

THTR 447 – Fashion Influencing

Units: 4

Spring 2025 Monday/Wednesday 10-11:50a

Location: PED 206

Instructor: Samantha C. Jones

Office: PED 114F inside the Costume Shop

Office Hours: Thursday 12-2:00p by appointment

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IT Help: Prakash Shirke. Director of Information Technology, SDA

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Course Description

In this course we explore the world of fashion in tandem with the role Influencers play shaping its popular perception and future. We will work to build our individual personas as a public commentator, focusing on defining a unique point of view on the industry, as well as exploring the role history plays in the industry and how individual personalities are continually shaping it. Using research, analysis and practice we will look at the various styles of contemporary influencing and seek to define a communication aesthetic most successfully suited to each student.

Learning Objectives

- To define and refine a personal point of view on the fashion industry and how to comment on it.
- To develop a basic understanding of the history of Fashion Influencing and its role in popular society.
- To explore fully current individual aesthetic and how to present it to the world.
- To speak with confidence presenting oneself to the world.
- To gain a greater understanding of the various media forms that influencing has and can take.
- To gain confidence in presenting a personal aesthetic point of view to peers and collaborators.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

- Required readings will be listed as applicable and provided on the class Brightspace as required.
- Video editing software of personal choice
- Access to various social media platforms

Description and Assessment of Assignments

- Point values are assigned to individual projects & assignments listed below.
- Detailed descriptions of each project can be found in the Project Guidelines section of Brightspace
- The final course grade is earned on the accumulated points for all assignments based on the following scale:
 - A= 100--94, A-= 93--90, B+= 89--87, B= 86--84, B-= 83--80, C+= 79--77, C= 76--74, C-= 73--70, D= 69--60, F= below 59
- Assignments turned in late will have 10 points per day deducted from the possible maximum earned, unless advance arrangements have been made between the student and instructor or in the case of exceptional circumstances.
- The Final Assignment will not be accepted late for any reason.

Grading Breakdown

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS	% of GRADE
Introductory Questionnaire	50	5
Introduction Video	100	10
Couture Week Project	100	10
Historical Figure Research Project	100	10
Person on the Street Group Project	100	10
Fashion Newsletter Project	50	5
Trend Forecasting Project	100	10
Styling Project	100	10
Final Project	200	20
Presentation and Engagement	100	10
TOTAL	1000	100%

Grading Scale (Example)

Course final grades will be determined using the following scale

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	59 and below

Assignment Submission Policy

Work submitted for this course will be digital and must have the ability to be shared with the class cohort. Specific submission requirements will be outlined in the project guidelines of each assignment. A digital reference of all project work is required to be submitted to receive a grade.

Grading Timeline

Best efforts will be made to have assignment grades posted within one week of the due date. Grades will be recorded via Brightspace and can be monitored there.

Sharing of course materials outside of the learning environment

USC policy prohibits sharing of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

SCampus Section 11.12(B)

Distribution or use of notes or recordings based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study is a violation of the USC Student Conduct Code. This includes, but is not limited to, providing materials for distribution by services publishing class notes. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the Internet or via any other media. (See Section C.1 Class Notes Policy).

Course evaluation

Course evaluation occurs at the end of the semester university-wide. It is an important review of students' experience in the class. You should expect to receive an email update once the system has launched to provide your feedback on this course. In addition, you are always welcome to connect with with me as the instructor to offer any feedback on the course.

Additional Policies

This syllabus is a living document and may be adjusted or changed as deemed appropriate for the successful learning experience of the students enrolled in this course.

For in-person class meetings, unless required for the activity laptops and other computing devices, including phones, must remain closed or put away. Exceptions can be made for those with the appropriate accommodation paperwork.

For class meetings via Zoom cameras should remain on for the duration of the class.

There are no excused absences recognized by USC outside of those qualifying for religious exemption (<https://orsl.usc.edu/life/calendar/>), however students will be allowed two personal health days to be taken at their discretion throughout the quarter without penalty.

This class requires active participation, so a pattern of continued absence will require a re-evaluation of the students continued involvement in the course.

The official USC COVID-19 policy can be found here <https://coronavirus.usc.edu/>

SDA PRODUCTIONS, ISPS, AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

SDA productions, ISPs and Extracurricular Activities* will not excuse you from any class work. There will be no exceptions made for absences in class, missed or delayed assignments, homework or lack of class participation resulting from your involvement in any of the above. Your grade will reflect your work in this class, independent from work in any other class or activity.

*Activities that have been officially sanctioned by the larger university (such as marching band, song girls, or varsity sports) are exempt. You must submit official documentation to your professor regarding your participation in an event prior to your absence.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Statement for Students with Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from OSAS. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. OSAS is located in GFS 120 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website for OSAS and contact information: (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 814-4618 (Vidoe Phone), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis

In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies. See the university’s site on Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion + Intimacy in Theater Consent Culture Statement:

Through our pluralistic approach of diverse pedagogies, methodologies, ideologies, and modalities of artistic expression, we invite(engage) and challenge students to expand their breadth and depth of knowledge, complexity, and range of the human experience. Even though we nurture, guide, and challenge our students to embrace the unknown or unfamiliar and step outside of their comfort zones through storytelling/art, we aim to practice effective strategies and offer tools to students mindful of their physical, psychological, social, and emotional wellbeing. In alignment with professional and industry standards, we will integrate core principles and techniques of Intimacy in Theater and Building Cultures of Affirmative Consent. This will provide agency, offer resources and support to the teachers, students, directors, and staff to establish healthy boundaries of consent when working on material that is physically, intimately, or emotionally charged content in both the classroom and production.

SDA Student Support & Reporting Form:

To facilitate a supportive environment of accountability, SDA has created an internal system of reporting for students to address issues/concerns and to offer feedback or suggestions for improvement. This mechanism provides a pathway for

reporting and offering feedback without fear of retaliation or judgment. Any submission filed through this form will be reviewed and processed accordingly through SDA Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

To file a report, please visit: <https://bit.ly/SDAstudentreporting>

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298
equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298
usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity | Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services - (213) 740-0776

<https://osas.usc.edu>

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710
campussupport.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.