




Fashion and beauty

2023 undergraduate courses

www.solent.ac.uk

**MAKE
WAVES**



Learn the skills, build
a portfolio and find
your place among
the half a million
people already
working in the
fashion and beauty
industry right here
in the UK.

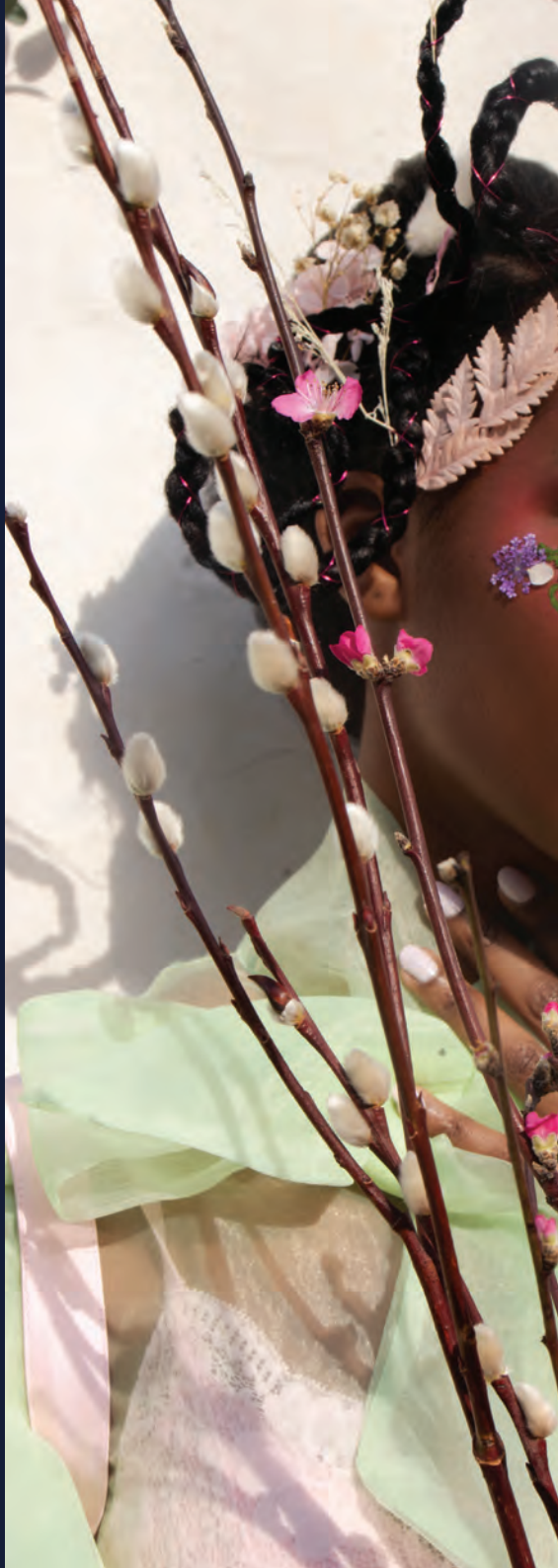
**"I am so grateful for the
opportunities and experiences
I had on my degree at Solent.
Shooting backstage at London
Fashion Week has been one of
the best experiences of my life so
far and is still one of my greatest
achievements."**

Erin O'Cain, Content Creator and Web
Developer, Social Zebra, BA (Hons)
Fashion Media (now known as BA
(Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media).



Why Solent?

- There are many opportunities to attend guest lectures by key players in the fashion industry – past speakers have included Terry Barber (MAC Cosmetics), Caryn Franklin (TV presenter and i-D editor), Debra Bourne (PR consultant and campaigner), Alex Brownless (Artsthread), Ateh Jewel, Alex Box (Identity Designer for Beauty Futures), Dominic Skinner (Global Senior Artist for MAC Cosmetics, and BBC presenter for Glow Up) and Millie Kendall OBE (CEO of the British Beauty Council).
- You have free access to the Media Academy, including Mac suites with the latest Adobe Creative software, large-format printers, plus a wide range of digital equipment – from the latest cameras to outside lighting kits – to make your portfolio industry-standard.
- You have the chance to showcase your final-year collection at the Solent Graduate Fashion Show.
- Fashion students have the opportunity to get involved with retail activities at Re:So, Solent's stunning student-run store.
- Students from BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design also have the chance to work with Solent's professional make-up team, GUNKPRO, which works on events across TV, film, theatre and the catwalk – specifically London Fashion Week.





Proud to be an



As an Adobe Creative Campus, we're part of a select group of universities that are driving the future of digital literacy within the global higher education community.

In addition to making industry-leading Adobe Creative Cloud tools and services available to our students, we collaborate with other Adobe Creative Campuses to share ideas and innovations that expand digital literacy and help ensure student success.

As a Solent student, you'll have access to the entire collection of Adobe Creative Suite programs, including:

- Lightroom – enhance, organise and share your photos
- Express – create web pages, social media graphics and videos
- After Effects – create visual effects and motion graphics
- Premiere Rush – create, edit and share online videos on the go
- Fresco – draw, paint and create multi-layered artwork on mobile devices
- Aero – design augmented reality experiences
- Portfolio – customise a personal web page from templates
- Acrobat DC – create, edit, make accessible and share PDFs
- Scan – capture and create PDFs from images, whiteboards and more.

