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Fashion Institute of Technology

The Fashion Institute of Technology (F.I.T.®) is a State University of New York college of art and design, business and technology. FIT offers more than 45 programs of study leading to the Associate in Applied Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts, and Master of Professional Studies degrees. FIT provides students with an unmatched combination of specialized curricula, an in-depth liberal arts education, affordable tuition, and an extraordinary location in the center of New York City, world capital of the arts, business, and communications.

FIT and New York City

New York City is FIT's extended campus—a laboratory for learning and living—and its unparalleled cultural and commercial resources immeasurably enrich the college's programs and enhance each student's opportunity for personal and professional growth. The faculty is composed of New York City's professionals, who infuse a hands-on teaching approach with real-world expertise. Frequent visits by students to the city's numerous corporate headquarters, design studios, galleries, libraries, museums, retail establishments, and showrooms complement regular campus visits by fashion and other business leaders, who come as guest critics and to discuss current trends and emerging technology.

Teaching and Learning

FIT FACULTY

FIT's approach to teaching blends theory and practice, and the college is deeply aligned with the leaders in the fields it serves. With a faculty drawn from academia, the arts, and business, FIT offers a curriculum rich in insight gained from their continuing professional activity, combined with the traditional educational values of the liberal arts. Student-instructor interaction is encouraged. The college offers a maximum class size of 25, and courses are structured to foster participation, independent thinking, and self-expression.

LIBERAL ARTS

The School of Liberal Arts' offerings include focused curricula that allow students to gain specialized knowledge in a particular area, as well as one degree program, a Bachelor of Science in Art History and Museum Professions. The school also administers Presidential Scholars, FIT's honors program, which is available to academically exceptional students in all disciplines. The program offers challenging courses, projects, colloquia, and extracurricular activities.

FIT offers students the opportunity to declare liberal arts minors, which are offered in two forms: traditional subject-based minors and interdisciplinary minors unique to the college's liberal arts curriculum. There are a wide range of options, including Dance and Performing Arts, Economics, Film and Media Studies, International Politics, several foreign languages, and concentrations in Asian Studies and Latin American Studies.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCILS

Each of FIT's degree programs is supported by an advisory group of professionals, drawn largely from the college's highly placed alumni. Group members consult with faculty to review and recommend curriculum updates and innovations. They arrange for student field trips to professional workspaces, participate in student recruitment, and help students identify career possibilities. Advisory groups also plan seminars on technical subjects and the latest advancements in their fields, and work to maintain close ties between industry and the college.

IN THE CLASSROOM AND BEYOND

FIT makes extensive use of New York City's resources through industry-sponsored competitions, field trips, and sponsored projects—all of which bridge the gap between classroom and workplace. Students have designed window displays at Bed Bath & Beyond's Fifth Avenue location and had advertising campaigns implemented by state tourism agencies. They have won prizes from companies such as Aeropostale, Johnson & Johnson, Brown Shoe, and Macy's and had their designs implemented by firms such as Lancôme.

INTERNSHIPS AND CAREER PLACEMENT

Internships and job placement are an essential part of the FIT experience. The college's extensive internship program provides students with vital experience in a vast array of New York City businesses during their college years. Sponsor organizations have included American Eagle, Bloomingdale's, Calvin Klein, Estée Lauder, Fairchild Publications, MTV, and Saatchi & Saatchi. More than one-third of FIT internships lead to job offers by the sponsoring companies. FIT's Career and Internship Center maintains a placement rate of approximately 90 percent, and offers lifetime services to all alumni, along with a full complement of career-building workshops and resources.

Campus and Facilities

FIT's campus occupies an entire block in the Chelsea area of Manhattan, a neighborhood filled with galleries, shops, cafes, restaurants, and theaters. The college's facilities provide students with the opportunity to learn in a stimulating environment and be part of a vibrant, active community. The campus comprises numerous computer labs, athletic facilities, the Gladys Marcus Library, and the renowned Museum at FIT, which houses one of the world's most important collections of costumes and textiles. FIT's classroom and laboratory equipment reflects the most advanced educational and technical practices, enabling students to work on challenging projects in a realistic setting. A full-service dining facility and Barnes & Noble college bookstore are located on campus. The college maintains three residence halls on West 27th Street, and one on nearby West 31st Street.

