

# FASHION & TEXTILES

**A** textile designer is responsible for the creation and development of the design or pattern which is either woven, knitted or printed on to cloth. Apart from being responsible for the original idea of a design, a textile designer must have a good working knowledge of factory reproduction techniques.

Creative artists use their skills and experience to produce design and colourations, not only by traditional sketches and painting techniques, but also using high-tech computers. This offers the aspiring designer a totally new dimension in the exciting world of textile design.

Clothing designers design clothes and accessories for all tastes and requirements. Modern clothing designers have to know how to relate fabrics and designs to market needs. They must have the ability to cost and carry out designs through to the finished sample garments.

Fashion buyers play an enormously important role in the success of a retail company. They are responsible for interpreting the trends of seasonal fashion by constantly being in contact with the market.

Students who intend to study fashion must be imaginative, creative, perceptive and objective. They should be self-assured, persuasive and prepared to take risks.

Creativity and a good imagination are important. Clothing designers must be able to put their ideas into practical reality. They must be able to work under pressure to meet deadlines, solve problems of a practical nature and initiate changes.

## RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Art, Home Economics and Business Economics.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Senior Certificate or an equivalent qualification is required.

## TRAINING

### UNIVERSITY

A four-year BConsumer Science degree.

### UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

#### Programmes offered:

NDip: Fashion & Textiles

BTech: Fashion & Textiles

MTech: Fashion & Textiles

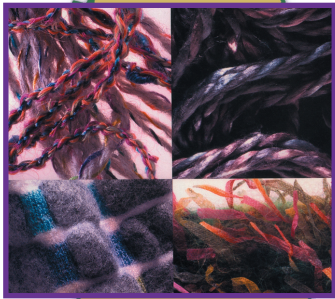
### PRIVATE COLLEGES

Private colleges offer courses in Clothing and Fashion Design. Certain private colleges offer diplomas with international accreditation.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The programme covers all aspects of fashion necessary to meet an increasingly sophisticated industry's need for professional designers. It prepares learners for related roles in the fashion industry and retail outlets.

Pattern maker, designer and dressmaker at fashion houses, own dressmaking business, workshop and boutique manager, buyer for business, buyer or representative for manufacturers or retail stores, costume designer (full time or freelance), designer and pattern maker at any performing arts organization, fashion illustrator for magazines, fashion consultant, marketing agent, fashion co-ordinator, quality controller. Freelance designers sell sketches of designs to manufacturers.



16

