

A photograph of a clothing store interior. In the foreground, a circular rack holds several dresses, including a prominent bright orange one with ruffles. Behind it, multiple linear racks are filled with various tops and dresses in colors like purple, red, blue, and white. At the top of the frame, a rack of colorful paper tags in shades of yellow, orange, and pink is visible. A large, bright green diagonal banner is overlaid across the center of the image, containing white text.

Higher Certificate

Fashion Retail (Merchandising)

www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk

Fashion Retail Academy

Higher Certificate in Fashion Retail (Merchandising)

This course has developed in response to an industry shortage of graduates with appropriate merchandising and business skills. The course benefits from support throughout the fashion retail industry, and our graduates are much sought after, working for companies such as Arcadia, Marks and Spencer, Next, Tesco, Monsoon, New Look, Jaeger, Hugo Boss, Selfridges, Harvey Nichols and many more.

All of our teaching staff have had successful careers in retailing and understand the crucial role of merchandisers within the decision-making hierarchy. Merchandising is not to be confused with visual merchandising or retail management.

Course content

You will develop a good understanding of the retail industry and the key responsibilities of the merchandiser, as well as receiving an introduction to skills applicable to the wider business. You will also develop your personal skills, learn to write a targeted CV, and practice your interview techniques.

Your work placement is organized by our Retail Liaison Section with increasing numbers of high street retailers we are currently working with. You will learn the maths used by merchandisers, and how to research and write a business report.

Modules include:

- Merchandising and Calculations
- Commercial Skills - (finance and accounting)
- Retail Law and Business Experience
- Buying, Cycle and Range Planning in the Fashion Industry
- Multi-channel Merchandising and Supply Chain Management
- Role of Design, Global Sourcing
- Textiles and Manufacturing



Selection Process

For entry to the Higher Certificate in Fashion Retail (Merchandising) you should:

- be at least 18 by 1st September in the year of entry
- have 1 A Level grade C or above in related subject or
- have BTEC National Diploma at Level 3 or Advanced GNVQ in Business or related subject or
- have Fashion Retail Diploma Level 3 at grade Merit or above or
- have Related Access course with 48 credits and
- have any of the above plus passes in a minimum of 4 GCSE subjects (including English and Maths at grade C or above)

Selection for interview will be based initially on your academic qualifications and / or previous experience, references and your personal statement.

Teaching and assessment

Teaching methods include formal lectures, activity-based seminars, discussions, debates and tutorials. A feature of the course is the high number of guest speakers from industry who share their knowledge and expertise. Assessment is predominantly through written reports and presentations.

Career Prospects or What next?

Once you have completed the Higher Certificate in Fashion Retail (Merchandising) you will be ideally suited to take up employment as a Merchandising Administration Assistant or join a graduate management programme.