FRED P. POMERANTZ ART AND DESIGN CENTER

The Pomerantz Center houses display and exhibit design rooms; drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture studios; a graphics laboratory; a model-making workshop; and the 280-seat Katie Murphy Amphitheatre. The academic and administrative offices of the School of Art and Design are also located here.

Print/FX Graphics Lab

Room D529, 212 217.5474

A professionally staffed graphics laboratory, Print/FX Graphics Lab has high-resolution, large-format printers to accommodate banners, CAD prints, displays, fine art prints, overlays, photography, posters, presentation graphics, and textile proofs. The lab is also equipped with laminating, scanning, slide duplication, and wire-binding capabilities.

MARVIN FELDMAN CENTER AND THE BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS CENTER

The Marvin Feldman and Business and Liberal Arts centers house academic and specialized classrooms, cutting and sewing labs, design studios, a multimedia foreign languages lab, a professional screen-print facility, technical labs, a toy design workshop, television studios, weaving labs, and the 775-seat Morris W. and Fannie B. Haft Auditorium. Specialized facilities include the fabrics and findings lab, which replicates the resources and techniques used by working fashion designers. Also located in these buildings are the academic and administrative offices for the Jay and Patty Baker School of Business and Technology and the School of Liberal Arts.

Peter G. Scotese Computer-Aided Design and Communications Center

Room C220, 212 217.3520

The facilities in this center allow art and design students to explore technology and its integration in the creation and design of advertising, animation, fashion, interiors, packaging, photography, textiles, and toys. Business and technology students use these labs for the study of marker-making, patternmaking, textile development, production data management, and more. Labs are also available for specialized coursework undertaken by students in specific programs.

Students have access to Mac and PC labs with specialized peripheral equipment, and software applications such as Adobe and Macromedia software from industry leaders such as Gerber and Lectra are used by Fabric Styling, Fashion Design, Menswear, and Textile/Surface Design students. Additionally, they have access to Colour Matters, Fashion Studio, and Karat CAD. Students in Computer Animation and Interactive Media, Interior Design, and Toy Design use software packages such as 3D Studio Max, AutoCAD, Final Cut Pro, Form Z, Softimage, and Solid Works. Open labs are available to support instruction on these systems and programs.

The Scotese Center is also available, through the School of Continuing and Professional Studies, to working professionals for computer training and industry-specific workshops.

DAVID DUBINSKY STUDENT CENTER

Throughout the eight-story Dubinsky Center are arts and crafts studios, a comprehensive health center, a counseling center, a game room, lounges, an outdoor sitting area, the Style Shop (the student-run boutique on the first floor), student government and club offices, a student radio station, two gyms, two dance studios, and a state-of-the-art fitness center. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the full range of services and activities offered by Student Life, located on the seventh floor. Also in the center are the Counseling Center, Disability Support Services/FIT-ABLE, Educational Opportunity Program, Financial Aid, and International Student Advisors; a 17,000-square-foot street-level student cafeteria, featuring a variety of food stations and a wide range of menu options; and an 8,000-square-foot Barnes & Noble at FIT bookstore.

Academic facilities located in the Dubinsky Student Center include the Toy Design laboratory, Jewelry Design studios, the Annette Green Fragrance Foundation Laboratory, a television studio, and the design/research lighting laboratory.

SHIRLEY GOODMAN RESOURCE CENTER

The Shirley Goodman Resource Center, on Seventh Avenue, houses the Gladys Marcus Library, The Museum at FIT, and the School of Graduate Studies.

Gladys Marcus Library

212 217.4340

fitnyc.edu/library

Located on the fourth, fifth, and sixth floors of the Shirley Goodman Resource Center, the Gladys Marcus Library provides a collection of more than 300,000 print, non-print, and digital resources. The newspaper and periodical collection includes over 500 current subscriptions, with a specialization in international design and trade publications, and the digital library contains more than 90 searchable databases hosted by FIT, the New York State Library, and SUNYConnect. Most of these databases are available remotely, via log-in, and available 24 hours a day. The library also offers specialized resources supporting the college's educational offerings, such as clipping files, fashion and trend forecasting services, runway show DVDs, and sketch collections.