Our industry-focused courses

BA (Hons) Fashion Design

UCAS tariff: 104–120
www.solent.ac.uk/F001

Do you love fashion design and dream of seeing your designs on the catwalk? Solent's dynamic and challenging fashion degree nurtures creativity and design innovation while developing a sound knowledge of industry practice, preparing you for a fantastic career after graduation.

Throughout the course you will be supported to gain an in-depth knowledge of the fashion design process from initial concept, research and design development, through to the realisation of final design outcomes. With the freedom to explore both menswear and womenswear, you are encouraged to include print design and textiles into fashion design projects.

BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media

UCAS tariff: 104–120
www.solent.ac.uk/GBT1

This exciting, real-world course, run by industry experts, teaches you how to create fashion and beauty content and plan impactful, sustainable social media strategies, create trend-driven storytelling, design industry-ready campaigns, and analyse markets to understand how the editorial and commercial worlds of fashion and beauty connect. You'll design innovative and fresh ways to engage audiences and translate a passion for fashion and beauty content to a global multimedia stage.

If you're unsure whether you'd best suit a career in PR, editorial, marketing, trend forecasting or creative content design, we will help you to explore the wealth of opportunities and future trends the fashion and beauty industries have to offer.

BA (Hons) Fashion Management with Marketing

UCAS tariff: 112–128
www.solent.ac.uk/FMM1

Combining specialised study of the fashion industry with a broad knowledge base in marketing, management and finance, this innovative degree is designed to give you all the skills you need for a behind-the-scenes career in fashion. You will study the professional disciplines within the industry, from retailing, store management and operations to consumer behaviour, fashion buying and merchandising; learn how fashion products are designed, branded and produced; and get to know the industry's unique challenges. You'll also have the option to build practical experience through a work-based placement at our award-winning fashion retail outlet, Re:So.

BA (Hons) Fashion Photography

UCAS tariff: 104–120
www.solent.ac.uk/FPH1

Nurture your individual design identity and develop professional artistry skills on this stimulating and creative make-up and hair design course – ready to launch a dynamic career as a make-up and hair designer. Working alongside students on our BA (Hons) Fashion Styling and Creative Direction course, you will be given the opportunity to explore and push the boundaries of fashion image-making. Our hands-on and practical fashion photography course will enable you to experiment with the latest techniques, equipment and software, and be supported by world-class teaching from experts in their field of work.

BA (Hons) Fashion Styling and Creative Direction

UCAS tariff: 104–120
www.solent.ac.uk/FSC1

If you have an eye for style and are looking to delve into the world of fashion, Solent's fashion styling and creative direction degree can help you turn your creativity into a fast-paced and exciting career. Throughout the course you will acquire skills not only in styling, but also in make-up and hair, photography, retouching, trend forecasting and branding – making you a complete creative director with the skillset to become a distinctive and visionary voice within the fashion industry.

BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design

UCAS tariff: 104–120
www.solent.ac.uk/MHD1

Nurture your individual design identity and develop professional artistry skills on this stimulating and creative make-up and hair design course – ready to launch a dynamic career as a make-up and hair designer. On this course you will explore the many contexts of make-up and hair design within the creative industries. You will also be encouraged to take an experimental approach to application, materials and creative development processes to produce innovative and contemporary design work. And to enable you to operate across design platforms, you will be trained in photography, film and digital publishing.



Specialist facilities and equipment

As a fashion student at Solent you will have access to a range of high-end facilities to support your hands-on learning, including:

- purpose-built fashion studios featuring industrial machinery and pattern-cutting tables, lock-stitch machines, an overlock machine, cover stitch machines, two industrial button-hole machines and a chain-stitch machine.
- over 50 mannequins and other machines, including a blind hemmer, a fusing press and industrial steam-irons with vacuum tables
- fully equipped make-up and hair design studios
- 11 photography studios and a fully equipped infinity cove
- industry-focused special effects studios, a fibre glass lab and a plaster room
- a Mimaki digital fabric printer for print and surface design projects.



Fashion studios

The spacious, purpose-built fashion studios are always busy and bustling with students working on their latest creations. The studios are extremely well equipped with industrial machinery and large pattern-cutting tables. There are industrial lock-stitch machines, overlock machines, cover-stitch machines, two industrial button-hole machines and a chain-stitch machine. In addition, there are over 50 mannequins and other machines including a blind hemmer, a fusing press and industrial steam-irons with vacuum tables.

The studios are very well stocked with various fabrics and threads, and there is usually enough spare equipment to go around, should a student find they have forgotten something. The studios are open from early in the morning to late into the evening during busy periods. They are supported by helpful, experienced instructors who are on hand every day for advice and assistance. The knowledge of the instructors helps to ensure students have the opportunity to develop their practical skills to the highest standard.



Photography studios

The main studio complex is made up of eight private spaces, all with a full-width, nine-foot-wide Colourama backdrop. There is also a wide range of lighting options and modifiers available, along with camera boom supports and grip equipment.

In addition to the main studio area, there is a separate dedicated studio space for still life, and a white infinity cove, as well as three dedicated headshot booths. Nine mobile workstations are available for use to enable tethered workstation operation using Capture One software.

