

Online Tools for Fashion

Challenger TAFE is an epicenter of fashion training in Western Australia and offers Certificate 111 of Clothing Production followed by Certificate 1V Clothing Production to up and coming fashion entrepreneurs. These certificates may be completed on a full or part time basis.

Over the past 12 months in conjunction with WestOne the lecturers at Challenger TAFE have been working on the Toolbox Series in Fashion. This is an on line learning program designed for Registered Training Officers, and industry to use in their training. It is a new innovative method of training and adds to the excitement of learning a new topic. The toolboxes are designed to assist with training and will be available for purchase in CD form from 2004.

Toolbox will also work well with the Industry Traineeship Program offered by Challenger TAFE. Employers already running their business are able to take on an employee, train them, and have a registered work place assessor from Challenger come in to assess them. Another initiative of Challenger TAFE is a new incentive program has been started in 2003 in the form of an incubator. This is a live work studio in which selected second year students may be involved. The students spend time in a design studio, which has been set up in a Fremantle outlet.

The program also encourages graduated students as mentors to return while setting up their labels using the studio and at the same time assisting the existing students with help to manufacture garments for retail.

Graduating students wishing to extend their qualifications have been accepted at Curtin University, NIDA, Edith Cowen University, West Australian Academy of Performing Arts, Swan TAFE and WA School of Art & Design. Challenger TAFE also boasts a high percentage of students that choose to set up their own business in niche market areas, or gain valuable work experience in the fashion industry. Challenger TAFE Visage Training Centre for Hair, Fashion & Beauty will be showcasing their products at designedge – TCF Australia uncovered, Western Australia's inaugural textile, clothing footwear and leather exhibition being held at the Burswood Exhibition and Convention Centre, September 23 – 25, 2003

Designedge will offer the chance for every player in the Australian textile, clothing, footwear and leather industries to expose their products to leading international and interstate buyers. The Burswood Convention Centre will be a showcase of innovative products ranging from designer fashion, textiles, footwear, accessories, home wares, textile products and manufacturing opportunities. A unique feature of the designedge trade exhibition will be a complimentary Business Matching service being provided by TCF WA where firms can lodge their area of interest in developing ongoing future business opportunities within the local, state, national and international TCFL industry.

Challenger TAFE Visage Training Centre for Hair, Fashion & Beauty will be located at Stand No 62 at Designedge and will also be available for private showings or appointments. Gloss Media, the organisers of the annual Perth Fashion Festival, are coordinating the expo on behalf of the Textile, Clothing and Footwear Resource Centre of Western Australia (TCF WA), supported by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc.