

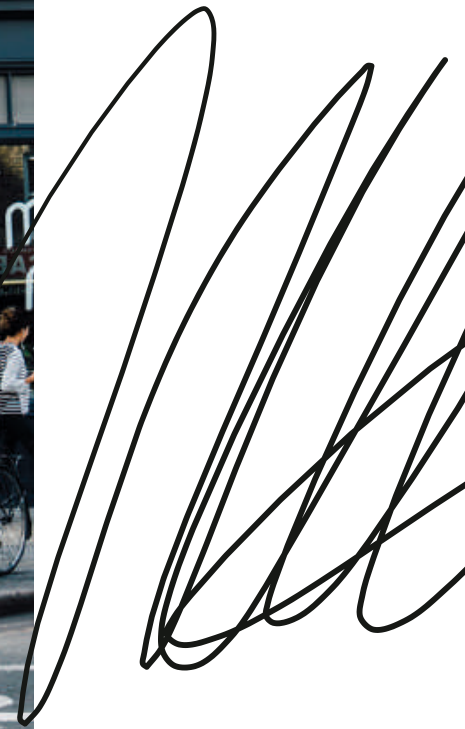
EXCHANGE

London College of Fashion - UAL
University of Arts of London
Exchange Rapport
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*Read about my exchange semester at
London College of Fashion, London UK.*



Picture from Shoreditch.





I studied at London College of Fashion, which is a part of the University of the Arts of London (UAL) and therefore there are several different campuses.

- I was mainly at:

John Prince's Street:

Placed in the central of London was where the larger lectures and presentations were held. This campus has a rather nice canteen and a smaller library.

The nearest tube is Oxford Circus.

Curtain Road:

Here was all classes of sewing and garment-construction held. There are workrooms for sewing and there



WHERE DID I STUDY?



LCF

is also a tiny sewing- and tools shop on the groundfloor. The campus is very little so you have to be early to get a decent seat! Also there is no canteen but you can buy coffee. The nearest tube is Old Street.

WHICH COURSE/PROGRAMME DID I STUDY?

My course was called Fashion Design and Development and I studied together with the entire 2nd year. We were more than 100 students on 2nd year but we were divided into classes of 15-20 people. Each class has two professeurs who are your main tutors for smaller lectures and one-to-one sessions.

HOW ARE THE CLASSES AND WORK STRUCTURED ?

As an exchange student you are very much left alone as you don't automaticly meet the "regular" students as the everyday work is individual and then a few times a week you have a lecture or a sewing class.

HOW HELPFUL WAS LCF IN THE PROCESS OF SETTLING YOU IN ?

There was an introduction-day on the Oxford campus where all exchange students from various programmes attended. It was very breif with a lot of informations, and it would have been nice with a map or something for when the classes started next day. But I meet several danish exchange students from other danish design schools - which I hang out with throughout my stay.



*Some pictures of
my work for unit 01:
Industry Specialised
Project.*



WHICH UNITS DID I HAVE DOING MY PROGRAM?

UNIT 01: INDUSTRY SPECIALISED PROJECT:

In this unit we were to design a collection and create a social responsible businessmodel, which preserved the cultural heritage of a chosen community.

This unit was the largest of my two units (20 ECTS) and you work very individually. Our assignment was to produce:

1) A strategic rationale of 1800 - word justification of your brand extension and designs, fully researched, referenced and professionally presented.

2) Minimum 20 sketchbook-pages with analysed, annotated and edited research og materials, 2D and 3D -experimentation of form and design.

3) A digital Portfolio with mood, concept, colour, fabric pages, design development - 2D / 3D process, experimentation, stand-work etc. and a final line-up of SIX outfits, a considered range plan in CAD b/w and colour including price indication. Branding identity page and a Technical file.

4) TECH PACK - for TWO full looks including technical drawings (black and white plus colored – front, back and side view). Size and manufacture specs, Fabrication, seam types and finishing, details, trims and components etc.

UNIT 02: FASHION PRODUCTION FUTURE TECHNOLOGIES:

This unit was smaller than the prior (10 ECTS) and completly digital where we used the platform Workflow.

Firstly I was to research Zero Waste production method together with 4-5 students and create a presentation.

Secondly, (individually) from this research I was to create a future scenario where I somehow used the idea of zero waste for my own collection. Because of the Future-aspects we could be very abstract about our design and development.

