

DIPLOMA IN CLOTHING MANAGEMENT



FACULTY OF
APPLIED
SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF
TEXTILE
SCIENCE
& APPAREL
TECHNOLOGY

01 JAN - 31 DEC 2026

Diploma in Clothing Management

NQF Level: 6

SAQA ID: 105108

Qualification Code: DICLMI

Location: Steve Biko Campus (S5 & S6, Level 4)

Description of the Programme

The qualification in Clothing Management is designed to prepare individuals for a wide range of specialist career opportunities in the apparel and related industries, retail sector and the informal sector. This qualification develops students' knowledge and skills relating to the technology of sewn products. This includes design development and production through to sales, as well as the management and business skills required for a career in the apparel industry.

FAQs

1. Is there a future for the clothing industry?

The South African apparel industry is stabilising and expecting to begin to grow as it is one of the main SA industries offering employment opportunities. With the very high unemployment rate in SA, government is looking to the Clothing Industry to assist in this and to contribute to growing the SA economy. This is a driving demand for top students / candidates looking for challenging careers in many different types of jobs.

2. Do I need Maths or other subjects for this course?

Mathematics is not a prerequisite for the programme, but you will battle significantly if you have difficulties with numeracy. Everything we do is based in numbers whether it is units of time, money, or measurements.

3. So, is this course only about sewing?

Sewing is a small area of what we do – there are four subject areas – each adding to the holistic knowledge you will need to succeed. These areas focus around the following:

- **Product**– Everything relating to one product– design, development, sourcing fabric/trim, making the pattern and product to required quality standards.
- **Process**– Apparel manufacturing processes including cutting room and production floor supervision, quality, and work study.
- **Business**– Economics, entrepreneurship, marketing, retail, supervisory management, and Industrial relations.

4. Can I do Clothing Management without doing art at school?

Yes - we will teach you how to do technical drawings to be able to record all critical data visually.

5. So, are you training us to become machinists?

No - we are educating you about the practical and theoretical aspects of producing sewn products. However, to work in a technical team in the clothing or retail environment, you need to be able to instruct/manage machinists, so must know the job yourself.

6. How is Clothing Management different from Fashion Design? Although we do the designing of clothing (and other sewn products), our focus is on the business or technical aspects (Where are we going to get the raw material? Who is going to buy it? How much will they pay? Can we produce this product at the correct quality? Can we make money on this product?) rather than the creative artistic, conceptual design process.

7. How many applications do you receive for how many places?

We get about 900 applications for 40 places.

8. What are your Programme Highlights?

- DUT has been educating clothing technologists for nearly 40 years. Alumni are well known in the South African industry and many have travelled to join overseas companies.
- We have strong industry links and qualified staff with expert experience.
- We have partnered with Gerber Technology – the leading industry software for pattern making, grading and marker-making.
- We have a well-equipped sewing floor with computerized industrial equipment and a carefully designed training programme to ensure

- students produce sewn products to industry specifications.
- We do research in niche areas e.g., Sizing and Micro-Small enterprises.

Career opportunities

There are job opportunities in the apparel and other related industries for graduates in management, product development, production, work study, planning, quality, garment technology and other areas. Employment in South Africa is available in four main industrial sectors:

- Formal manufacturers (established apparel manufacturers), informal sector (small to micro enterprises and entrepreneurs),
- Retail (centralised buying and store management), and
- Allied industries (footwear, training, selling equipment and computers).
- Opportunities also exist for self-employment.

Further Studies

After completing the Diploma in Clothing Management graduates may apply to enter the Advanced Diploma in Apparel Technology.

Graduates can pursue further qualifications in management, entrepreneurship, retail, quality, or education. Significant opportunities also exist for self-employment.

Explanation of Points scale:

SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC)		
SYMBOL	HIGHER GRADE	STANDARD GRADE
A	8	6
B	7	5
C	6	4
D	5	3
E	4	2
F	3	1

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC)		
%	LEVEL	POINTS
90-100	7	8
80-89%	7	7
70-79%	6	6
60-69%	5	5
50-59%	4	4
40-49%	3	3
30-39%	2	2
20-29%	1	1

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A person will only be considered for registration for an instructional programme approved by the Institution's Senate if the person complies with:

- The minimum admission requirements stated in DUT general handbook (refer to DUT website for general handbook).
- Institutional faculty, departmental and/or instructional programme specific rules; and

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS IN TERMS OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS SUB-FRAMEWORK (HEQSF)

G7 rule: For Diploma:

"a National Senior Certificate (NSC) as certified by the Council for General and Further Education and Training (Umalusi), with a minimum of achievement rating of 3 for English and a minimum achievement rating of 3 in four recognised NSC 20-credit subjects."

