Curating Fashion and Dress
One-week Intensive Training Course
13 – 17 January 2020
Victoria and Albert Museum
South Kensington, London
Course Description

Spanning more than five centuries, the V&A’s Fashion collection is one of the largest and most comprehensive in the world. It has particular strength in European fashion from the 18th century onwards, as well as important holdings from India, China, and Japan. The V&A’s has a wealth of expertise in the field of curating, conserving and displaying fashion and our critically-acclaimed fashion exhibitions have attracted millions of visitors.

This one-week intensive course is a unique opportunity for museum professionals who are interested in harnessing the V&A’s extensive expertise to develop their own fashion and dress curation skills, enhance their collections and build a strong international peer network.

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 mounting and exhibiting, to ensure they are able to make the most of their own collections.

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The V&A houses the UK’s national collection of fashion and textiles, which spans more than five centuries, from rare 17th century gowns to post-war couture and contemporary pieces. This collection not only celebrates the very best of fashion design and creativity, but also attracts thousands of visitors to the V&A time and time again. Building on the world-renowned success of this course we look forward to sharing our experience and insight in fashion curation with many museum colleagues from around the world.

Dr Tristram Hunt, Director

Programme Overview

All the teaching is delivered by experts from the V&A and includes talks, tours and hands-on workshops to suit different styles of learning. Participants will also be invited to share examples of ongoing projects from their institutions, and to discuss with their peers how they might develop them after the course.

- Collecting Historic and Contemporary Fashion
- Mounting Fashion and Dress
- Planning and delivering a fashion exhibition
- Curating and managing permanent fashion displays
- Introduction to the Clothworkers’ Centre for the Study and Conservation of Textiles and Fashion
- Understanding and Managing Fashion rights

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 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 £1,500 (including VAT). This includes tuition, course materials, a V&A Academy certificate, lunches and refreshments, as well as social and networking events throughout the week
- Participants will be responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their travel and accommodation during their stay in London

Application Procedure

- To apply, please submit an application form to ProfessionalDevelopment@vam.ac.uk
- Deadline for application is Sunday, 24 November 2019
- As part of the application process, a Skype discussion will take place shortly after the application deadline to confirm eligibility. For early applicants we will hold interviews in September
## ABOUT YOU

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## ABOUT YOUR EXPECTATIONS

Please explain in a few lines why you are interested in taking part in this course and what you hope to get out of it? Please mention what aspect of curating fashion and dress you are particularly interested in. (max. 100 words)
ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION AND ROLE

Tell us about the focus of your museum and whether it has a dedicated Fashion and/or Dress department (max. 50 words):

Please give a brief description of your role and responsibilities (max. 50 words). How long have you held your current position?

What learning outcomes would you like to achieve?

Have you visited the V&A before? Please describe briefly your relationship with the V&A.

Please return this form by **Sunday 24 November 2019** to ProfessionalDevelopment@vam.ac.uk

A phone interview for shortlisted candidates will take place shortly after this deadline.

Thank you for your application!
V&A Professional Development team