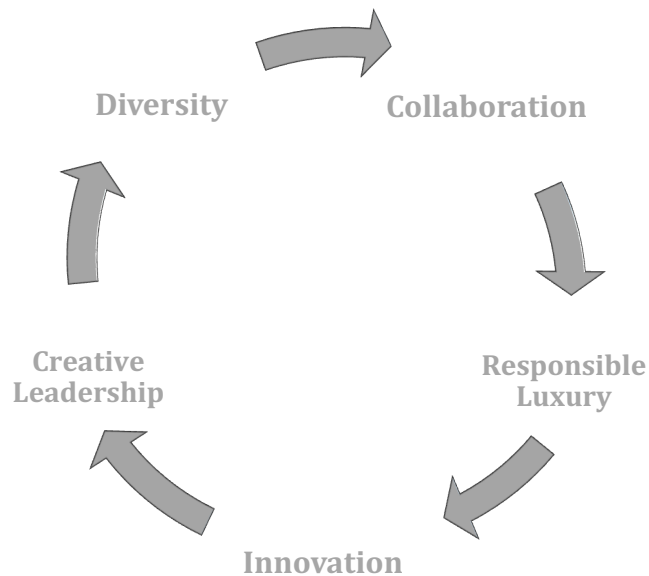
Our signature pedagogy of project-based learning enables theory fluidly to be interpreted and integrated in practice, as our students and tutors respond to current and future scenarios with imagination and pragmatism. At Istituto Marangoni London we embody a commitment to excellence in education. We are devoted to igniting and nurturing talent and creativity within our globally diverse student community, empowering each individual to thrive in the ever-changing fashion and design industries. By critically reflecting on industry requirements, the imperatives of the future, the opportunities provided by new digital technologies, and the personal qualities that shape responsible fashion and design professionals and global citizens, our curriculum is able to respond with agility to a changing professional landscape.

The Istituto Marangoni London Learning and Teaching Strategy is informed by specific values that will decisively guide us in the years ahead which embody a commitment to excellence in education. The increasing integration of our research in curriculum development and delivery reflects our ambition to shape thought-leaders that are able to direct positive local and global change in their industry and beyond.

Our vision

We will shape the future of creative education through unparalleled industry connections and transformative educational experiences that inspire our graduates to drive the evolution of their disciplines. Our graduates will be bold change-makers, able to implement creative responses to rapidly shifting local and global scenarios through sustainable, critically aware and socially responsible approaches to innovation and entrepreneurship.

Our values



IML Core Strategic Goals

1. Develop a future-focused academic portfolio that enhances educational opportunities in fashion and design and supports the emerging needs of the creative industries
2. Provide an environment that supports student and staff wellbeing.
3. Grow our reputation as an established, thought-leading UK higher education provider.
4. Nurture highly employable graduates equipped to shape the future of the creative industries.
5. Place environmental, social and cultural sustainability at the heart of our learning community.
6. Ensure that the School's operations and strategy are financially sustainable to enable it to provide the resources to support student development and achievement.

The Istituto Marangoni London Learning and Teaching strategy has the following objectives that align with our core strategic goals and reflect our values:

Learning and Teaching Objectives

1 To develop outstanding specialized learning opportunities for our students, that are distinctive, engaging, diverse and inclusive. (SG1, SG2, SG3, SG4, SG5, SG6)

2 To deliver a future-focused curriculum that prepares graduates for a rapidly evolving industry and a changing world. (SG1, SG2, SG3, SG4, SG5, SG6)

3 To foster an environment where students and those who teach and support them are able to flourish personally and professionally. (SG1, SG2, SG3, SG4, SG5, SG6)

4 To shape and equip highly agile and responsible future industry professionals, thought leaders and global citizens with the essential skills, knowledge and ethical understanding that support social, cultural, economic and environmental sustainability. (SG1, SG2, SG3, SG4, SG5, SG6)

To Achieve Our Objectives, We Will:

1 To develop outstanding specialized learning opportunities for our students, that are distinctive, engaging, diverse and inclusive

