School of Design

Overview:
The fashion design degree curriculum synthesizes the individual aesthetic of the designer with an understanding of the market, historical context of fashion and costume, consumer psychology, materials, and techniques of apparel construction. The major’s curriculum focus is primarily on studio work and other discipline specific coursework central to its mission of developing student’s individual design voice and vision while developing their potential as practicing technical fashion design professionals.

Acquired Skills MOST Valued by Employers:
- Construct Comprehensive Design Strategies
- Formulate a Personal Design Ideology
- Synthesize Design Concepts
- Assemble a Collection of Finished Fashion Work
- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- Oral/Written Communications
- Teamwork/Collaboration
- Digital Technology
- Leadership
- Professionalism/Work Ethic
- Career Management
- Global/Intercultural Fluency

Common Pathways:
- Design Assistant
- Pattern and Sample Developer
- Product Developer
- Fashion Writer
- Textile Designer
- Creative Designer
- Technical Designer

Please note that some of these pathways require an advanced post bachelor’s degree

Common Industries:
- Apparel Manufacturers
- Boutiques
- Department stores

Sample of Employers of Stevenson University students:
- Under Armour
- Nordstrom

Internship Sites for Stevenson Students:
- Chesapeake Shakespeare Company
- J. Crew
- MB Design Gallery
- Stevenson University
- Babetta's World
- Fashions Unlimited
- Under Armour
- 180s Wearable Technology
- Avalon Industries
- Carlisle Ectetera
- Jody Davis Designs
- Joseph A. Bank
An Employer's Perspective:

The level of competition in the fashion industry requires that candidates be properly trained in construction and pattern making skills as they will be better positioned to find employment. Understanding how to use the industry equipment and digital tools, in addition to implementing projects on a large scale is invaluable.

Salaries:

Salaries are dependent upon the industry, level of position, and geographical region. A good resource for researching salaries of specific jobs within this particular industry is http://www.bls.gov/ooh/arts-and-design/fashion-designers.htm#tab-5