The library's fourth floor contains a library instruction classroom, Research and Instructional Services, and Special Collections. The fifth floor serves as the principal book collection of the library, and also houses the George Levinson Multimedia Room, for viewing and listening to audio-visual materials. The sixth floor holds designer and fashion files, forecasting services, "look books," microfilm, the newspaper and periodical collection, and a "smart" classroom for information literacy instruction. Mac and PC computer workstations, printers, scanners, and self-service copiers are located throughout the library.

Special Collections houses rare books and materials, including all titles in the library's collection that predate 1860, and selected titles dating from 1860 to the present, singled out for their aesthetic qualities, fragile condition, rarity, or value. Special Collections covers such subjects as architecture, art, decoration and ornament, dressmaking, fashion, interior decoration, regional costume, tailoring, textile design, the textile industry, and textile science. It also includes archives, original fashion sketches, photographs, portfolios of plates, and scrapbooks containing biographical material on designers and companies. Special Collections is accessible by appointment only.

Some highlights of Special Collections include:

- corporate and personal archives, including B.H. Wragge, Inc., David Dubinsky, *Esquire*, and an FIT historical collection;
- *Fashion for America!*, which includes reproductions of 4,500 original fashion sketches, representing more than 50 designers and houses;
- periodicals such as *Gazette du Bon Ton* (1912-25), *Harper's Bazaar* (1867-1939), *Les Idées Nouvelles de la Mode* (1922-32), and *Vogue* (1916-39);
- sketches by/from Bergdorf Goodman, Berley Studio, Cardinal Fashion Studios, Davidow, Lady Duff-Gordon (known as Lucile, c.1908-19), the Frances Neady Fashion Illustrations Collection, Sophie Gimbel, Bill and Hazel Haire, Joseph Love, Inc., Muriel King (c.1932-45, including costumes designed for Katharine Hepburn, Ginger Rogers, and Margaret Sullivan), Harriet Meserole, Max Meyer, Frederick Milton, Florence Schatken, and Whittingham and Humphreys (1888-1914);
- W.P.A. scrapbooks of picture sources.

The Museum at FIT

212 217.4530

fitnyc.edu/museum

The Museum at FIT is New York City's only museum dedicated to the art of fashion. Founded in 1967 to support the educational programs of the college, the museum collects, conserves, documents, exhibits, and interprets fashion. Its mission is to advance knowledge of fashion through exhibitions, programs, and publications. The museum's collecting policy focuses on aesthetically and historically significant "directional" clothing, accessories and textiles and visual materials, such as photographs, with an emphasis on contemporary avant-garde fashion.

The museum's permanent collection encompasses some 50,000 garments and accessories, dating from the 18th century to the present, with particular strength in women's fashion by designers such as Azzedine Alaïa, Balenciaga, Chanel, Dior, Halston, and Charles James. There are more than 4,000 pairs of shoes in the collection, as well as 30,000 textiles, dating from the fifth century to the present. The museum organizes an extensive program of specialized classes, tours, and lectures—including an annual fashion symposium.

The museum has three galleries: The largest gallery is devoted to special exhibitions, which receive extensive coverage in the media. The Fashion and Textile History Gallery is the only venue in the United States to offer a permanent (rotating) display of 250 years of fashion, drawn from the museum's permanent collections. The museum's Gallery FIT is dedicated to student and faculty exhibitions. All exhibitions are free to the public, and the museum attracts more than 100,000 visitors a year.

Recent exhibitions of distinction include:

- *Japan Fashion Now*
- *Gothic: Dark Glamour*
- *Madame Grès: Sphinx of Fashion*
- *Love and War: The Weaponized Woman*
- *London Fashion*

School of Graduate Studies

212 217.4300

fitnyc.edu/gradstudies

FIT offers seven graduate programs. The Master of Arts degree programs are Art Market: Principles and Practices; Exhibition Design; Fashion and Textile Studies: History, Theory, Museum Practice; and Sustainable Interior Environments. The Master of Fine Arts degree program is Illustration. The Master of Professional Studies degree programs are Cosmetics and Fragrance Marketing and Management and Global Fashion Management. The administrative and faculty offices, classrooms, laboratories, study collections, and research room for the graduate programs are housed on the third, fourth, and sixth floors of the Goodman Center.

THE CONFERENCE CENTER AT FIT

The Conference Center at FIT is home to the School of Continuing and Professional Studies and features conference and training rooms for industry seminars and workshops. The center also houses the John E. Reeves Great Hall, a nearly 6,400-square-foot venue for exhibitions, fashion shows, lectures, trade shows, and other large events.

