DESIGN & BUSINESS
/ SPECIALISATION IN SUSTAINABLE FASHION TECH

kea
COPENHAGEN SCHOOL OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTION TO DESIGN & BUSINESS

If you dream about a career in the fashion & lifestyle industry, the top-up bachelor's degree in design & Business might be just the thing for you! You will learn how to analyse a design task in relation to customer's values and needs. You will work with design processes, trend theories and innovation from a business perspective. You will learn to plan, manage, and execute complex, analytical, and creative tasks backed by relevant theory and practice. In other words, you learn the theories and methods required to independently organise, manage, and carry out design and business projects in the fashion and lifestyle industries.

ABOUT THE SPECIALIZATION: SUSTAINABLE FASHION TECH

At Sustainable Fashion Tech, we are committed to finding sustainable solutions to the fashion industry's challenges with future lack of resources and overconsumption. An implementation of digital technologies can be one of the solutions to optimize and make certain processes in the fashion industry more responsible consequently our focus is on developing fashion and clothing through both digital and physical processes.

We immerse ourselves in the design process to explore what aesthetic, sustainable and circular design approaches one can implement to create more responsible clothing for the current and future consumer.

We focus both on utilizing already existing resources and take a view on developing/re-thinking a sustainable value chain in search for a greener and more responsible production as well as preparing the consumer of the future to make the responsible choices on the way to a green transition.

EXCHANGE SEMESTER IN SUSTAINABLE FASHION TECH

30 ECTS programme for students with 2 years of undergraduate experience in fashion design or fashion technical design. The programme is fixed.

Prerequisites: A basic knowledge of design process, patternmaking, materials and sewing is a prerequisite. Approval of design portfolio required upon nomination.

SEMESTER DATES - SPRING 2024

Orientation events: Week of January 22-26

Semester start: January 29

End of semester: June 21

Note: Students are required to attend the full semester on-site in Copenhagen.

SPECIALISATION MODULE – CIRCULAR FASHION FUTURE: 15 ECTS

This Sustainable Fashion Tech module, CIRCULAR FASHION FUTURE, challenges the student to have a critical view at practical and theoretical challenges, emphasizing a sociological perspective and analysis of target group and market, in the process of developing sustainable solutions.

This will be conducted in a student-driven approach to knowledge gathering and knowledge sharing.
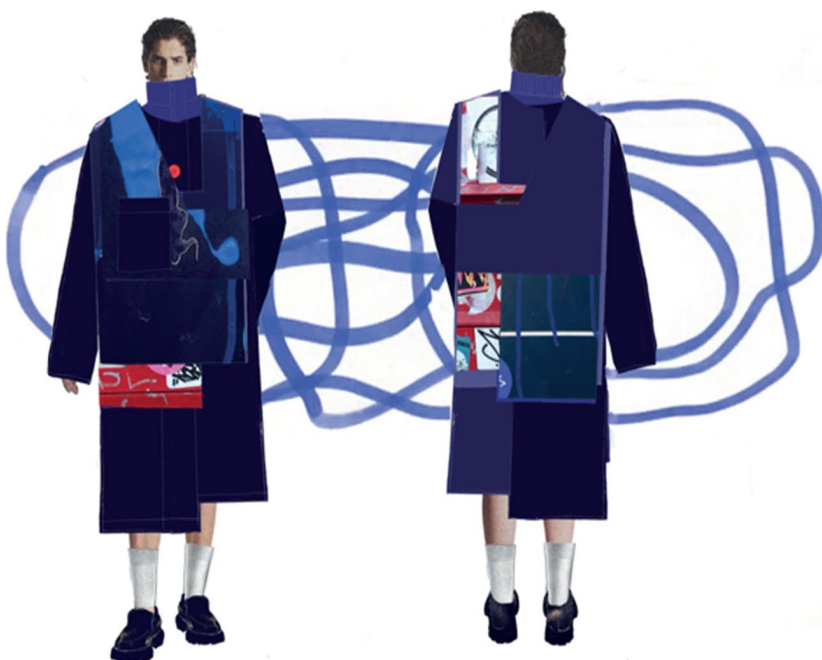
A fundamental element of the module is the iterative design process. Overall, the focus is on the future role of the designer as well as design, product development and storytelling.

Based on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, the student will work with in-depth user insight and involvement to identify recipient needs and translate these into innovative and functional sustainable product solutions.

As a prelude to the design process, the student will be introduced to circular design approaches, print, fabric, and form experiments as well as 3D prototyping in CLO 3D, where utilization of already existing resources will be the focal point.

The purpose of the module is to develop and produce sustainable design products that have a commercial expression based on the user needs, company values and aesthetics as well as rethinking the company value chain with a circular mindset.

The module is built around lectures, workshops, assignments, and project work, which will guide you through the process. The focus is to strengthen you in working independently, as well as to collaborate and share knowledge. It is important that you take responsibility for managing the project's processes yourself, including the time management aspect.

Credit: Malien Kruse
– exchange student 2023

DESIGN, BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY - PROJECT START-UP: 15 ECTS

The Design, Business, and Technology - Project Start-up course is a comprehensive program that combines trend research analysis, business development, and technology integration. Over a period of 8 weeks, students will explore current and future trends, develop a future trend scenario, and then work collaboratively in teams to create and validate a business idea using the concept of pretotyping. The course places a strong emphasis on iterative learning through build, measure, learn loops, and culminates in a group exam where students present their business idea, theory, methods, and learning experience.
The student will work on following topics during the module:
- Trend Research Analysis
- Future Trend Scenario.
- Anti-trends
- Business Idea Development
- Pretotyping
- Build, measure, learn loops
- Quick and low-cost experiments
- Professional presentation

STUDY CULTURE & REQUIREMENTS AS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT AT KEA:
To assure a successful exchange experience at KEA, it is critical that incoming exchange students understand and are prepared to comply with the following:

ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend all lectures throughout the semester in order to acquire the needed skills to pass the exams at the end. Even if attendance is not registered, our experience is that students will only be able to pass their exam projects in the end, if they have attended all or most lectures.

INDEPENDENT STUDY SKILLS:

In addition to attending lectures, it is very important that students have a certain self-discipline and are able to work independently and with their groups on a daily basis throughout the semester. This means that even if the fixed schedule of lectures appear light, students at KEA are expected to dedicate around 40 hours per week of studying and working with their groups in order to be equipped for the final exams.

PUNCTUALITY:

At KEA, and in Denmark in general, you are always expected to be on time (for classes, for advising sessions, for meetings with your group, for work, and for any other appointment). We know punctuality varies a lot from one culture to another, however, we would like to emphasize the importance of this in Danish culture to our visiting exchange students as it can otherwise become a reason for frustration and resentment in various social and study settings.

PREREQUISITES TO PASS THE EXAMS:

To acquire the skills and competencies needed to pass the exams at KEA, it is expected that students attend minimum 90 % of lectures, group meetings and dedicate the remaining hours of a full-time week to independent studying of the curriculum and project work with the group. Additionally, students are expected to attend ALL Q&A's and advising sessions with lecturers, where info about exams and other big projects will be given (only once).

Find practical information about incoming exchange at KEA here:
global.kea.dk/student-mobility/incoming-exchange

Questions? Please contact:
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