

MINOR FIELDS OF STUDY AND PROFESSIONAL ELECTIVES for the Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design Major

Professional electives give students the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skill sets in subject areas related to the textile and apparel industries. Through careful planning it is possible to use professional electives credits to earn a minor, two minors, or even a second degree.

TMD majors are required to take 18 credits of professional electives. You can use those 18 credits to earn a minor in a field that supports the TMD major. For professional electives, 9 of the 18 credits must be in one subject matter area. TMD classes cannot be used for professional electives.

Use the following guide to choose a minor which supports your specific interest in fashion and satisfies the TMD requirement for professional electives. The list is not a prescriptive; students may decide that minors not on the list better meet their specific interests and needs, but should do so only after a conversation with their advisor.

*Courses marked with an asterisk also count for General Education credit. Go to the Gen Ed page here for which outcomes each class fulfills: https://web.uri.edu/general-education/2020-2021-gen-ed-course-search/?sft_programs=kin

While courses can fulfill both Professional Elective and General Education credit, the student is required to complete 40 Gen Ed credits and 120 total course credits to graduate with the TMD degree.

Interested in: **Apparel Design**
 Interior Design
 Visual Merchandising
 Styling
 Apparel Product Development

Consider a minor in:

Art/Art History

The fashion industry is a design-focused industry. Art and Art History courses expand student understanding of creativity and the effect of socio-cultural forces on the development of art.

18 credits from the following:

ART 101 Two-Dimensional Studio* **

ART 103 Three-Dimensional Studio* **

ART 120 Introduction to Art* **

ART 203 Color in Art and Design

ART 204 Graphic Design I

ART 207 Drawing I* **

ART 208 Drawing II	ART 252 Introduction to Art History: Renaissance- Modern* **
ART 213 Photography 1: B/W Photography	ART 284 Introductory Topics in Architectural History
ART 214 Photography 1: Digital	ART 364 American Art
ART 221 Painting 1	ART 380 Topics in Art and Architectural History
ART 231 Printmaking 1	
ART 251 Introduction to Art History: Ancient- Medieval* **	

**Required by the TMD major, cannot be used for professional electives but can count toward the minor.

Theatre

Theatre classes are appropriate for TMD students interested in apparel design and apparel product development. Costuming classes improve technical proficiency in a creating apparel.

18 credits from the following:

THE 100 Introduction to Theatre*
 THE 250 Costume Laboratory
 THE 350 Makeup (1 credit)
 THE 351 Principles and Theories of Theatrical Costuming I*
 THE 352 Principles and Theories of Theatrical Costuming II*
 THE 355 Stage Costume Design
 THE 451 Stage Costume Technology
 THE 455 Advanced Costuming

Interested in: The Business of Fashion International Business

Consider a minor in:

Business

Understanding business gives fashion merchandising students the knowledge important to their future work in the textile and apparel industries. Therefore, many students majoring in TMD choose professional elective classes in Business, specifically marketing and management. Many complete a minor in Business. All Business courses count as professional electives for TMD majors.

See the requirements for the Business minor here: <https://web.uri.edu/business/general-business-minor/>

Modern Languages

Students can study any modern language to complete their professional electives. French and Italian are the traditional ‘fashion languages’ associated with luxury fashion markets. Spanish and Chinese are also extremely important to the contemporary fashion industry.

The minor in a modern language requires 18 credits, only two of which (6 credits) can be at the 100 level.

Economics

Understanding the economy of a society creates understanding of most societal structures, including the textile and apparel markets.

The Economic minor requires 18 credits, including ECN 201* and 202* which are part of the required core classes for TMD majors. If students do well in ECN 201 and 202, they can continue with 300-level courses.

ECN 306 Introduction to Economic Research Methods

ECN 386 Economics of Race, Gender and Class

Any other two electives.

Leadership Studies

The fashion industry can always use more leaders. This minor can create “exceptional skills in the areas of interpersonal and group management, problem solving, critical thinking and effective communication.”

See the department web site for details about the Leadership Studies Minor:

<https://web.uri.edu/leadership/minor/>

Interested in: Trend Forecasting

Consider a minor in:

Human Development and Family Studies

HDF Courses provide insight into specific age-related consumer markets and thus improve student understanding of market segments.

The HDF minor requires 18 credits. 12 of 18 credits should be 200 level or above. HDF 480/481 cannot be used for the minor.

