

Participant Information Sheet 'Decolonising Fashion and Textiles' Project

What is the project about?

This action research project is part of my PgCert Academic Practice in Art, Design and Communication at UAL. I am supervising a student project brief on 'Decolonising Fashion and Textiles' for the Collaborative Challenge unit, inviting 30 MA students from London College of Fashion, UAL and 10 refugees or asylum seekers to collaborate within multidisciplinary teams and develop fashion / textile artefacts, ethical storytelling campaigns, and legacies (in terms of entrepreneurship or advocacy).

The research will explore ways in which design lecturers can create safe spaces and ethical cross-cultural connections between students and refugees. For this purpose, I will collect qualitative data through participant observations, one questionnaire, and a focus group with students and refugees. The data will be thematically analysed, and the findings written up for my PgCert unit submission and future publications, highlighting the project's contribution to decolonising design practice and shaping an alternative fashion system grounded on equality, diversity, inclusion, and sustainability of cultures.

What does it mean to take part?

If you take part, you agree to: attend a series of five lectures/workshops and being observed throughout the project development; fill one questionnaire at the end of the project to comment on your engagement on the cross-cultural connections activated through the project and your change in skills and knowledge related to decolonising fashion, design activism and cultural sustainability; and participate in an online focus group for the duration of 1.5 hour at the end of the project to share further insights on your experience in the Collaborative Challenge.

If you choose to take part, you will be free to withdraw your participation at any point. You will not be obliged to explain any reason for withdrawing.

Will my participation be kept confidential?

Your anonymity is very important. The information about you will be confidential to me, as the researcher. You will not be identified individually anywhere in the research. If I quote anything you have said during the research, it will be anonymous.

What will happen to the results of the research project?

Analysis from the observations, the questionnaire and focus group – including quotations from you – will contribute to a research journal. Your words may also be used in research outputs (e.g. blog posts, conference papers, journal articles, exhibitions), which may also appear online.

Thank you for your contribution and participation in this study.

For further information you can contact:

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