The studios are self-service after training, and trained students are employed in the evening to keep the area open until 11pm for the whole semester.



Media production store

Students across the fashion courses also have access to our specialist media production store throughout their studies. This store offers specialist equipment free of charge, including high-end cameras, lenses, monitors and grip equipment, lighting equipment, sound recording equipment, plus equipment for digital, flash and analogue photography.





Employment opportunities

The fashion and beauty industry is constantly evolving and offers huge employment opportunities for talented graduates both in the UK and overseas.

Our graduates go on to a range of exciting careers in the fashion and beauty industry, in roles such as designers, social media managers, photographers, stylists, journalists and make-up artists, and working for big names including Armani, Topshop, Selfridges, Michael Kors, ASOS, ICONIC, Illamasqua and Jimmy Choo. Many also go on to set up their own media agencies or magazines, or to work freelance.

Our course teams maintain excellent links with industry, enabling you to benefit from live briefs and the opportunity to engage with industry professionals through guest lectures in order to gain valuable industry insight – all boosting your future employability.

Throughout your studies you will also have the chance to collaborate with students from all of Solent's fashion courses, including photography, make-up, styling and management, providing excellent networking opportunities and the chance to gain insight into different areas of the fashion industry.







Our great city

With a population of almost 250,000 – including 46,000 students – Southampton is a thriving city that has recently had a £1.6 billion injection of investment.

Southampton is a city with something for everyone. Beautiful city-centre parks, an electric night-time economy and a thriving arts and music scene all meet to offer residents something truly unique.

Southampton is home to Westquay, one of the UK's largest shopping centres, offering everything from high-street to designer brands. If vintage clothing is more your thing, look no further than the city's famous Beatnik Emporium, or the annual Vintage Preloved Kilo event, where you can stock up on some truly unique pieces.

Solent also has its very own retail store, Re:So, the first entirely student-run retail initiative in a UK shopping centre, selling a unique mix of fashion, accessories, publications, furniture and art produced by the University's creative students and graduates. As a fashion student at Solent, you could have the opportunity to sell your products, or work in the store to gain vital work experience during your studies.





Alysha Lily Stroud

Design Assistant, Serge DeNimes
BA (Hons) Fashion, 2020

Tell us about your career journey so far, and what a typical day looks like for you:

I interned with Serge DeNimes in summer 2019 to complete my 100 hours for work-based learning, a unit within the course. At the end of my 100 hours I was hired by the brand for the summer and then left to complete my third year at Solent. I was hired again by Serge in September 2020 and have been working there full-time ever since. My typical day changes all the time. My main jobs consist of running the social media, designing, customer service, planning photoshoots and assisting on them.

What do you enjoy most about your role, and what are the biggest challenges?

The jobs I enjoy most would be the design process and being on photoshoots. The biggest challenge would be learning the new role from home. When I interned I didn't see many sides of the business, so it was a whole new world for me, but the team has been amazing and so supportive. I also went to uni to study clothing – however, I now work in men's streetwear jewellery. This has been a massive change to what I know but I have learnt so much and really enjoy working within this area of fashion.

How do you feel your studies at Solent helped prepare you for your career?

I am so grateful to Solent – I don't think I would be where I am without the University, course or lecturers. If they didn't have the work-based learning unit in place I would not be working as a design assistant now, and I have taken so many of my skills from the course to my new job.

What advice would you give to students wanting to follow in your footsteps?

Work hard, turn up to your classes, build a bond with your lecturers, don't be afraid to make mistakes and get as much feedback as you can. Also make sure you have fun! When it comes to completing your 100 hours of interning, message anyone and everyone. I got my internship with Serge from an Instagram message – it works!



“I am so grateful to Solent – I don't think I would be where I am without the university, course or lecturers.”

anon

As a student on BA (Hons) Fashion Styling and Creative Direction or BA (Hons) Fashion Photography, you will have the chance to showcase your final major project in the high-end fashion publication, anon.

Emma Calder, Course Leader at Solent, said of the publication: "A visually striking magazine such as anon really appeals to prospective employers within the fashion industry, as well as future creative collaborators, so creating a publication that could be sent out to our contacts at magazines, photography studios, model agencies and PR agencies is really important to help get our students' names out there."

Follow anon on Instagram:
@anonstylemagazine







Eva Dobрева

BA (Hons) Fashion Styling and Creative Direction student

“This course is for you if you are interested in fashion, want the world to see your talent, and are ready to explore new things.”

Why did you decide to study this course at Solent?

Since I was in high school I wanted to study in the UK. When the time for choosing a university came, I applied to different ones. However, after looking at all the different courses, I decided that the one at Solent University would be the best one, as it covers a variety of fields. This is something really good for a person who is just stepping into the fashion industry, as you are able to try everything, and in your final year you have already understood what field you are best in and would like to work in in the future.

What's your favourite part of the course, and what are the biggest challenges?

I cannot choose only one favourite part because all of them are amazing. However, photography has really stolen my heart. One of the biggest challenges is that you need to come out of your comfort zone and work really hard for what you want to achieve. For an international student such as me, the challenges were even bigger, as you really need to overcome the language barrier and all your insecurities. However, after spending three years already at Solent, and with the help of our amazing tutors, I can say that now I am much more comfortable and ready to dive into the fashion world.