Alumni of FIT

FIT graduates actively engage in the life of the college in order to help FIT meet its goals and objectives. They participate in a variety of ways, as guest lecturers and critics, as internship sponsors, and as members of alumni advisory groups and the FIT Alumni Association. Every FIT alumnus is welcome to become a member of the Alumni Association, which works closely with the college and the FIT Foundation to stimulate interest among professional leaders, assist with curriculum development, and support fundraising initiatives that benefit students and the FIT community.

Distinguished FIT alumni include:

- Leslie Blodgett, president and CEO, Bare Escentuals Beauty, Inc.
- Fran Boller, apparel director, Nike's Jordan Division
- Tony Chi, president and CEO, Tony Chi & Associates
- Francisco Costa, creative director, Calvin Klein Collection for Women, Calvin Klein, Inc.
- William Frake, motion picture animator and three-time Emmy award winner
- Nina Garcia, fashion director, *Marie Claire*
- Joy Herfel, president, Polo Ralph Lauren Brands
- Norma Kamali, president and fashion designer, Norma Kamali
- Calvin Klein, founder, Calvin Klein, Inc.
- Nanette Lepore, fashion designer, Nanette Lepore
- Chris Casson Madden, founder and CEO, Chris Madden, Inc.
- Raymond Matts, president and founder, Raymond Matts the art of perfumery
- Edward Menicheschi, vice president and publisher, *Vanity Fair* magazine
- Juliet Polcsa, costume designer for film and television
- James Rothwell, vice president and creative director, McCann Erickson
- Ralph Rucci, owner, Chado Ralph Rucci
- Suzanne Tick, textile designer, Suzanne Tick, Inc.
- Billy Tucci, founder and writer/illustrator, Crusade Fine Arts, Ltd.
- Robert Verdi, TV personality and style expert
- Dave Voss, vice president of design, boys entertainment, and new business, Mattel, Inc.

History and Mission

As FIT defines its future educational goals, it continues to reflect its original mission. The college was founded in 1944 to prepare men and women for work in the fashion industry as it grew in size and scope. FIT now offers its students 46 degree programs not only in fashion and its related fields, but also in many other creative and business professions that have made New York City their focal point. Students who come to the college to study these specialized programs are goal-oriented, setting their sights high in their chosen fields of study. Today, there are more than 10,000 U.S. and international students enrolled in FIT's diverse curricula, attending classes day and evening, year round, online and at locations on campus, in New York City, throughout the country, and around the world.

FIT is unique in its history and educational offerings. Just seven years after its founding, FIT became one of the first community colleges empowered under the program of the State University of New York to grant the Associate in Applied Science degree. As the curricula expanded beyond fashion and its more broadly defined industries to include business, communications, and design, the college's degree offerings also expanded. In 1975, an amendment to the education law of New York State was approved permitting the college to confer Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. Four years later, another amendment was approved authorizing the granting of master's degrees, and the first master's programs were introduced in 1985.

FIT is a public institution, receiving its principal financial support from the State and City of New York. The college is governed by its own Board of Trustees, all of whom are active professionals who are committed to the development of talent. Local sponsorship comes from the New York City Department of Education in cooperation with the FIT Foundation. A college of the State University of New York, FIT is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. (267-284-5000) The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. FIT is also accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

FIT MISSION

The Fashion Institute of Technology prepares students for professional excellence in design, fashion, and business by providing a premier educational experience that fosters creativity, career focus, and a global perspective.

To fulfill its mission, FIT:

- develops students' aesthetic, intellectual, analytical, and technological abilities through programs that integrate theory and practice;
- offers students a rigorous and innovative curriculum taught by a faculty with outstanding academic and industry experience;
- is committed to a broad-based education in the liberal arts;
- exposes students to their chosen professions through internships, guest lectures, industry-sponsored projects, and other opportunities for experiential learning;
- promotes student growth and self-development through student support services, programs, and activities;
- provides students with a multifaceted educational experience incorporating the vast resources of New York City;
- is an urban institution of the State University of New York, providing an education of exceptional quality and affordability.

FIT is committed to prohibiting discrimination in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws (including but not limited to race, national origin, gender, age, and disability) and to providing equal opportunity in educational programs.