

# FASHION DESIGN



## UPCYCLING PROJECT

## **INTRODUCTION AND SCENARIO**

The fashion Industry is making serious efforts to reduce its' carbon footprint and sustainable sourcing, manufacturing and products is key; fashion designers have a responsibility to consider more sustainable options and considerations within their work.

Upcycling or customising is a progressive way of extending a products life cycle and refreshing a garment and also adding your own signature or personal style.

You have been set the challenge of upcycling a garment of your own; this can be a jacket, shirt, skirt, dress or jeans. This project gives you the opportunity to experiment with a variety of materials, techniques and processes to create something which really shows your individuality and creativity.

### **TASKS**

#### **Task 1**

##### **Sketchbook (min 10 pages)**

A3 sketchbook of research material including:

- Trend research 2023/24
- Visual inspiration
- Fashion sketches/ideas and concepts
- Textile samples
- Annotation
- Photographs of each stage of customising the garment
- 500 word written evaluation of the project

#### **Task 2**

##### **Design sheets (min 10 designs):**

- Full front and back designs on a figure

##### **A3 illustration board:**

- Full colour illustration front and back view

#### **Task 3**

##### **Finished customised garment**

#### **Hand in list:**

Sketchbook

Design development sheets (minimum 10 designs)

A3 Final illustration board of your final design

Final customised garment

The options are endless, here are a few possible textile techniques that you could try:

- Distressing: sandpaper, ripping, cutting, using a cheese grater is quite effective
- Bleaching, using different dilutions, painting, sponging & dip dyeing
- Dyeing using different colours, tie dye, ombre & making marks
- Fraying
- Studs, safety pins & staples – you can make patterns or words with these
- Embroidery (machine and hand)
- Sew on patches (as lazy oaf) and patchwork
- Removing sleeves, collars, waistbands, cuffs or replacing with different fabrics
- Fit: make the shape more fitted or add panels to make fuller
- Mark making: paint patterns or words, spray paint, stencils, splattering

### **References and additional sources for your research:**

**Fashion magazines/online** – Vogue, ID, Dazed and Confused & LOVE

**Fashion trend research** – Pinterest

**Designers** – that have upcycle/customise and brands that consider sustainability in their ethos <https://compareethics.com/9-recycled-and-upcycled-clothing-brands-you-shouldnt-pass-in-2018/>

**Fashion illustration** – research different styles of fashion illustration from historic (Celia Birtwell) to contemporary (Matty Bovan)

**Sketchbook presentation and development** – Pinterest

**Textile techniques manipulations** - Pinterest  
<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/kunsworth6244/upcycling-clothes/>

**Upcycling and customising denim** – Pinterest  
<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/kunsworth6244/upcycling-denim/>

Please bring your summer project with you on your first day of College.

Good luck and I hope you enjoy the project.

If you have any concerns regarding the project, you can contact me by email  
[tberridge@yorkcollege.ac.uk](mailto:tberridge@yorkcollege.ac.uk)

Tara Berridge  
Programme Leader Fashion level 3  
York College