

SEFT COURSE

TEXTILE FOUNDATIONS: EXPLORING FABRICS FOR FASHION

5 Weeks Course Content

WEEK 1

Session 1- **INTRODUCTION TO FABRICS & TEXTILES**

WEEK 2

Session 2- **UNDERSTANDING FABRIC CHARACTERISTICS & APPLICATIONS**

WEEK 3

Session 3- **INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN TEXTILES**

WEEK 4

Session 4- **PRACTICAL APPLICATION AND PROJECT WORK**

WEEK 5

Session 5- **DESIGN PROJECT PRESENTATION**

Course Objectives

- Understand the basic concepts of fabrics and textiles.
- Learn about different types of fibers and their properties.
- Explore the basics of fabric construction and finishing.
- Identify different fabrics and their uses in fashion.
- Understand fabric weight, drape, and texture.
- Learn about fabric care and maintenance.
- Gain an understanding of the rich history and diversity of Indian textiles.
- Learn about traditional Indian fabrics and their significance in fashion.
- Explore techniques unique to Indian textiles.
- Apply knowledge of fabrics and textiles to a fashion design project.
- Develop skills in fabric selection and garment design.
- Present and critique design projects.

Course Assignments

Week 1- Collect 5 different types of fabrics (natural, synthetic, solid, printed, dyed etc.) and physically examine its properties like stretchability, texture, absorbency, fire resistance and sewability. Note down your observations.

Week 2- Create a fabric swatch book comprising 15-20 different types of fabrics (including Indian textiles), neatly labelled and presented for self-reference.

Week 3- Conduct an in-depth research and make a 5-slide presentation on any 3 Indian textiles and any 2 smart/futuristic fabrics showcasing their use by fashion brands or in designer collections.

Week 4- Based on a concept/theme/inspiration, follow the design process and create a garment or accessory using fabrics and other embellishments. Document and present the same in class.

Detailed Course Structure

Session 1

INTRODUCTION TO FABRICS & TEXTILES

- **Introduction to Textiles:**

- Definition and significance in fashion.
- Overview of the textile industry.

- **Types of Fibers:**

- Natural Fibers: Cotton, wool, silk, linen etc.
- Synthetic Fibers: Polyester, nylon, acrylic etc.
- Blended Fibers.

- **Properties of Fibers:**

- Durability, elasticity, absorbency, thermal properties.
- How properties affect fabric choice in fashion design.

- **Fabric Construction:**

- Weaving: Types of weaves (plain, twill, satin).
- Knitting: Types of knits (weft, warp).

- Non-woven fabrics.
- **Fabric Finishing:**
 - Dyeing, printing, and special finishes (waterproofing, fire resistance).

Class Activity: Understanding the structure of different garments (saree, shirt, jacket, skirt, pant etc.) by touch and feel of its fabric.

Session 2

UNDERSTANDING FABRIC CHARACTERISTICS & APPLICATIONS

- **Fabric Identification:**
 - Common fabrics: Cotton, silk, wool, polyester, rayon etc.
 - Specialty fabrics: Denim, chiffon, organza, velvet etc.
- **Fabric Characteristics:**
 - Weight: Lightweight, medium weight, heavy weight.
 - Drape: How fabric falls and moves.
 - Texture: Smooth, rough, soft, crisp.
- **Fabric Applications:**
 - Choosing fabrics for different types of garments.
 - Impact of fabric choice on garment construction and fit.
- **Fabric Care and Maintenance:**
 - Washing and ironing guidelines for different fabrics.
 - Stain removal techniques.

Class Activity: Group discussion on the best fabrics for specific garment types (e.g., evening wear, casual wear).

Session 3

INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN TEXTILES

- **Overview of Indian Textiles:**

- Historical significance and cultural influence.
- Regional diversity in textiles.
- **Traditional Indian Fabrics:**
 - Silk: Banarasi, Kanchipuram, Assam Silk etc.
 - Cotton: Khadi, Chikankari, Ikat etc.
 - Wool: Pashmina, Shawls from Kashmir etc.
- **Indian Textile Techniques:**
 - Handloom weaving.
 - Embroidery: Zardozi, Phulkari, Kantha etc.
 - Dyeing: Bandhani, Kalamkari, Ajrakh etc.
- **Modern Applications of Indian Textiles:**
 - Fusion of traditional and contemporary fashion.
 - Sustainable fashion practices.

Class Activity: Curate a digital album comprising of visuals of designer apparel constructed with varieties of Indian textiles.

Session 4

PRACTICAL APPLICATION AND PROJECT WORK

- **Project Introduction:**
 - Choose a theme/concept/inspiration and follow the design process.
 - Design a garment or accessory using knowledge gained from the course.
 - Incorporate elements of Indian textiles if possible.
- **Fabric Selection:**
 - Choosing the right fabric for the design.
 - Considering factors like drape, texture, and durability.
- **Product Construction Basics:**
 - Basic sewing techniques.
 - Pattern making and adjustments.
 - Customization with DIY.

- **Presentation Skills:**

- How to present a design project.
- Critique and feedback process.

Session 5

DESIGN PROJECT PRESENTATION

- Final project presentation
- Mentor Feedback
- Q&A or further discussion