What's been the biggest highlight of your studies so far?

Every year, at one moment of your studies, you think that you have the biggest highlight. However, this later changes, as you are growing professionally and mentally every year. I think my biggest highlight would be when I finished my final major project this year, as it was something that I put all my energy and heart into. Otherwise every time you have good feedback and comments about your work, from family, friends and so on, you just really feel that you have accomplished something that people appreciate.

What are your future career plans?

I would love to work as a fashion photographer in the near future, but you never know where and how you will end up. The most important thing is to follow your dreams and heart and never give up.







Lucy Heard

Marketing Executive, Retail247

BA (Hons) Fashion Management with Marketing, 2020



Tell us about your role and what a typical day looks like for you.

Retail247 offers consultancy services and technology solutions to retailers across the globe, including Reiss, Crew Clothing, LK Bennett, Radley, Missoma and many more. I'm in charge of all marketing activity at the company so my role varies a lot. My day-to-day activities include social media content creation and management, email marketing, event planning, collateral creation, blogpost writing and – together with an external website developer – website upkeep. I also liaise with different publications when we have press releases to share, and manage the organisation of our podcast, which is called 'Shepherding Chaos'.

How did your studies at Solent help you prepare for your career?

Solent University really helped prepare me for the world of work. We had many live projects with real fashion brands, and even though they were mainly B2C-focused, and I now work in B2B, the principles are still the same and it was great to know that my university assignments weren't just theoretical. The unit that specifically prepared me for life after university was my summer placement which I did at another retail technology company. Without that work experience, I wouldn't have found the transition from full-time student to full-time marketing executive as seamless as I did.



What's been your career highlight to date?

One of my early career highlights was actually getting my job. I graduated in the middle of the first COVID lockdown, so to even have a job a few months later was such a huge achievement. The retail industry was pretty much at a standstill, so I felt very lucky to be employed, especially in a job which I really enjoy. A more recent highlight would have to be in June 2022 when we held two events on the same day, which I was responsible for organising. At the end of the evening, I felt very relieved that it had all gone to plan and our customers and team alike had enjoyed their day.

What advice would you give to those wanting to follow in your footsteps?

Prior to my placement within the retail tech industry, I wasn't really aware of how much technology is implemented behind the scenes at all retail and fashion companies. It's not just about self-checkout systems or iPads in store, but the tech that enables smoother customer journeys and manages product data and stock (and so much more). It would have been great to be a little bit more knowledgeable within this field before I started my placement. For those interested in a similar career, I would suggest keeping tabs on all areas of the retail industry, not just the fashion itself – it can never hurt to have more knowledge about the industry you're working in. Shop-floor experience can also really help set up a good foundation for your job in fashion and/or retail. It helps you to understand more elements of the retail industry and is a really important building block.

Re:So

A unique platform for retail, fashion and design

Launched in 2012, our innovative Re:So store was the first entirely student-run retail initiative in a UK shopping centre, selling a unique mix of fashion, accessories, publications, furniture and art produced by the University's creative students and graduates.

Fashion promotion graduate Gemma Aspland said: "I'm really excited to showcase my brand in Southampton. It's an amazing opportunity to be able to gain experience in a very difficult industry, and for graduates to expose their brands to a wider audience."

Re:So is located in Southampton's Marlands shopping centre where it provides students and graduates with somewhere to learn, gain valuable work experience, and showcase and sell their designs in a live retail environment.

Gok Wan, fashion consultant, author and television presenter, said: "Re:So is absolutely amazing – having a real shop is something different and is really supporting the next generation of designers. I love it."





“This is a rare, excellent provision for students which places solent’s school of art, design and fashion at the top of its field.”

Barry Laden MBE
British fashion entrepreneur



Olivia Tuffrey

Editor-in-Chief, *Mad About Doin'* magazine

BA (Hons) Fashion Media, 2020

While in her final year of studies, BA (Hons) Fashion Media alumna Olivia Tuffrey realised her passion for the slow fashion sphere. For her final major project she decided to pull together this passion, her interest in magazines and the reselling site Depop to create *Mad About Doin'* magazine.

Since graduating in 2020, Olivia has gone from strength to strength, gaining a place on a programme with Depop and continuing to build her magazine brand – now on its third issue. We caught up with her to find out more.

Hi Olivia, tell us about your magazine and how the idea came about.

During my studies at Solent I did a unit based around publication and magazine curation, and absolutely loved it. For my final major project I decided to create my own publication, focusing on three of my passions – slow fashion, magazines and Depop – exploring the humans of the sustainable, eco-conscious fashion world.

How did your mentorship with Depop come about, and what will you be doing during this?

I had lots of contact with Depop staff members and Simon (Depop's founder) throughout the process of creating issues 01 and 02 of my magazine, and sent them copies of it. This got my name around the team, and in November last year I was scouted to be part of their new series, Now/Next. The programme is designed to help small businesses and brands develop. Four other creatives and I were selected from around the world – it feels amazing to have been chosen when there are SO many creatives and independent businesses out there.

Over the next six months I will be taking part in various webinars and Zoom meetings, learning about sustainability, finance and so many other important factors that need to be taken into account when running a business – or in my case, a magazine. It is so helpful, and I am so honoured to be able to be a part of this and to speak to some incredible, very wise people.