HDF 103G “This is Us”: Individual and Family
Development*

HDF 200 Life Span Development I
HDF 201 Life Span Development II

HDF 205G Money Skills for Life*
 HDF 225 Consumer in the Economy*
 HDF 418 Personal Finance
 HDF 424 Personal Finance Applications

HDF 426 Retirement Planning
 HDF 451 Debt Management
 HDF 428 Consumer Protection

Psychology

Understanding human behavior through the study of psychology can help TMD students understand individual behavior in specific fashion markets.

PSY 113 General Psychology*
 PSY 200 Quantitative Methods in Psychology
 PSY 232 Developmental Psychology*
 PSY 235 Theories of Personality

PSY 335 Psychology of Social Behavior
 PSY 399 Introduction to Multicultural
 Psychology
 PSY 480 Psychology of Women

See the requirements for the Psychology minor here: <https://web.uri.edu/psychology/minor/>

Sociology

Understanding human behavior within societal groups through the study of sociology can help TMD students understand group behavior within specific fashion markets.

SOC 100 Introduction to the Sociological
 Perspective*
 SOC 204 Social Psychology
 SOC 212 Sociology of the Family*
 SOC 240 Race and Ethnicity*
 SOC 242 Sex and Gender*

SOC 320 Organizations
 SOC 329 Contemporary Mexican Society
 SOC 336 Social Inequality
 SOC 350 Work and Family Life
 SOC 438 Aging in Society
 SOC 452 Class and Power

Minor: see the requirements for the Sociology minor here: <https://web.uri.edu/soc-anth/academics/minor-in-sociology/>

Interested In: Fashion Writing Fashion Journalism

Consider a minor in:

Communication

The fashion industry thrives on its ability to communicate effectively with people interested in fashion. Communication courses are valuable for TMD students interested in communicating effectively with the fashion public.

COM 100 Communication Fundamentals*
 COM 202 Public Speaking

COM 208 Argumentation and Debate
 COM 210 Persuasion: The Rhetoric of Influence

COM 230 The Art of Storytelling
 COM 243G Advertising and Consumerism*
 COM 246 New Media and Society
 COM 250 Digital and Media Literacy*

COM 271 Web Design and Programming
 COM 321G Social Media and Interpersonal
 Communication*

The minor in Communication requires the completion 18 credits from courses that currently eligible to count toward the major. See major requirements here:

<https://harrington.uri.edu/academics/communication-studies-b-a/curriculum/>

Journalism

While URI does not offer specific fashion journalism courses, general journalism courses will improve the writing of those students interested in fashion writing.

JOR 110 Introduction to Mass Media*
 JOR 220 Media Writing
 JOR 311 Journalism Criticism
 JOR 313 Alternative News Media in the US
 JOR 321 Magazine and Feature Writing

JOR 340/PRS 340 Public Relations (PR majors
 and declared minors only)
 JOR 341 Editing for Publication
 JOR 441/PRS 441 Public Relations Practices*

The minor in Journalism requires completion 18 credits from courses currently eligible to count toward the major. See major requirements here: <https://harrington.uri.edu/academics/journalism-b-a/curriculum/>

Public Relations

The success of the fashion industry depends on its ability to communicate to people interested in fashion. Public Relations courses are valuable for TMD students interested in event planning and understanding how to communicate with the fashion public.

PRS 100 Introduction to Public Relations
 PRS 200 Introduction to Event Management
 PRS 300 Social Media Strategies for the PR Professional
 PRS 320 Strategic Media Relations
 PRS 340/JOR 340 Public Relations (PR majors and declared minors only)
 PRS 441/JOR 441 Public Relations Practices*

Students minor in public relations by completing 18 course credits from the following courses: PRS 100, COM 100, PRS 200 or 300, PRS 340, COM 200-level or COM 300-level, WRT 200-level, and PRS 491.

Writing

Solid writing skills are always valuable, no matter which path is taken in the textiles and apparel industry.

WRT 100 Introduction to College Writing
WRT 104 Writing to Inform and Explain*
WRT 106 Introduction to Research Writing*
WRT 201 Writing Arguments *
WRT 227 Business Communications*
WRT 235 Writing in Electronic Environments
WRT 331 Writing Public Relations
WRT 332 Technical Writing*

The Writing minor requires 18 credits from the same classes eligible for the writing and rhetoric major. See the department web page here:

<https://harrington.uri.edu/academics/writing-and-rhetoric-b-a/curriculum/>

Interested In: Sustainability

Consider a minor in:

Sustainability

The textile and apparel industries are extremely polluting and have challenges with factory conditions for workers. TMD students interested in improving the environmental and worker impacts of the textile and apparel industries can complete a minor in sustainability.

See the requirements for the Sustainability minor here: <https://web.uri.edu/catalog/sustainability-minor/>