- Create a dynamic, inspiring, and inclusive learning experience where the possibilities of fashion and design industries come alive for learners through guest speakers, live projects, student trips, and studio visits, trade fairs, showrooms, behind-the-scenes trips, industry attendance at student presentations, shows and events.
- Develop a range of online resources, investing in new technologies and technical sessions that improve soft skills, support innovation and enhance professional competencies, providing students with vital extra support on their learning journey.
- Regularly and systematically evaluate our learning resources, physical resources, pedagogies, assessment methodologies, and support mechanisms, to ensure that they provide equitable opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.
- Enable systematic opportunities for student and tutor voices to be heard, to inform the continuous appraisal and enhancement of learning and teaching at IML.
- Build collaborative projects, including research, internally and externally to the school, that develop student skills in teamwork, research, critical thinking, problem-solving, and their cultural awareness, contributing to knowledge in their specialisms.

2 To deliver a future-focused curriculum that prepares graduates for a rapidly evolving industry and a changing world.

- Offer a highly agile curriculum that is able to respond rapidly to changes in the fashion and design industries and to urgent global imperatives.
- Promote the use of new technologies and digital environments in learning and teaching that offer exciting opportunities to fashion, design and business innovation and futures.
- Embed outstanding industry practice in all programmes to equip students with real-world, cutting-edge knowledge and skills for employment in the fashion and design industries, informing our curriculum and collaborative research.
- Invest in research that will further define our distinctive identity and position in the wider academic community as leaders in fashion, design, business shaped by critical, creative, radical and innovative thinking.
- Showcase students' and tutors' diverse creative practices and research through a range of dynamic physical and digital platforms that celebrate good practice and raise awareness of exceptional work to our local community, industry, and our academic peers.

3 To foster an environment where students and those who teach and support them are able to flourish personally and professionally.	• Create an inclusive learning and teaching environment that embraces diversity, encourages ambition, and that enables all students and tutors to flourish at IML. • Support the professional currency of our tutor team, by offering strategic professional development activities that build capacity and support them and the school in achieving their future goals. • Improve pastoral support for students, including workshops in stress management, workload management, goal setting and wellbeing, as well as 1-1 sessions with our school coach or our counsellor and digital resources. • Offer holistic academic support to students, including personal tutors, and build upon existing online resources for academic writing, study skills, and reflective writing, ensuring that additional support is available to support students with learning or personal difficulties. • Maintain our highly motivated and effective Careers Team; that offers students support with finding placements; part-time work; volunteering opportunities; alumni mentoring; workshops in cv writing, interview skills, networking strategies, and how to apply for jobs; through 1-1 sessions; and through an Early Career Accelerator programme.
4 To equip and shape highly agile and responsible future industry practitioners, thought-leaders and global citizens with essential skills, knowledge and ethical understanding that support social, cultural, economic and environmental sustainability.	• Deliver a wide range of future-facing learning activities that encourage students to question, challenge and propose alternatives to current industry practice in relation to environmental, social justice, climate and cultural issues, informed by UN SDGs and emergent data. • Ensure that projects, learning and teaching and research activities promote critical debate and decolonial approaches that support students in constructing their own ethical frameworks and respect for others. • Nourish critical - in addition to creative - understanding in students and tutors at IML of the applications and implications of new technologies (such as Generative AI) to fashion, design and business. • Develop external learning, teaching and research collaborations, that stimulate local and global community engagement, citizenship and social responsibility in our academic community. • Promote an environment where regular opportunities occur for diverse voices to be heard, where lively debate takes place, and where new research can be shared, in ways that provoke, stimulate and enhance the future-finding of our students, tutors and the wider local and global academic and industry communities.

Enabling factors

Our international presence and recognition

- Our position amongst the top global fashion and business schools.
- Our large network of alumni working as industry professionals all over the world.
- Our access to a network of 11 schools, in 9 cities, across 4 continents – an almost uniquely international network that provides rich potential for inclusive, international learning and teaching projects, pedagogical development, and research collaborations.
- Our Istituto Marangoni Global Alumni network.
- Our growing reputation in research is already leading to collaborations with other institutions and organisations.