What are your future plans for *Mad About Doin'*?

To keep creating and keep collaborating! I love working with like-minded people, so hopefully I will expand the community and network even more while giving small, sustainable brands a platform to speak on. I have lots of exciting things pending, too – a couple of well-known publications are running features that include me in them, which feels insane. Long-term, I'd love to be a recognised publication, doing what I love, and being able to live off it and pay my bills.

How do you feel your studies at Solent have helped prepare you for this opportunity with Depop and in creating your magazine?

Solent helped me learn how to use the software and what it takes to produce a publication. Without the technical lessons, curating three publications would have been a lot harder. Studying in Southampton also allowed me to meet and work with creatives and be surrounded by like-minded people.

“Studying in southampton also allowed me to meet and work with creatives and be surrounded by like-minded people.”





CARBON

ON CAMPUS

Gaining real-world experience is an integral aspect of Solent degrees, and students on BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media have the opportunity to do this in a unique way by working on a vibrant print and online publication, *Carbon*.



Carbon showcases some of the best talent in grassroots art, fashion and culture, and was initially created by first-year students as a response to a feeling of disenchantment about what was available to Gen Z in print. The glossy magazine is a quarterly title documenting fashion and contemporary culture, with the online platform adding new and exciting ways to display great images and encourage creativity.

Carbon is continuing to build a reputation as a creative and inspirational platform for young creatives, and – recognising this success – it was shortlisted for student magazine of the year in the *Stack Magazine Awards* 2019.

Yas Feasey said of her time working on *Carbon*: "It gives you an inside look into what it's like in industry. Before I came here I wanted to work as a magazine editor, so it's given me the chance to see what the role actually entails. I've had practice working to tight deadlines and within a team – and there's so much freedom around what content we can create, which is brilliant."

Rachel Lamb, Course Leader for BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media, said: "*Carbon* is an active learning initiative that engages students – from the moment they start their university journey – to get stuck in and give their dream careers a test drive. Every student gets the chance to be an editor, writer, designer, stylist and photographer, collaborating with networks of talented students and creating a portfolio of amazing industry-standard work in print, online and across all social media platforms."



Tegan Thompson

PR and Marketing Manager, Freya Rose London
BA (Hons) Fashion Media, 2020, now known
as BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media

Hi Tegan, tell us about your favourite moment in your career so far.

Representing Freya Rose London at the British Fashion Council's AGM and Institute of Positive Fashion Forum was a definite highlight - and sending off some jewellery to Kensington Palace and shortly after, seeing The Duchess of Cambridge wear Freya Rose London earrings on her first public appearance out of lockdown!

How did your studies at Solent help prepare you for your career?

The diversity in industry skills taught, realism of the modules and briefs given throughout the Fashion Media course has built a strong self-confidence I didn't have before coming to uni. The breadth of knowledge and adaptive skillset I gained from attending Solent has seen me face every challenge met within my role, without hesitation.

What advice would you give to those looking to follow in your footsteps?

Make the most of any and every opportunity given to you and seek out those that that'll set you apart from others. And connect with others, always, along the way.





DECADES OF DENIM



the blue jeans evolution began. The denim trouser instantly became the fashion piece more than any other. The creation of jeans were Jacob Davis. Businessman Strauss was the man to thank for the addition of the rivet design, Strauss revolutionized the denim journey. Strauss' brand 'Levi's' from the 1850s, was the first to become the most popular brand in the world.

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Lucy Murphy-Ackroyd

Freelance media and prosthetics make-up artist

BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design, 2019

Tell us a bit about what you've been up to since graduating.

Since graduating in 2019 I have gone on to pursue my career as a freelance media make-up artist. This means I work for myself and spend my days either working from home or out on jobs. Each day is very different as I do not work a typical nine-to-five. A typical day at home would involve spending a lot of time on the computer: organising portfolios, sending out CVs, sorting through invoices and general admin work.

What does a typical day look like for you?

Days where I go out on jobs are very different every time. For example, if I'm working on a commercial shoot, this is normally a full day of shooting, plus having to travel to and from London. Other days could be shorter if I'm on a photoshoot closer to where I am based. Through February and March 2020 I moved to Aylesbury to specialise in prosthetics and special effects make-up at Gorton Studio within Millennium FX. This was an intense seven-week course during which I specialised in full-face prosthetics, mould making and art finishing. Now I have finished the course I will be pushing to pursue my career more towards prosthetics and special effects in film and television.

What's been your career highlight to date?

My career highlight would probably be my seven-week course at Gorton Studio. Although this was a learning experience, not working, I was able to make connections and meet industry-leading professionals, which has really set me up for future work as, in this industry, it is a lot about who you know.

What are the best bits and biggest challenges of what you do?

The thing I love most about what I do is that every day is different. I'm someone that gets easily bored, and don't enjoy doing the same thing every day. This career means that I can go out and be creative and meet new people every day. However, the biggest challenge would be the lack of security that comes with being self-employed – you don't have a secure nine-to-five salary job. However, that being said, if you are determined enough, keep pushing for work and keep building up your portfolio, it does get easier.

How do you feel your studies at Solent have helped you progress in your career?

