

FASHION ARTS (FAA)

About the Program

This three-year advanced diploma program provides hands-on experience with a focus on sustainability, technology and inclusivity and is designed to train you to become an industry-ready candidate. You will explore your creative potential as you learn in-depth design research, craftsmanship and industry-oriented production skills. Seneca offers exciting courses in applied textiles, knitwear design, fashion history, computer-aided design and production. Our Fashion Resource Centre — a unique collection of Canadian-worn garments and accessories — provides a unique experience with our amazing fashion heritage.

Through the design and production of a third-year graduating collection, you will specialize in a particular area of interest such as streetwear, bridal, outerwear, etc. This will help you focus your learning and document your skills to successfully meet employment and career goals.

Credential Awarded

Ontario College Advanced Diploma

Duration

6 Semesters (3 Years)

Starts

January, September

Program and Course Delivery

This program is offered in Seneca's hybrid delivery format with some courses available in Seneca's flexible delivery format. Some coursework is online and some must be completed in person. Students will need to come on campus to complete in-person learning requirements. For courses offered in the flexible delivery format, professors use innovative learning spaces and technology to teach students in a classroom or lab and broadcast in real time to students attending remotely. In flexible courses, students have the choice of coming on campus or learning online.

Academic Schedule Starting September

Year	September	January	May
Year 1	Semester 1	Semester 2	Break
Year 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Break
Year 3	Semester 5	Semester 6	

Academic Schedule Starting January

Year	September	January	May
Year 1		Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Break
Year 3	Semester 5	Semester 6	

Skills

Throughout this program you will develop the following skills:

- design
- creative research
- trend forecasting
- clothing construction
- pattern making

- computer aided design
- product development
- technical design

Work Experience

Field Placement

Field Placement is a valuable component of the Fashion Arts program and is a requirement for graduation.

Sustainability

Our School of Fashion is committed to promoting and advocating sustainable development. As a member of Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Canada, we integrate sustainable practices (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/school/faculty-of-communication-art-and-design/school-of-fashion/sustainability-initiatives.html>) into our teaching and initiatives.

Your Career

Graduates of the program can explore the following career options:

- designer
- product developer
- technical designer
- assistant designer
- pattern maker
- grader
- sample maker
- production co-ordinator

You may pursue positions involving marketing, textiles, quality control, film and theatre costuming.

Affiliations/Associations

- Apparel Affinity Group
- Apparel Human Resource Council
- Costume Society of Ontario (CSO)
- Fashion Group International (FGI)
- Fashion Takes Action
- The Institute of Textile Science
- The Textile Museum of Canada
- Toronto Fashion Incubator (TFI)
- Fashion Art Toronto
- Royal Ontario Museum
- Toronto Fashion Week
- International Textile and Apparel Association

Program of Study

Course Code	Course Name	Weekly Hours
Semester 1		
CGC120	Social Enterprise and Circular Production Methods	4
COM101	Communicating Across Contexts	3
or COM111	Communicating Across Contexts (Enriched)	

DSW120	Fashion Design I	3
FSH130	Sustainable Fashion Insight	2
FSH200	Evolution of Fashion	3
PTW110	Introduction to Pattern Making	4
Semester 2		
CAD202	Fashion Computer Aided Design	3
CGC210	Clothing Construction II	4
DSW220	Fashion Design II	3
PTW210	Intermediate Pattern Making	4
TXF212	Textiles I	3
plus: General Education Course (1)		3
Semester 3		
CAD302	Fashion Computer Aided Design II	2
CGC310	Clothing Construction III	4
DRP310	Draping	4
DSW315	Fashion Design III	3
PMW310	Pattern Making for Sportswear	4
TXF313	Textiles II	3
plus: General Education Course (1)		3
Semester 4		
CAD402	Fashion Computer Aided Design III	2
DSW415	Fashion Design IV	2
KND362	Knitwear Design: Cut and Sew	3
PMW410	Pattern Making for Tailored Garments	4
PRM510	Virtual Fashion Studio I	4
TMW411	Custom Tailoring	4
plus: General Education Course (1)		3
Semester 5		
CGC510	Clothing Construction V	4
DSW512	Collection Design Research	4
PRM505	Product Development and Production	3
PRM610	Virtual Fashion Studio II	3
PTW510	Advanced Pattern Making	4
Semester 6		
CGC610	Clothing Construction VI	4
DSW615	Collection Design Development	3
DSW701	Fashion CAD Portfolio	3
KND462	Knitwear Design: Knit Structures	3
PTW610	Pattern Making for Graduate Collections	4

Additional

Completion of an Experiential Learning Activity is required.

Program Learning Outcomes

This Seneca program has been validated by the Credential Validation Service as an Ontario College Credential as required by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

As a graduate, you will be prepared to reliably demonstrate the ability to:

- Refine apparel design and production decisions based on consumer preferences and time to market.
- Create original apparel concepts and collections using design, drafting and garment construction techniques.
- Apply computer technology to communicate design specifications across the apparel design and manufacturing processes.
- Justify decisions for sourcing materials and manufacturing processes to meet technical specifications and end-product pricing.
- Design products within the context of the apparel manufacturing process to optimize production capabilities.
- Contextualize new product designs by responding to global fashion trends from the historical, current, and future perspective to produce salable designs for consumers.
- Advocate for positive change by addressing systemic challenges as a member of the global fashion industry.
- Present original ideas and design process in a professional portfolio.
- Articulate a reflective design process, visually, verbally and in writing, which incorporates research and analysis to solve design problems.

Admission Requirements

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), or equivalent, or a mature applicant (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/registrar/canadian-applicants/admission-requirements/mature-applicants.html>)
- English: Grade 12 C or U, or equivalent course

Canadian citizens and permanent residents may satisfy the English requirements for this program through successful Seneca pre-admission testing. (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/registrar/canadian-applicants/admission-requirements/mature-applicants.html>)

Recommended upgrading for applicants who do not meet academic subject requirements. (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/registrar/canadian-applicants/admission-requirements/upgrading-options.html>)

International Student Information

International admissions requirements vary by program and in addition to English requirements (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/international/apply/how-to-apply/admission-requirements/english-requirements.html>), programs may require credits in mathematics, biology, and chemistry at a level equivalent to Ontario's curriculum, or a postsecondary degree or diploma, equivalent to an Ontario university or college. Program-specific pre-requisite courses and credentials are listed with the admission requirements on each program page. To review the academic requirements please visit: Academic Requirements - Seneca, Toronto, Canada ([senecapolytechnic.ca](https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/international/apply/how-to-apply/admission-requirements/academic-requirements.html)) (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/international/apply/how-to-apply/admission-requirements/academic-requirements.html>).

Pathways

As a leader in academic pathways, we offer a range of options that will allow you to take your credential further in another Seneca program or a program at a partner institution.

To learn more about your eligibility, visit the Academic Pathways (<https://www.senecapolytechnic.ca/pathways.html>) web page.

Last updated: August 5, 2025 at 7:05 p.m.