

**UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course:** THTR 206: Fashion, Costume and Society

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Proposed Effective Date: Spring 2019

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**COURSE INFORMATION:** (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)	THTR 206	THTR 306
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Formal Title	Fashion, Costume and Society	Fashion, Culture and Society
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Fashion, Costume, Society	Fashion, Culture, Society
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation	None	THTR 120
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite <b>NOTE:</b> Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	None	ENGL 100
<input type="checkbox"/>	# of Credits Must adhere to the <a href="#">UMBC Credit Hour Policy</a>	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits	3	<b>Max. Total Credits:</b> This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

**CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

A theoretical introduction to the artistic and aesthetic aspects of fashion. Students will examine the psychology of clothing and how styles developed through different historical periods. Fashion, mirroring societal changes, will be studied as an outcome of class struggle, politics, economics and attitudes toward the human body.

**PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION** (Approximately 75 words in length. Please use full sentences): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

**RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:**

THTR 206 is currently a difficult course to schedule, as students rarely have room to take an elective that is not at the upper division. More importantly, the synthesizing principles required to process the material in the course is better suited to upper division study, allowing the instructor to seek deeper inquisition into the source material. We also see this course as appropriate for students across the university with its attached AH credit; offering the course at the upper division will be more attractive to the non-theatre major seeking elective AH credit. This course has also been submitted to the GEP committee to count as a Culture course as well as AH.

## THTR 306: Fashion, Culture, and Society

### INSTRUCTOR

Eric Abele  
Lecturer in Costume Design  
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410-455-3386  
PAHB 323

**Office Hours:**  
Mondays 1:30 - 2:30 PM  
Wednesdays 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
By Appointment

### COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A theoretical introduction to the artistic and aesthetic aspects of fashion. Students will examine the psychology of clothing and how styles developed through different historical periods. Fashion, mirroring societal changes, will be studied as an outcome of class struggle, politics, economics and attitudes toward the human body.

### COURSE OBJECTIVE

At the end of this course, students will be able to

- Discuss the context and structures of cultural traditions in terms of dress, art, and society
- Describe important movements that have affected the cultural heritage and styles of dress in a cross-cultural perspective
- Read for information, memorize and research parts of dress and their significance to cross-cultural perspectives civilization
- Engage in critical assessment of how the student's own experience has been affected by particular cultural traditions in dress

### COURSE MATERIALS

#### **Required Text:**

This text is not available at the UMBC Bookstore. You will be responsible for having the text at the ready during class discussion. Students should also purchase the companion pass for the STUDIO materials. In your search please acquire the identical text as notated here to allow for common page reference.

Tortora, Phyllis and Keith Eubank. Survey of Historic Costume. New York: Fairchild Books, 2011. Print. (ISBN: 978-1563678066).

#### **Recommended Texts:**

These texts are not available at the UMBC Bookstore. Some reading excerpts from these sources will be provided via Blackboard. These are also excellent additional readings for future research.

Barber, Elizabeth Wayland. Women's Work the First 20,000 Years: Women, Cloth, and Society in Early Times. New York: WW Norton and Company, 1994. Print. (ISBN: 978-0393313482)

Hollander, Anne. Seeing Through Clothes. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993. Print. (ISBN: 978-0520082311)

Lurie, Alison. The Language of Clothes. New York: Ransom House. Print. (ISBN: 978-0805062441)

Riello, Giorgio and Peter McNeil, Ed. The Fashion History Reader: Global Perspectives. London: Routledge Press, 2010. Print. (ISBN: 978-0415493246)

Svendsen, Lars. Fashion: A Philosophy. London: Reaktion Books Ltd., Print. (ISBN: 9-781-86189-291-1).

Vinken, Barbara. Fashion Zeitgeist: Trends and Cycles in the Fashion System. New York: Berg Publishers, 2006. Print. (ISBN: 978-1845200442)

Workman, Jane E. and Beth W. Freeburg. Dress and Society. New York: Fairchild Books, 2009. Print. (ISBN: 978-1563676260)

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS

I treat each student as a professional. In the professional world, deadlines mean money, bosses have high expectations, and there are many people depending on the timely completion of your work (none of which depends on a grade). I will hold you to the highest possible expectations of being a professional. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Regular and timely attendance.
2. Active participation in class.
3. Preparation of both homework and in-class assignments.
4. Quality and timeliness of work. PLAN AHEAD.
5. Remember the Golden Rule of Business: a lack of planning on your part will not constitute an emergency on mine.