I was a completely different person when I left Solent than when I started. My studies at Solent made me confident and the person that I am today, ready to go out and chase after what I want to do. It taught me so many practical skills, so that I feel confident going into every job.

What advice would you give to future students?

My advice to future students is to lose yourself in your work. Spend these three years loving every project you do, taking on the advice of all the tutors and pushing your work to be the best it can possibly be. Go to every class and lecture, and absorb every piece of information you're given. Never stop learning – even when you've graduated, you will learn every single day.



“My studies at Solent made me confident and the person that I am today, ready to go out and chase after what I want to do. It taught me so many practical skills, so that I feel confident going into every job.”

GUNK

As a BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design or BA (Hons) Prosthetics and Special Effects student at Solent, you'll have the opportunity to gain a range of incredible work experience through GUNK, including GUNK Collective, GUNK World and GUNKPRO.

GUNK Collective

GUNK Collective is an online multimedia platform showcasing the cutting-edge vision of Solent University undergraduates in make-up, hair, prosthetics and special effects. GUNK Collective has been established by Solent undergraduates in its entirety, working as an industry-facing platform exploring the diverse perspectives and creative breadth of beauty, art and design. The Collective delivers features such as visual content, podcasts, virtual exhibitions, online tutorials and digital magazines.

GUNK World

GUNK World is a Solent-based, industry-facing platform for professional guest speakers, alumni and graduates. Previous speakers have included Terry Barber, Alex Box and Millie Kendall OBE. The platform is part of the wider GUNK Collective and Solent University community, offering opportunities to attend talks, exhibitions and workshops, and to take part in competitions. This includes our own 'Front' competition – managed and run by the GUNK team – a student-focused make-up, hair and special effects design challenge created to celebrate talent and innovation, and provide aspiring artists with the opportunity to showcase their flair. The competition is open to students from a range of levels and experience.

GUNKPRO

GUNKPRO is Solent's own professional make-up and hair event team. Previously known as 'Solent make-up pro', GUNKPRO offers students the chance to work in industry as part of the creative teams leading make-up and hair design across TV, film, theatre, beauty and the catwalk – including most recently leading the designs for looks at both London Fashion Week and Graduate Fashion Week.

@gunk_collective

@gunk_pro

www.gunkcollective.com

GUNK

www.gunkcollective.com

Image: Chiara Nightingill
BA (Hons) Make-up & Hair Design
Vol 1 2022



Natalie Vest-Jones

Creative Director and Founder of Sanxtuary Magazine
and freelance make-up artist

BA (Hons) Fashion Styling and Creative Direction, 2021

Tell us what you've been up to since leaving Solent.

I work part-time at Mac as a make-up artist and part-time as a freelance make-up artist, specialising in editorial and e-commerce make-up. I have worked on make-up jobs for various London Fashion Week shows, magazines such as Wonderland and Harper's Bazaar Vietnam, and campaigns for TONI&GUY and Fat Face, to name a few. Aside from my job as a make-up artist, I really wanted to continue the coffee table book, Sanctuary, that I created for my final major project at Solent, so I am currently in the process of putting together the first issue of Sanxtuary Magazine for print.

Tell us more about your magazine.

Sanxtuary Magazine is a bi-annual magazine and digital space that exclusively features and celebrates BIPOC and/or LGBTQIA+ creatives. While I was in my final year at Solent I created a coffee table book called Sanctuary which was inspired by surrealism, escapism and diversity. This book blended the conservative Eurocentric fairy-tale aesthetic and created a more inclusive story – with sexually liberated styling, independent feminine narratives and diverse subjects – with the goal of visualising surreal and inclusive spaces. At Solent I wrote my dissertation on cultural appropriation in fashion, and this really opened my eyes to the amount of exploitation that creatives from marginalised groups have had to endure in the fashion industry. After witnessing designers having their work stolen, cultures having their traditional customs and clothing exploited, the nepotism and discrimination that exist in workplaces and educational institutions, along with my own personal experiences as a woman of colour in this industry, I felt driven to create something to counter these problems. I wanted to create an escape for other under-represented people who are interested in fashion, beauty or art, so after graduating I decided to create an extension of this publication, and realised that a lot of marginalised creatives need a platform for their work to be seen, instead of stolen.



How do you think your studies at Solent have helped you prepare for your career?

There are so many things I've learned at Solent that have helped me prepare for my future. Of course, developing all the essential practical skills and knowledge within photography, developing a taste level when conceptualising shoots, and styling with intention. My critical thinking and organisational skills were also definitely sharpened at Solent. Through researching and writing my dissertation, organising shoots, casting models, putting together concept pitches and more, I have developed into someone who can navigate the fashion and beauty industry with confidence.

What advice would you give to those looking to follow in your footsteps?

My advice to anyone looking to follow in my footsteps would be to always keep pursuing exactly what you want. I am well aware that I am nowhere near the end of my journey to where I want to be, but I keep my goals as my biggest priority and remember that it takes a lot of small steps to get there. One thing I've learned while in the fashion and beauty industry is that there will be unfair situations, last-minute cancellations, chaotic schedules, and maybe even some intimidating or mean-spirited people in your path, and these are inconveniences that will either stop you from reaching your goal or separate you from the rest. Even though these inconveniences may seem super-stressful at the time, learn to recognise how insignificant these problems are to the bigger picture of your goals, and remember that nothing good ever comes easy. Lastly, don't be afraid to throw yourself into an unknown challenge and don't stay stuck within your safety bubble network – reach out to people whose work you admire, even if you don't know them personally.