Entry Requirements (Diploma in Clothing Management)

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) (01 January 2009)		SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) (PRE 2009)			NATIONAL CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL (NCV)	
NSC DIPLOMA ENTRY		SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC)			(NCV) LEVEL 4	
Compulsory Subjects	NSC Rating Code	Compulsory Subjects	HG	SG	Compulsory Subjects	Mark
English	3	English	E	C	At least 50% in English	50%
And three additional recognised 20 credit subjects (maximum of one additional language)	3	And three additional recognized subjects (maximum of one additional language)	E	C		
In addition: ONE recognized NSC 20 credit subject as per G7 rule (As stated above)	3					

Additional Entry Requirements:

Applicants will also write the DUT SATAP English Literacy test, and an industry accepted numeracy assessment to determine potential. Applicants obtaining less than 50% on this assessment with no special consideration (i.e., mature age application, industry experience and letter from employer) may be conditionally accepted.

Selection Criteria

As there are many more applicants than there are places available, in addition to the above minimum entry requirements, the following selection process will determine placement in the programme:

- All applicants must apply through the Central Applications Office (CAO) by September **2025**.
- Initial shortlisting for selection is based on the applicant's academic performance in Grade 12 (Grade 11 or Grade 12 trial marks will be used for current matriculants).

NB – A Matric pass with 26 or more points is highly recommended! It is not a minimum requirement, but it will assist in getting your application short-listed for selection placement. If you have less than this, but have your heart set on this programme, it is highly recommended you contact the department to flag your application.

You will need to make the ranking in all other assessments.) Applicants who meet the minimum criteria above will be:

- Invited to undergo placement testing and will be invited to attend an **interview** (It is highly recommended that applicants have done some research into the clothing industry prior to the interview)
- Final acceptance will be based on ranked performance according to the table below:

Assessment	Weighting
Academic Achievement – average percentage of NSC/SC/NCV subjects — excluding Life Orientation	40%
Placement testing including DUT SATAP English Literacy and Numeracy test	40%
Interview	20%

Selection:

Selection will be based on the ranking of applicants who meet the minimum requirements as well as available places.

Provisional acceptance is given to selected applicants awaiting NSC or NCV results.

If the results do not meet the minimum entrance requirements, this provisional acceptance will be withdrawn.

OR

Admission Requirement based upon Work Experience, Age and Maturity

For admission to entry level diploma and certificate studies:

A person may, subject to such requirements as the Senate may determine, be admitted to the Institution even if such a person is not in a possession of a National Senior Certificate, Senior Certificate or an equivalent certificate, provided that:

- The person shall have reached the age of 23 in the first year of registration and shall have at least:
 - three years' appropriate work experience; and/or
 - capacity for the proposed instructional programme, which shall be assessed at the discretion of the respective Head of Department by a Senate approved admission assessment comprising of a DUT Standardised Assessment Test for Access and Placement (SATAP), Academic Literacies (Al) & English for Academic Purposes (EAP) and/or an appropriate subject or programme specific written assessment designed and marked by the relevant Department; and
- The relevant Faculty Board shall be satisfied that the person's standard of communication skills, ability to study successfully and/or work experience are such that the person, in the opinion of the relevant Faculty Board, should be able to complete the proposed instructional programme successfully. If required, the communication skills and study skills should be tested; and
- The person's application for admission in terms of work experience, age and maturity is approved prior to registration.

Applicants intending to gain admission through work experience, age and maturity must submit their applications at least four months before commencement of the academic year inclusive of the date of scheduling writing a requisite eligibility assessment

Additional Entry Requirements: Applicants will also write the DUT SATAP English Literacy test and an industry accepted numeracy assessment to determine potential. Applicants obtaining less than 50% on this assessment with no special consideration (i.e. mature age application, industry experience and letter from employer) may be conditionally accepted.