### **Communication**

Email can be tricky and can create confusion if not handled carefully. First and foremost, I would always prefer face-to-face conversations during office hours about any struggle you are having or if you would like to discuss a topic. Second, many quick questions can be explained through this hideously lengthy syllabus and assignment packet. Before you fire off an email, did you double-check the course materials? Third, you should expect a 24-hour response time on email. If I am working on my computer, you may potentially receive an instant response. Otherwise you will likely not hear back for a day. Finally, please put effort into composing emails. This includes using full words, complete sentences, proper greetings and closings, and informative subject lines. Professional courtesy will get you much further in your requests for my time than otherwise. And never forget: **if you want me to read your emails, you are well advised to read mine.**

### **Food and Drink**

Students are allowed to bring a bottle of water to every class; no other food or drink is permitted.

### **Cell Phones / Electronics**

Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom or during any class activity. Phones and other electronic devices are to be turned completely off (not just silenced) the moment you enter the classroom and must remain off during the class period. Likewise, text messaging is prohibited in the classroom or during any class activity. Students utilizing the phone or messaging during class will be asked to leave the classroom and will receive an absence for the day. Messaging during an exam will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. Computers and iPads can be used in class for the purpose of note taking and research. Students misusing their computers (i.e. on social media) will lose their computer privileges for the duration of the course.

### **Assistance**

If you have already been given accommodation permission you need to bring your letter from Student Support Services. Students needing special accommodations in order to accommodate specific testing / learning needs should contact Student Support Services located in the Sherman Hall (Academic IV Building: B-Wing), Room 345 or online at [www.umbc.edu/sss](http://www.umbc.edu/sss) or by phone at (410) 455-3250. Students utilizing Students Support services are responsible to inform the faculty member at least one week in advance of each test so that appropriate arrangements may be made.

Students who experience stress or other difficulties and find themselves in need of talking with someone regarding personal issues, trouble adjusting to the challenges of college life, anxiety, depression, or concerns about course work, social life, or the everyday pressures of being a college student are encouraged to contact University Counseling Services located in the Student Development & Success Center or online at [www.umbc.edu/counseling](http://www.umbc.edu/counseling) or by phone at (410) 455-2472.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be assigned readings and other media. You will be expected to discuss what you learned from those sources with your classmates. Students will frequently be divided into groups to accomplish specific assignments. The instructor in the course will serve as facilitator and guide.

I will expect nothing other than timely, finished work. If you foresee a busy or highly demanding period in your calendar, then I suggest getting the information you will need to work ahead on certain assignments. In no circumstances will you be given leeway to be late or negligent of your assignments due to working technical rehearsals or shows: that's the business, get used to it.

Please be aware that there is usually an assignment or reading due each class. As we progress in the course, assignments and due dates may shift. It is your responsibility to track these changes as they occur. All assignments must be turned in on time. **I typically do not accept late assignments**, however under certain circumstances you may be able to turn in an assignment late with a penalty (late assignments due to legitimate absences will never be penalized). It will always be to the highest advantage for your grade to turn in all work.

#### GRADING, ATTENDANCE, AND ACADEMIC HONESTY

Earning an "A" in this course is as straightforward as behaving like a professional. Timely work, creativity in approach, and significant effort will be rewarded with an "A." Allow yourself to fail through effort, not through apathy. However, please bear in mind that if you are upset at not getting a desired grade, ask yourself if the effort behind the work being evaluated is truly **exceptional** or simply **good**.

#### **Points Distribution**

All assignments are graded on a point system, with total points adding up to **200**.

- **Chapter Impressions 20 pts.** Students create a Blackboard thread of notes and images and vocab for each chapter and/or time period. These are self-selected responses to anything covered in the chapter. Ongoing assignment: must be completed by end of semester. Can include responses to films.
- **Chapter Quizzes 40 pts.** Four quizzes covering multiple periods (10 pts each)
- **Midterm Exam 40 pts.** (Antiquity through Crinoline)
- **Group Project 35 pts.** Students work as a group to research a decade in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and prepare a lecture with visual aids to teach the decade to the class. Each participant does a one-page write-up on the experience.
- **Diary Assignments 15 pts.** Students select three garments from an original collection to research and write a fictional "day in the life" of the imaginary person wearing the garment, using examples of specifics relating to important features of the garment and time period. Posted to Blackboard.
- **Final Exam 50 pts.** Cumulative final, inclusive of 20<sup>th</sup> C group projects

#### **General Grading Rubric**

A (90-100%)

Exceptional ability. Always thoroughly prepared. Extremely focused. Shows substantial evidence of required outside practice and discipline. Excellent progress with assignments and in-class engagement. Always works hard.

B (80-89%)

Above average to average ability. Prepares for class and assignments: at times thoroughly. Shows evidence of required outside practice and discipline. Above average progress with assignments and in-class engagement. Works hard.

C (70-79%)

Average ability. Preparation average to inconsistent. Inconsistent evidence of required outside practice and discipline. Lacks consistent focus. Average progress with assignments and participation in-class. Average work.

D (60- 69%)

Below average ability. Preparation is inconsistent to poor. Little to no evidence of required outside practices or discipline. Does not work hard, puts forth little effort. Turns in some work and rarely participates in class.