Instagram: [**@the_Sanxtuary**](#)
TikTok: [**@the_sanxtuary**](#)





“This course definitely takes you on a journey, and challenges you to think creatively.”





Elysia Palmer

BA (Hons) Fashion Photography student

“This course is for you if you want to improve your photographic and media skills, and would like to have experience of collaborating with various other fashion creatives, including styling, make-up and hair.”

Why did you decide to study this course at Solent?

I decided to study this course at Solent because I have always had a huge passion for photography and fashion. I felt that this course was a perfect combination of those two interests, and that the units that we were to undertake all sounded exciting, interesting and important for preparation for the industry.

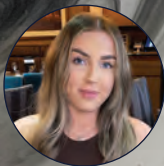
What are your favourite parts of the course, and the biggest challenges?

My favourite parts of the course have been getting to practise with industry-standard equipment – with the help of some extremely knowledgeable technical instructors. My photography skills have vastly improved each year and this has given me the confidence to go into the industry post-graduation. A key challenge that the course has made me face has been the journey into discovering the type of photographer I truly am, and finding my own unique style. I definitely struggled with this throughout the first and second years, but towards the end of the second year I gained confidence and encouragement from the amazing lecturers, and I have definitely found my own vision in fashion photography.

What has been the biggest highlight of your studies at Solent?

The biggest highlight of my studies has been the process of creating my final major project. Although it was during the Covid pandemic, I managed to create something which I feel incredibly proud of. I was able to collaborate with some amazing fellow creatives, models and a fashion brand. I feel that this was a visual representation of my journey throughout the course, and I could really show not only the skills I had gained, but also my passion for fashion photography and the meaning behind my project.





Emily Salmon

Social Media Content Agent, Wink Social

BA (Hons) Fashion Media, 2020 (now known as BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media)





What is your favourite memory from your time at Solent?

My favourite memories from my time at Solent were the Carbon LIVE events, where we produced and carried out four live events – it was great to see them go from the planning stage and brainstorm to real-life events that people actually paid to come to. I also loved seeing our magazine, Carbon, come to life. Seeing the first-ever issue printed in all its glory was a really great feeling after so many months of planning. Another fond memory I have is being able to attend a festival to do press for Carbon and getting to photograph and interview some of the artists.

How would you describe your job role?

I own a social media agency which I started at the end of last year. I work with female founders in the fashion and beauty wellness industry. I manage their socials and take on a creative direction role within their branding and brand strategy. I work on different packages with each client, ranging from social media management to helping them build brand awareness or doing photoshoots with them. My goal is to optimise their return on investment. I also help with influencer marketing and content creation, so it is a bit of everything.

How did Solent lead you to your current job?

The support from the course leaders led me to my current job. For example, the contacts that they gave us access to and the work experience was so beneficial. The course gave me such a varied skillset which has enabled me to do the majority of things my current job role requires.

What does a 'normal' day at work look like?

In the morning it is lots of admin, so emails and meetings with clients. For example, if a client has done an ad, it will be checking up on their ad revenue. Then, it will be chasing new clients. Today, I am doing a photoshoot for a skincare brand, which is quite fun. Some days I'll be chasing up influencers for content, so it differs. No day is the same.

What advice would you give to someone trying to get into the fashion industry?

You've got to stand out – don't do what everyone else is doing. When I first graduated, I mocked up a CV applying for Shreddy, which involved a lot of video editing. But I posted it on LinkedIn and it went viral. From then on, graduates made real, physical CVs and started sending them to the people they wanted to work with, in order to be different. There are so many people wanting to work in these industries that you have to be confident about what you know you can do and show people that. If people are telling you no, then you are talking to the wrong people. You need to be resilient too – it can be damaging hearing no from all those people – but you've got to make it happen.



Amber Rapley

Social and Community Executive, ICONIC LONDON

BA (Hons) Beauty Promotion, 2020
(now known as BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media)

Hi Amber, tell us about your role at ICONIC LONDON.

My role involves working closely within the social media team to plan content for all of ICONIC LONDON's social media channels, with a strong emphasis on Instagram, Pinterest and TikTok. I help to bring innovative social-first thinking and ideas to the team, create campaign briefs for videos and images, while also reaching out and finding 'influencers', make-up artists and talent to work with. The community side of my title means that I'm always active on social listening across all channels, working with PR and customer care. Being proactive and reactive with community engagement is one of the most important parts of my role and I find it so rewarding seeing all the positivity and excitement in our ICONIC community.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

Building relationships with talent, management, brands and, of course, our ICONIC followers. I also really enjoy being on the pulse with trends and content opportunities while being a social storyteller. I feel so lucky to be a part of the ever-growing beauty world – it has such a positive buzz about it. Every day is different, but I know that every day will be exciting and give me a chance to learn something new.

How do you feel your studies at Solent helped prepare you for your career?