Our people

- Our academic team, consisting of a Director of Education, a Head of Learning and Teaching, a Head of Research, 8 full time Programme Leaders and more than 100 tutors, comprising a balance of experienced academics and industry professionals.
- Our growing school, with fluid, cross-disciplinary communication, a collaborative spirit and dynamic idea sharing amongst and across academic teams.
- Our teaching excellence is nurtured through LTA, FHEA and SFHEA Fellowship, and PGCert sponsorship.
- Our investment in enhancing our tutors' subject-related professional development, including conference attendance, seminars, guest talks and training, including specialist workshops and mentoring in research skills and in AI-related topics.

Our industry links

- Our outstanding industry links in the UK and overseas with leading international and local brands, and with growing number of smaller, more diverse independents that are leading the way in sustainable fashion and design practices.
- Our industry networks support us with live projects, guest lectures, student mentoring, studio visits, and placements that enable our students to gain real world insights into a wide range of conventional and alternative business models and activities.
- Many of our tutors maintain their work in industry alongside their academic careers.
- Our dynamic interface with industry and with new and emerging practice informs curriculum, provides opportunities for project development, secures internship opportunities and enhances our student experience, preparing them for future employment, and will enable future research collaborations.

Our research

- Our growing research culture has formed national and international research networks.
- Our researchers regularly disseminate their research at conferences, exhibitions and through publications.
- Our research activities directly inform the development of new programmes, for example MA Sustainable Fashion & Systems.
- Our academic symposia bring cutting-edge research, emergent debates and innovative practice both to our school and to the wider academic community.
- Our pedagogical research receives external recognition.
- Our researchers contribute to knowledge in our specialist areas through publications, including *The Future of Fashion Education: Speculation, Experiences, Collaboration* (later in 2024, by Routledge) and *Responsible Fashion Business in Practice: Sustainable Concepts and Cases Across the Fashion Industry* (published by Routledge, 2023) has become core reading on BA Fashion Business programmes).

Graduate attributes

- Critically reflective and self-aware professionals, able to work both collaboratively and autonomously with a high degree of empathy and initiative.
- Highly agile and responsible global citizens, able to embrace difference, respecting the cultures, values, and positions of others.
- Creative leaders and entrepreneurs, equipped with the knowledge and skills to shape positive change in their industries, communities and beyond.
- Intellectually curious and resourceful problem solvers, able to research, analyse and interpret information effectively to design and apply impactful solutions to real world current and future scenarios.
- Innovative thinkers, able to reimagine fashion, design and business futures for a hyper-complex world.
- Technically and digitally proficient, equipped with currency of knowledge, skills, and ethical frameworks to operate effectively and creatively in their disciplines.

Measures of excellence in learning and teaching

In order assist us in tracking our progress towards the goals and objectives set out in this strategy, and to evaluate the educational gains experienced by our students, we have identified a set of measures that we will regularly monitor through our academic governance structure.

- Rating in the 2027 Teaching Excellence Framework (target: at least Silver overall).
- Positivity ratings for 'the teaching on my course' them in the National Student Survey (target: over 80% for all programmes).
- Results of the Graduate Outcomes survey indicating progression into professional employment or further study 15 months after graduation (threshold: 70% positive outcomes).
- Student skills audits embedded within personal development plans and reflection on work placements.
- Student feedback collected through unit and programme questionnaires.
- Feedback from student representatives shared in Programme Committee Meetings (PCM) and other forums.
- Completion of tutor peer observation cycles and self-assessment.
- Proportion of tutors with teaching qualifications or HEA fellowship (target: 75%).
- Proportion of tutors with industry experience (target: 75%).
- Proportion of tutors that are research active.
- Feedback from placement providers and employers.

The Learning and Teaching Action Plan maps objectives and activities across the strategy's 5-year timeframe.