F (0-59%)

Poor ability. Preparation is poor or oftentimes non-existent. No evidence of required outside practices or discipline. No effort made to engage in class or with content. Does not participate in class and rarely turns in assignments.

## Policy on Absences

The core of this class is in-class discussion, interaction, and engagement. You will simply be unable to pass this class with multiple absences. **More than two absences will result in a loss of one letter grade per absence on your final grade. If you miss more than four classes, you will automatically fail this course.** This is a seminar class and will be conducted as such. It is imperative that you do the readings and participate in the class.

In case of severe illness (verified with a doctor's note) or an emergency (also with verification), you are expected to make up work missed within a scheduled time on which we both agree. If you miss class the day an assignment is scheduled, you will fail that assignment unless you can provide some form of proper documentation.

Class starts at 11:30 AM. Much like rehearsal or work calls, this means we begin at 11:30 AM, not arrive at 11:30 AM. Remember: early is on time and on time is late. **Two late class arrivals will equal one absence.**

## Academic Integrity

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, or the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC Directory.

## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND DUE DATES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>In-Class</i>	<i>Reading/Working</i>
AUG 30	THURS	Introduction to Course and Expectations	Purchase Book Read Chapter 1 Read Svendsen Chapter 3 (Blackboard)
SEPT 4	TUES	Introduction: What is Fashion?	Read Chapter 2 (p 20, pp. 30-end) Read Chapters 3 & 4
SEPT 6	THURS	Antiquity: Egypt, Greece, and Rome	Read Chapters 7 & 8
SEPT 11	TUES	Italian and Northern Renaissance	
SEPT 13	THURS	Reformation/Elizabethan	Prepare for Quiz
SEPT 18	TUES	<b>Quiz #1: Antiquity to Renaissance</b>	
SEPT 20	THURS	<b>FILM: Elizabeth</b>	Read Part Four Intro & Chapter 9 <b>DUE: Diary #1 (Blackboard)</b>
SEPT 25	TUES	17 <sup>th</sup> C: Cavalier/Restoration	Read Chapter 10
SEPT 27	THURS	18 <sup>th</sup> C—Early	Review Chapter 10
OCT 2	TUES	18 <sup>th</sup> C—Late	Prepare for Quiz
OCT 4	THURS	<b>Quiz #2: Renaissance to Baroque</b>	
OCT 9	TUES	<b>FILM: Les Liasons Dangereuses</b>	Read Chapter 11

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>In-Class</i>	<i>Reading/Working</i>
OCT 11	THURS	Directoire & Empire 1790-1820	Read Chapter 12
OCT 16	TUES	The Romantic Period 1820-1850	Read Chapter 13
OCT 18	THURS	The Crinoline Period 1850-1869	<b>DUE: Diary #2 (Blackboard)</b> Prepare for Quiz
OCT 23	TUES	<b>Quiz #3: Directoire to Crinoline</b>	
OCT 25	THURS	<b>FILM: <i>The Young Victoria</i></b>	
OCT 30	TUES	Review Day	Bring notes and old quizzes ASSIGN: Groups for 20 <sup>th</sup> Century
NOV 1	THURS	<b>MIDTERM EXAM: Chapters 1-13</b>	Read Chapter 14
NOV 6	TUES	The Bustle Era 1870-1890	Review Chapter 14
NOV 8	THURS	The End of Victoriana 1890-1900	Read Chapter 15
NOV 13	TUES	The Edwardian Era 1900-1920	Review for Quiz
NOV 15	THURS	<b>Quiz #4: Bustles to Edwardian 1870-1920</b>	
NOV 20	TUES	<b>FILM: <i>Downton Abbey</i></b>	
NOV 22	THURS	<b>THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS</b>	
NOV 27	TUES	<b>NO CLASS</b> Time for Group Work	<b>DUE: Diary #3 (Blackboard)</b>
NOV 29	THURS	<b>Group Presentations</b> Group 1: 1920-1930 Group 2: 1930-1940	
DEC 4	TUES	<b>Group Presentations</b> Group 3: 1940-1950 Group 4: 1950-1960	
DEC 6	THURS	<b>Group Presentations</b> Group 5: 1960-1980 Group 6: 1980-present	
DEC 11	TUES	Review Day	
DEC 13	THUR	<b>CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM</b>	
DEC 17	MON	<b>All Chapter Impression Posts</b> <b>Due by 12:00 PM</b>	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>In-Class</i>	<i>Reading/Working</i>
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NOTES ON SCHEDULE:

“DUE:” on given day signifies that a particular assignment needs to be turned in either at the beginning of class or posted to Blackboard before class begins. These dates may shift if the class or guest speaker schedule needs to adjust, so you will need to keep track of those accordingly.

Topics listed on a given class time are the focal points for that day’s discussion.