Studying on the Beauty Promotion degree prepared me for the industry I'm now working in more than I could imagine. It's true what they say: 'Do what you love, and you'll never work another day in your life.' From the industry professionals that I was so lucky to be taught by, to the guest speakers and facilities that Solent offered, I couldn't have wished for a better course

to get me ready for my career. The BA (Hons) Beauty Promotion is an industry-focused course that gives you the opportunity to study all the many types of jobs in the beauty world – you get experience like no other, and I'm so proud to be a part of the 2020 alumni! Studying at Solent gave me the confidence to approach with an open mind any task that might be out of my comfort zone and to remain positive throughout. When it comes down to it, remember – you can do whatever you put your mind to.

Favourite memory from your time at Solent?

Extremely cliché, but meeting some of the most talented and inspiring people. I was so lucky to have a small course group, but we all got on so well. I can remember my first day when we all went around the group and had to say who inspired us. Little did I know that two years later it would be all those people in the room who inspired me the most. I feel so proud of us all, and I know that each and every one of us has a successful future in the industry ahead of us.

What advice would you give to those wanting to follow in your footsteps?

One piece of advice that I always try to remember is: good things take time, and just because one door has closed, it doesn't mean a better one won't open. We live in a world that is full of what is perceived as 'perfection', but in reality, life really is a rollercoaster and what might seem bad at first can roll out into a direction that you would never have seen coming.

Believe in yourself, be yourself and be kind to everyone.



Summer show

To finish your degree in style, Solent offers the opportunity to present your final major project at the annual Summer Show.

This event enables you to invite friends and family to view your project and celebrate with you, and it is also attended by industry professionals, offering the perfect opportunity to get your work noticed by future employers.





Course list

Course	UCAS tariff points	Work placement opportunity	Foundation Year available
BA (Hons) Fashion and Beauty Media	104–120	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Fashion Design	104–120	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Fashion Management with Marketing	112–128	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Fashion Photography	104–120	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Fashion Styling and Creative Direction	104–120	Y	Y
BA (Hons) Make-up and Hair Design	104–120	Y	Y
Design Foundation Year	48	-	-

How to apply

Solent University code name: **SOLNT**
Solent University UCAS code: **S30**
www.ucas.com



1

Research universities
March – September



2

Work on your UCAS application
September – January



3

Apply online via UCAS
By 26 January



4

Check UCAS Hub
This is where you'll see if you have an unconditional offer (the place is yours) or a conditional offer (based on exam results or other evidence), or if your application has been unsuccessful.



5

Reply to your offers
Select your firm choice. Select your insurance choice – this is a back-up choice in case you don't meet the conditions for your firm choice. Decline your other offers.

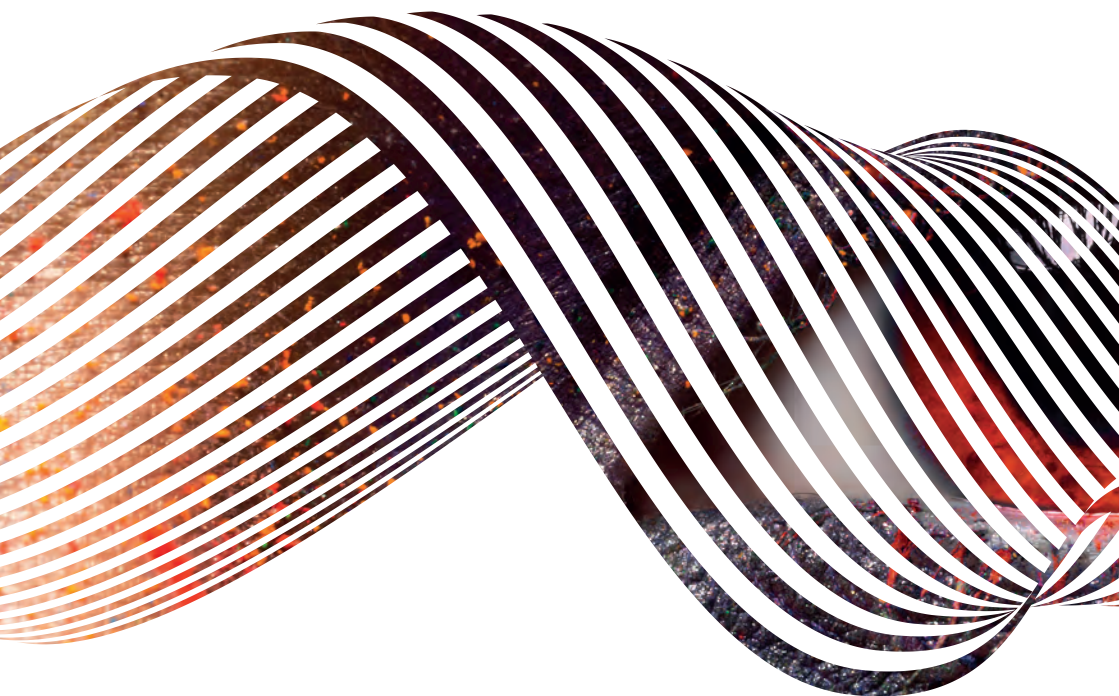


6

Find out if you've got your place
You'll see in UCAS Hub if your place is confirmed. BTEC results are published from July onwards and A-level results will be published in mid-August.

52 things to do

Prepare for university in less than an hour each week with our tips, guides and quizzes.
www.solent.ac.uk/52-things



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