Tuition Fees

To assist you with your planning, the **2025** fees have been indicated. An increase for next year to accommodate the inflation rate can be expected.

PLEASE NOTE: DUT cannot be held liable for the fees in this brochure as the **2026** fees are not yet final.

First Year Curriculum				
Name of the Module	Subject Code	HEQSF Level	SAQA Credits	2025 Fees
Semester One				
Production Technology 1A	PRTE101	5	12	R4390.00
Textile I	TEXT101	5	8	R3800.00
Patternmaking 1A	PATT101	5	8	R3140.00
Business Management 1A	BUMA101	5	8	R2510.00
Cornerstone 101 (IEG)	CSTN101	5	12	R3910.00
Applied Science and Wellness	ASWL101	5	12	R3900.00
Total			60	R21650.00
Semester Two				

Production Technology IB	PRTE102	5	16	R5640.00
Patternmaking IB	PATT102	5	12	R4390.00
Operations Management I	OPMA101	5	12	R4390.00
Business Management IB	BUMA102	5	12	R4390.00
I & CT Literacy & Skills	ICTLI01	5	8	R2430.00
Total			60	R21 240.00
TOTAL CREDITS SEMESTER I & 2			120	
Second Year Curriculum				
Semester One				
Production Technology IIA	PRTE201	6	16	R5640.00
Textiles IIA	TEXT201	6	8	R3690.00
Operations Management IIA	OPMA201	6	16	R3140.00
Business Management II	BUMA201	6	8	R5640.00
Applied Science for Sustainable Development	ASSD101	6	12	R3610.00
Total			60	R21 720.00
Semester Two				
Production Technology IIB	PRTE202	6	12	R4390.00
Textiles IIB	TEXT202	6	12	R4390.00
Patternmaking II	PATT201	6	8	R3140.00
Operations Management IIB	OPMA202	6	20	R3140.00
Financial Literacy (Elective)	FNLT101	5	8	R3620.00
Introduction to Technopreneurship (Elective)	ITCH101	5	8	R2270.00
Value in the Workplace (Elective)	VWKP101	5	8	R2600.00
Total			60	R23 550.00
TOTAL CREDITS SEMESTER I & 2			120	
Third Year Curriculum				
Semester One				
Production Technology IIIA	PRTE301	6	16	R5640.00
Operations Management IIIA	OPMA301	6	8	R3140.00
Business Management 3A	BUMA301	6	8	R3140.00
Retail Systems	RESY301	6	16	R5020.00
Role of Applied Sciences in Society (Elective)	RASS101	6	12	R3610.00
Community Engagement & Development (Elective)	ASCE101	6	12	R3900.00
Total			60	R24 450.00
Semester Two				
Production Technology IIIB	PRTE302	6	16	R5640.00
Product Technology Project	PRTP301	6	16	R5640.00
Operations Management IIIB	OPMA302	6	8	R3140.00
Business Management IIIB	BUMA302	6	12	R4390.00
The Entrepreneurial Edge (Elective)	TENE101	6	8	R2600.00
The Global Environment (Elective)	GENVI01	6	8	R2450.00
Total			60	R23 860.00
TOTAL CREDITS SEMESTER I & 2			120	

Application

Applicants who wish to enrol for the programme must apply through the CAO system by no later than 30 September of the previous year.

CAO Online Application visit: <http://www.cao.ac.za>

CAO Contact Details

Private Bag X06
Dalbridge,
4014
Tel: (031)2684444
Fax: (031)2684422

CAO Code: DU-D-CLM

Closing Date for application: 30 September 2025

For Further Information

Contact the Department of Clothing and Textile Studies
Durban University of Technology
P O Box 1334
DURBAN,
4000
Tel: (031) 373 2003
Fax: 086 679 9532

Financial Aid

For Financial Aid application for a DUT programme please apply online at www.nsfas.org.za or call the NSFAS call centre on 0860 067 327.

For an explanation on how to fill out the application form, please go to www.nsfas.org.za or contact the call centre on the number above.

Please note that completing a form does not guarantee Financial Aid. For further assistance, please consult the Department of Financial Aid and Scholarships on (031)373 2931/2557/2054.