

Fashion Illustration Workshop

Resources required:

- A4 or A3 Paper
- Range of drawing equipment – Pencils, Pens, Coloured Pencils, Felt Tips, Charcoal, anything you can get your hands on!

Objective:

To produce several fashion illustrations through exploring drawing, line, negative space and mark-making in response to Norwich University of the Art's BA (Hons) 2019 Student Fashion Collections.

What is Fashion Illustration?

Fashion illustration is a method of communicating ideas visually, particularly by fashion designers who come up with new ideas for garments in the fashion industry.

It can take a variety of forms and some illustrators also use fashion as a theme. In this workshop, you will be using different drawing techniques to illustrate and visually communicate the garment on model.

The illustrations here are from NUA's Illustration Senior Lecturer and Illustrator Glyn Brewerton.



Exercise One: LINE

Draw each image with one single line without taking the drawing tool off the page (continuous line drawing).

- 1 minute for each drawing
- All drawings on one single A4/A3 sheet
- Use pencil
- Include the whole body
- Focus on gestural and fluid line

Exercise Two: LINE

Draw each image without looking at the page (blind drawing) in continuous line.

- 1 minute for each drawing
- All drawings on one single A4/A3 sheet
- Use pencil and/or pen
- Include the whole body
- Focus on gestural and fluid line

Exercise Three: Shape and Form

Draw each image using shapes, silhouettes and the negative background space to create form.

- 5 minutes for each drawing
- All drawings on one single A4/A3 sheet
- Use pencil/pen/charcoal/coloured pencils/felt-tips
- Include all the visible parts of the body



Exercise Four: Texture and Line

Draw each image using a mix of drawing tools to explore texture, line and shape. Explore contrasting bold drawn marks to convey folds, surface textures and garment shapes.

- 10 minutes for each drawing
- All drawings on one single A4/A3 sheet
- Use a mix of mediums
- Include all the visible parts of the body

Exercise Five: Layer and Surfaces

Draw each image using a range of marks, textures and techniques explored in the last four drawing exercises.

- 15 minutes for each drawing
- One drawing on one single A4/A3 sheet
- Use a mix of mediums
- Include all the visible parts of the body
- Look at the textures, layers and surface of the clothing
- Look at the way the garment fits around the body

Top Tips

- Think about how you can use your drawing tools to communicate the lines of the body and the garment.
- Are there any interesting shapes made through negative space with the way the model is posing?
- How could you portray the different textures through mark-making?

Conclusion

These drawing exercises can be explored across many different creative subjects such as Fine Art and Illustration, as well as within Fashion. The skills that these drawing activities develop are understanding scale and proportion, hand-eye coordination, understanding the body form and how it moves, drawing material capabilities (what you can achieve and communicate using the different drawing tools,) and the challenge of converting something 3D into a 2D image. If you are interested in Fashion Illustration, you could research into what degree courses you could study in this area on UCAS and investigate what careers there are within the Fashion Industry.

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Useful Links

Creative Careers: <https://discovercreative.careers/#/>

UCAS: <https://www.ucas.com/>



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