Have you considered studying fashion and textiles? This is an exciting industry and occupations will suit people who love design, business, and working with people. The following are four institutions in the Melbourne area that offer fashion courses.

- **RMIT**: has courses in fashion design, fashion and textiles merchandising and business, textile design, fashion styling, and footwear, [http://bit.ly/1QZabwB](http://bit.ly/1QZabwB)

- **Whitehouse Institute of Design Australia**: offers the Bachelor of Design where you can major in either Fashion Design or Creative Styling and Direction, [http://bit.ly/1WrZEOT](http://bit.ly/1WrZEOT)

- **Box Hill Institute**: has courses in fashion design and fashion merchandising, [http://bit.ly/1JcEWsO](http://bit.ly/1JcEWsO)

- **Academy of Design Australia**: has a course in fashion and costume design, [http://bit.ly/1UvjER5](http://bit.ly/1UvjER5)

Meet Ben McCuiag: Ben completed the Bachelor of Design in Styling and Creative Direction at Whitehouse Institute of Design Australia.

What VCE subjects did you complete?
- **Year 11**: English, General Mathematics, Sociology, Visual Communication & Design, Media Units 3 + 4, Religion.

What was your course like? My course was very broad. It covered both written and practical components. My theory subjects were business, design in historical contexts and IT. These classes were invaluable, especially business, as I learnt a lot about how companies operate, especially design companies. It also covered visual merchandising, interior design, fashion design, event design and photography. These areas were more hands on (which I loved), with a lot of group work, practical classes and creating industry contacts.

What were some of the best parts of your course? As a collective our year produced our own runway event for charity with over 200 guests, celebrity hosts, models and photographers. This is something I found particularly rewarding, working with a large team, learning about what goes into producing an event on this scale, booking models, catering, staging etc. This particular component was my favourite part of the course, and without knowing, it pushed me to realize interests in an area of design and production I didn't previously know I had. On top of this, we had lectures with different industry professionals on a regular basis, learning about different areas, gaining contacts and information from people I never would have had access to otherwise. Our teachers were also very knowledgeable, with one of my teachers previously working for Vogue Italia, and another working for Vivienne Westwood in the past.

What are you doing now in your graduate position? My full time position is currently working for the head office of an Australian men’s luxury suiting brand called Rhodes & Beckett. I really enjoy it and it’s something I can definitely progress in. I also am contracted by an event company in Melbourne called AMMEvents, where I manage runway events. I started with this company as an unpaid volunteer 3 years ago whilst I was at university and now have worked my way up to an event manager.
A few of the shows I have managed so far are Hugo Boss Menswear Runway, Chadstone Shopping Centre Spring Runway show and a style workshop with Olivia Palermo. One thing I've learnt in the design industry is you are never too good for any job. Starting off as a volunteer is a must and the only way to get anywhere is to prove yourself.

What do you enjoy about your job? Event work is a great way to meet people, be interactive and still be surrounded by designers and those in the industry. I personally love organisation and working with people, so it allows me to still fulfil my design interests whilst being involved in hands-on and interactive environments.

Check out the Bachelor of Design in Styling and Creative Direction at Whitehouse Institute of Design here- http://bit.ly/1IYBoPC

Meet Katherine Padilla: Katherine is studying the final year of the Associate Degree in Fashion and Textiles Merchandising at RMIT.

What VCE subjects did you complete?
- **Year 11**: Mathematical Methods, English, Religion & Society, Studio Art, Business Management, Psychology.
- **Year 12**: Mathematical Methods, English, Further Mathematics, Business Management, Media.

What is your course like? I have undertaken subjects such as business, textiles, global fashion marketing, merchandising, excel, industry research, and IT fashion illustration. Classes have textbook and hands-on active work. For example, going to a store and doing a window display, doing our own research and finding certain fabrics. There's a lot that has to be done outside of the classroom as well as work in class. It is definitely not boring because there's always a lot to do and it's very interesting.

Yes there are essays but there are a lot of assignments that are fun to do like doing a window display for an actual store, doing flat lay displays, draping, mannequin displays, product displays, and selecting a store and learning their techniques on how they merchandise their products. It's very active and quite fun to do.

What do you love about your course? I have been able to participate in the following opportunities:
- **Study abroad**: A study trip to China last year
- **Field trips**: A field trip to the Kmart head office to learn about their operations and marketing strategies, how they prepare the products that drop every season and research what's 'on trend'.
- **Work experience**: I have participated in several runway shows as a back and front of house worker. These experiences have taught me what happens in runways and the things that need to be done in order to run those fashion events.
- **Leadership events**: I have been able to participate in several leadership events and hear from guest speakers working in industry.

What are you doing in the final year of your course?
- **Research projects**: I am currently working on an industry research project with a small team. We undertake market research, find out what's trending and what consumers are wanting and create a range of garments that include products, styles and designs. It's an actual folio with collections that we've designed. At the end of the year we will make a presentation to a room full of industry partners. My group was assigned the Myer Miss Shop department so we will pitch our idea and work to them.
- **Study abroad**: This year's study trip is to New York. We get to study at LIM College for 2 weeks.
- **Industry experience**: I will be undertaking work experience with industry partners that the university is connected to. I will be able to gain experience in the industry and actually get involved in those fields.

To find out more about the course, go to http://bit.ly/1Ud1hRO
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MARCH**

- **Meet Melbourne University**, Sale (22), Geelong (23) and Warragul (23), [http://bit.ly/1SqQwuI](http://bit.ly/1SqQwuI)
- **21**: Careers in Medicine Information Session, UNSW Clinical School, Albury Wodonga campus, Email Prue Barclay at p.barclay@unsw.edu.au

**APRIL**

- **Zookeeper for a Day and Vet for a Day**, Healesville Sanctuary and Werribee Open Range Zoo, [www.zoo.org.au](http://www.zoo.org.au)
- **1**: A Day at Melbourne University, Parkville campus, [http://bit.ly/1QUDzn5](http://bit.ly/1QUDzn5)
- **8**: UMAT Simulation Day, St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, [www.nie.edu.au](http://www.nie.edu.au)

**Science news**: Be inspired by the latest stories featured on RiAUS – Australia’s Science Channel. Some of the topics covered this week include:

- Exploring the science at WOMAD
- 2016 Space Calendar
- The science behind beauty
- Stress in cancer’s best friend
- No point in extra vitamin D for pregnant women


**News from JMC Academy**: JMC is a private college located at Melbourne and Sydney. They offer a variety of creative media courses such as Animation, Audio Engineering, Film, Entertainment Business Management, and Music. They have developed a series of articles featuring their students and graduates. The following are examples

- How to make your design portfolio stand out
- Entertainment Business graduate working at Universal Music
- Being a film producer
- Film & TV graduate working for Channel 9 as a Vision Switcher
- Interning for Sound Campaign at Good Life Festival
- 9 tips on creating your first game
- The truth about working in the entertainment industry from a JMC graduate
- 5 skills you’ll need for a successful career in digital design

Click on this link to access the articles - [http://bit.ly/1XsfKl0](http://bit.ly/1XsfKl0)

**Interested in business and law?** Join the Deakin University Business and Law Facebook pages to keep up to date with the latest news and events and to discover what it’s like to be a Business and Law student at Deakin. You will hear about their overseas study programs to places like New York and China, their internship opportunities and important dates.

- Law School page – [http://on.fb.me/1S1qCek](http://on.fb.me/1S1qCek)
- Business School page - [http://on.fb.me/1pl6j1J](http://on.fb.me/1pl6j1J)