

CAREER LINKS



Career Development Center

Conversations about Career Success...with Faculty



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What was your college major?

My college major was Clothing and Textiles, and Postsecondary Education. I received two Bachelor's Degrees and one Master's Degree from Kansas State University.

Did this major lead you to your current career?

Yes, I knew from the time I began taking classes in high school I wanted to work in Fashion Design.

What are the characteristics that your most successful students possess?

- Time Management
- Passion
- Realism
- Organized
- Creativity (crucial for the design)
- Math Skills (crucial for merchandising)
- People Skills

Name three things a student should know when exploring this career.

- The Fashion Design industry can be very competitive.
- Relocation may be necessary to continue career expansion.
- Work hours may include evenings and weekends.

What skills will a student learn when pursuing this career?

- Apparel Construction
- Math Skills - knowledge of merchandising buying techniques
- Tailoring
- Flat Pattern Development
- Computer Aided Apparel Design
- Line Development
- Photoshop
- Illustrator
- Gerber (Industry specific software)

For a student needing part-time employment while in college, what types of jobs provide the best experiential learning opportunities?

- Retail opportunities fulfill both merchandising and design career paths
- Intern with a local designer
- Visual Merchandising
- Wardrobing (Independent)
- Styling
- Sales and Management
- Professional Selling

If a college student is unable to find related work experience in this career field, how do you suggest he/she prepare for the workplace?

- Internships are required for both Fashion Merchandising and Design
- Sew, sew, and sew!
- Network
- Join professional associations (Fashion Group International)

Is there a selection process for entering this program?

No, we are an open admissions program.