Our assignment was to produce:

1) Group research presentation, and a 7 minutes online presentation and powerpoint.

2) 500-word rationale of your individual idea and collection.

3) A Online Portfolio comprising: Extensive Research, 2D Design development and a final line-up of SIX garments (front and back).





Working in a physical sketchbook, where I annotated my thoughts and findings.

We had a small sewing-course where we learned step-by-step to sew a blazer, as it was a part of one of the units - to design an outerwear garment.



The entrance to a smaller LCF campus at Holborn. I was only there once for a lecture.

The lectures are a bit confusing as they don't have a direct meaning towards the unit you're currently working on. Some of them are more "how do you write an rationale?" or "introductions to competetions at LCF" .

There are smaller lectures within your specific class, such as sewing, pattern construction or just open learning, where you sit and work as the teachers walk around talking with the students if they're having questions.

HOW WAS THE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE?

The teachers are very nice and highly skilled, with professional experience from larger fashion houses, such as Maison Margiela or Alexander Wang.

The units are very individual and you work in your own individual "bubble". That is the reason why I think you have a opportunity to develop your skills as an individual designer.

Basically, you are responsible for your own work efforts - nobody tells you to make or do anything. I found my classmates a bit lazy compared with KEA, mainly because people were late for classes and showed up unprepared. But again the teachers "don't care" if you don't make your homework - They assume you would want to complete your education, and they will help you more if they see you're doing your best!





I lived at the Danish mansion named KFUK (called K) which is a huge house/dorm for young danish people in London. It is run by a danish couple, so you can just call them to hear if they have a room available.

Here is the website:
<http://www.kfuk.co.uk/>

KFUK is placed in the area of Hampstead, which is rather nice and similar to Hellerup in Copenhagen - you might run into a moviestar in Hampstead!



The house is located 5 minutes walk from Finchley Road tube station or you can walk a bit futher (15minutes) to Hampstead tube station.

You share one room together 3-5 people (boys together and girls together) with seperate beds, a table and chairs, a sink and individual wardrobe space.

There is a large livingroom everybody shares downstairs where you can relax, play games, play the piano or just hang out.

The baths are shared (one for the girls and one for the boys) but they are really privat as you can close separat doors to a single bath.

Futhermore there is breakfast every morning and 4 days of dinner including in the total price. Every sunday everyone (the ones who would like to) eats breakfast together and sing some danish church

WHERE DID I LIVE?



songs. (it is really not as wierd as it sounds)

every week! Really it is a very nice place to stay.

On Fridays and Saturdays people usually went out for drinks at a bar not far away, where we would get discount for staying at K.

And also it is really safe to go home alone at night as the area is really nice an usually quiet.

Everyone at K is danish and you make new friends

Cultural Experiences

WHAT CHALLENGES DID YOU EXPERIENCE CULTURALLY WHILE BEING A BROAD?

London is very rich cultural with people from very different countries, which resulted in you feeling as an exchange very “normal”. Almost every student in my class was originally from another country, but were there to study for 3 years and then move back home. There was very few “english” students.

People are generally very kind and very career-minded and therefore the atmosphere of London is “business, business and business”.

Don't be afraid of the pressure to perform as a exchange student, the atmosphere is quite chill at LCF. And you will always have something different from the start as you work differently and see London differently.

And just go !

You learn so much, not just academic but also about new things about yourself and the way you can work, from being at a different school and in different country - you really evolve as a person.

WHAT CHALLENGES DID YOU EXPERIENCE WHILE BEING A BROAD?

WHAT WAS THE BEST CULTURAL/PERSONAL EXPERIENCE DURING YOUR STUDIES ABROAD?

I think the best personal experience was that I could finally built my personal and individual design aesthetic as a designer. And I learned that everyone has a special skill that can help define you as designer.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE OTHER KEA STUDENTS GOING TO STUDY ABROAD AT THE RECEIVING SCHOOL?

DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE PRESSURE, YOU WILL ALWAYS BRING SOMETHING UNIQUE WITH YOU AS EXCHANGE STUDENT.

Unfortunately my stay in London was short as the COVID-19 pandemic forced KEA to withdraw all exchange students from the countries to return home to Denmark and therefore I had to finish my courses and exams online.

This was very challenging as each unit had to be changed in order to fit into the online platform and lectures. We were supposed to sew our final line-up of unit 01, but this was excluded as well as other physical details.

