

CURATING FASHION AND DRESS

International Training Course
21–25 November 2016



Spanning four centuries, the V&A's Fashion collection is one of the largest and most comprehensive in the world. V&A fashion exhibitions have attracted millions of visitors enabling the Museum to develop an extraordinary wealth of expertise in the field of curating fashion and dress. Following the successful edition in February 2016, the V&A welcomes applications for 'Curating Fashion and Dress'.

This one week intensive course is a unique opportunity for museum professionals from overseas who are interested in harnessing the V&A's extensive expertise to develop their own fashion and dress curation skills and enhance their collections.

Course Description

The course presents a comprehensive insight into the V&A's Fashion and Dress collections. Participants will be taken through the whole curation process, from collecting, to conservation and mounting, to ensure they are able to make the most of their own collections.

All of the teaching is delivered by experts from the V&A and includes both talks and hands-on workshops to suit different styles of learning. Participants will also be invited to share real examples of projects from their institutions that they could develop during and after the course.



'Fashion and Dress form an essential part of the V&A's collections and span more than four centuries from rare 17th century gowns to post-war couture. The fashion collections not only celebrate the best of fashion design, but also play a crucial role in attracting visitors to the V&A time and time again. With the launch of this course, we are looking forward to sharing our experience and insight in this field with many museum colleagues.'

Martin Roth, Director of the V&A



Sample Programme

- The dos and don'ts of collecting historical and contemporary fashion
- Conservation practices
- Mounting fashion and dress
- Planning and delivering a fashion exhibition
- Introduction to the Clothworkers' Centre for the Study and Conservation of Textiles and Fashion
- Cataloguing a fashion collection

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the participants will have:

- increased their knowledge and skills in the field of fashion and dress curation
- discovered new ways of making the best of their fashion and dress collections
- met with peers from around the globe and become part of an international network of museum fashion and dress professionals

Eligibility

- The course is for a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 20 participants
- Participants should be museum professionals with fashion/dress collections
- Participants must be able to communicate in written and spoken English

Course Fee

The course fee is £1,110 (excluding VAT). This includes tuition, course materials, a V&A Learning certificate, lunches and refreshments throughout the week, as well as social and networking events at the beginning and end of the course.

Participants will be responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their travel and accommodation. However, a group booking discounted rate may be available through the V&A, if required.

Application Procedure

- To apply for this programme, please visit vam.ac.uk/international
- Deadline for application is 12 August 2016, 17.00 GMT
- As part of the application process, a Skype discussion will take place one week after the deadline mentioned above for successfully shortlisted applicants



Contact details

If you would like to discuss the course or your application, please email internationaltraining@vam.ac.uk