

Theme 1. : Historical Evolution of Fashion & the Politics of Fashion

Fashion has undergone a fascinating evolution throughout history, reflecting the cultural, social and economic dynamics of each era. Today, fashion continues to evolve in a digitally-driven, globally connected world, with an increasing emphasis on diversity, sustainability and the intersection of fashion and technology shaping the industry's future trajectory. Interestingly, fashion is a political matter. It states, it revolutionizes, it claims, it creates and deconstructs social stereotypes, social classes, and social conventions. It oppresses and it liberates. It is also a powerful industry within a capitalist world, and players and consumers can decide which position to take: in or out, disrupt or maintain, preserve or dismantle.

Sub Themes:

1. Fashion: Renaissance Elegance to Millennium
2. Industrial Revolution, Imperialism and Textiles
3. Fashion and World Wars
4. Fashion: Royalty, Film stars, Icons and Influencers
5. Wardrobe stories and Personal Fashion Archives
6. Uniforms : Acceptance, Refusal, Imposition
7. Politics of Design: Designers, Expressions, Public Policy
8. The 'Power' Suit
9. Laws and Social Diktats: Modest Fashion
10. 'Wear Your Protest'

Theme 2: Economy, Business & Commerce

The economics of Fashion investigates into the interplay between supply and demand dynamics, pricing strategies, and consumer behavior. Fashion and lifestyle products designers and merchandisers balance creative innovation and brand ethos with commercial relevance. This session will examine the intricate relationship between economic forces and the fashion industry, examining how businesses navigate challenges, seize opportunities, and shape the commercial landscape of style and aesthetics. We also wish to understand how fashion brands and retailers re-invent themselves and think of driving change for customers.

Sub Themes:

1. Business Models and Consumer Behaviour.
2. Challenges and Innovations in the Fashion Industry.
3. Branding and Marketing Strategies for Building Successful Fashion Businesses.
4. Globalization and Trade: Impact on Fashion Business and Commerce.
5. E-commerce and Digital Transformation
6. Navigating Start-up Culture and Innovation.
7. Fashion Finance: Investment, Funding, and Financial Management in the Industry.
8. Ethical Considerations and Corporate Social Responsibility in Fashion.
9. Fashion Law and Regulations
10. Exploring Opportunities and Growth Potential in Fashion Business Worldwide.

Theme 3: Navigating Social Inclusion and the Psychological Dynamics of Fashion

Exploring the intersection of fashion with social inclusion and psychological dynamics, this theme enquires into how clothing choices impact individual perceptions, societal norms, and mental well-being. The attempt is to uncover the transformative potential of fashion in fostering inclusivity, promoting self-expression, and nurturing positive psychological outcomes within diverse communities.

Sub Themes:

1. Fashion, Identity and the Body
2. Self- Image Self-Expression and Social Influence
3. Fashion Choices, Stigma, Discrimination, Victimization
4. Fashion as Empowerment
5. Body Image & Body Modification Trends
6. Fashion for Revealing & Concealing
7. Fashion Consumption Behaviours
8. Diversity, Marginalisation and Fashion
9. Fashion Inclusivity & Mental Health
10. Fashion Technology for Inclusion and Inclusivity

Theme 4 : Eco-Evolution, Sustainable Style, Legal Considerations

Fashion is amongst the top 3 in carbon footprint along with oil and food. Sustainable fashion encourages incorporation of eco-friendly practices. The legal domains of intellectual property rights, contract laws, corporate law, tax law, international laws, and customs law hold significant relevance in delineating the emerging subject of fashion. This session aims to bring to light the environmental impacts of the fashion industry and the importance of integrating sustainable practices. The aim is to elucidate the legal landscape governing sustainable fashion, shedding light on key considerations for fostering eco-friendly initiatives and driving positive change in the fashion world.

Sub Themes:

1. Intellectual Property Rights, Data Protection and Privacy
2. Supply Chain Transparency: Legal Obligations and Accountability in Sourcing and Production.
3. Setting Legal Standards and seeking Legal Remedies
4. Dress Code and Uniforms in Institutions & Organisations
5. Green fashion: Natural and Bio fabrics, Dyes, Recycled, Upcycled and Natural Fibers
6. Nanotechnology: Textile and Dyes
7. Addressing Pollution and Waste Management
8. Human impact on the Environment: Social Responsibility & Legal Considerations for Global Sustainable Fashion Markets.
9. Sustainable Fashion: Applying STEM Solutions for Eco-friendly Production and Recycling.

10. Future Legal Trends: Anticipating Regulatory Changes and Emerging Issues in Sustainable Fashion Law.

Theme 5: Palate to Palette: Fusing Food and Fashion

In the contemporary world, the realms of fashion and food have become intertwined, forming a fascinating nexus of creativity, culture, and innovation. This session seeks to explore the fusion of fashion and food and uncover the cultural intersections that fuel creativity and innovation.

Sub Themes:

1. Couture Dining Experiences: Food Styling, Edible Artistry & Menu Designs
2. Culinary Influences on Fashion Trends
3. Fashion Food & Packaging
4. Gastronomic Fashion
5. Fashion Plates & Fashion Show Dining Experiences
6. Food Festivals and Dining Destinations
7. Fashion- Icon Inspired Cuisines
8. Fashion triggered Eating Disorders
9. Haute Harvest: Fashionable Farm-to-Table Trends
10. Food Photography

Theme 6: Bridging Fashion, Wildlife, and Botanical Beauty

This session seeks to inquire into the cultural, ecological, and ethical dimensions of fashion within the natural world, to understand the inspirations of wildlife and plant life creating style and beauty. Botanical and Wildlife inspirations, the biophilic and floral designs and the plant based dyes and pigments as well as vegan fashion products have influenced fashion.

Sub Themes:

1. Exploring the Influence of Plant Life on Fashion Design.
2. Wildlife Prints and Patterns
3. Balancing Fashion Production with Wildlife Conservation.
4. Nature-inspired Elements in Fashion Spaces.
5. Plant-derived Jewelry and Accessories.
6. Celebrating the Beauty of Flowers in Clothing and Accessories.
7. Wildlife Protection through Fashion
8. Exploring Natural Alternatives in Textile Production.
9. Vegan Fashion
10. Nature Inspired Innovative Fashion Solutions.

Theme 7: Exploring the Fusion of Fashion and STEM

This session will understand how scientific and technological advancements drive innovation in garment construction, textile engineering, and wearable technology. This session hopes to unveil the potential of integrating STEM principles into the creative realm of fashion, shaping the future of wearable art and functional design. From the clean lines of minimalist designs to the intricate patterns of haute couture, mathematics and geometry serves as both a structural foundation and a source of aesthetic inspiration in the world of fashion.

Sub Themes

1. Innovations in Fabrication and Materials Science.
2. Integrating Technology into Fashion for Functionality and Style.
3. Fashion Engineering
4. Digital Design Tools for Fashion Design.
5. Enhancing Comfort and Performance in Design.
6. Data Analytics in Fashion: Utilizing STEM Techniques for Market Analysis and Trend Forecasting.
7. Exploring Automation and Robotics in Manufacturing.
8. Fashionable Health Monitoring Devices.
9. Acoustics, Optics, Mechanics in the Fashion industry
10. Virtual simulations of Textiles and Garments

Theme 8: Artificial Intelligence Revolutionizing Trends, Design, and Consumer Experience

The importance of mapping trend and analysing forecasts for the fashion industry is a complex and unique process for a diverse and pluralistic nation like India. Artificial intelligence can be used for mapping trends, identifying the shift and differentiate the fashion cycle. As AI continues to evolve, its impact on the fashion industry proves to be transformative, ushering in a new era of innovation, efficiency, personalized experiences for designers and consumers and raising new queries on ethics, labour and society.

Sub-Themes:

1. Creative AI for designing/modelling
2. AI for textile designing/modelling
3. AI driven marketing
4. Automation and robotics in the fashion industry
5. AI in fashion advertisement
6. Automated garment production industry
7. Human-AI conflicts in fashion industry
8. AI ethics in fashion industry
9. Cyber security and legal provisions related to AI in context of fashion design and retail
10. AI and Sustainability

What to send:

300 word abstracts are due by July 20, 2024

The Abstract must contain the following details:

a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract, f) up to 10 keywords

If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by September 20, 2024.

Emails containing the abstracts should be submitted to the following email id:
E-mails should be entitled: Fashion I-S-T-A-S Abstract Submission.
