

School tip

Perform! Try out for choir or band, or audition for a part in a school production. Having a creative outlet is a great way to manage stress, and it's also a wonderful way to meet people. [SIMPSON.EDU](http://SIMPSON.EDU)

# Ryerson class focuses on knitwear

LEYLA EMORY  
for Metro Canada

**Don't expect to just walk away with a scarf from Ryerson's Knitwear Design course at The Chang School of Continuing Education.**

"The students learn to analyze a range of market sectors, enabling them to relate and implement their learning of knitwear design work to suit the current fashion industry needs and demand appropriately," says instructor Asha Ruparelia. "They learn the professional techniques to present their designs to an audience and eventually develop an avant-garde design portfolio."

Having taught the course for the past nine years and worked in the industry for more than 30,



Knitwear design students must create a storyboard, incorporating what they've learned.

Ruparelia caters each class to the background of her students. The class is open to learners of all levels but is capped at 20 students due to its hands-on nature.

That's not to say all the work is done with hands. "Today's world is so advanced and so electronic-

based that a lot of times real samples are not even made," says Ruparelia. "It's all virtual. There's virtual fitting and virtual designing." So instead, students create a storyboard of their designs, incorporating what they've learned.

And that's a lot. The



course goes from hand-knitting and stitch construction to the incorporation of million-dollar machines. "A designer in the olden days would have to have the concept, put it together and graph it, taking at least 10 days from concept to a garment. In to-

**"In the short duration of one course, students are exposed to the evolution of the knitting industry."**

Asha Ruparelia

day's world, you can get it in six minutes with a machine. So in the short duration of one course, students are exposed to the evolution of the knitting industry."

It's an evolution that Ryerson is always trying to keep up with. "We're always trying to introduce new courses as technology and interest changes," says Colleen Schindler-Lynch, co-ordinator of the certificate in fashion co-ordination and styling at The Chang School of Continuing Education.

Knitwear design fits those criteria. "We are a school that balances both business and practical ap-

plications, so given that ... knitwear is a huge proportion of fashion, it would be a logical (part of the curriculum)."

And it's an industry that's only growing. "Knitwear is timeless in fashion and it's emerging as a growth area in the new world order," says Ruparelia. "Traditionally, countries with cold climates like England, Ireland, Scotland, et cetera showcased the extent of knitwear fashion expertise, whereas today, due to the flourishing global trade, new and uncommon countries like Turkey, Brazil, Bangladesh, et cetera have taken to knitwear fashion manufacture and retail."

## Centennial makeup courses a hit

EVA LAM  
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It started with browsing through makeup how-to videos on YouTube. For broadcasting graduate Jennifer Francis, the hobby soon turned into a second career opportunity.

"Once you watch one, you get addicted (and then you want to pursue it," she says. "I thought it'd be super cool if I could do more than one role so if I wasn't doing television, like shooting and directing, I could go into the makeup artist role."

So Francis returned to her alma mater in January, enrolling in Centennial College's makeup techniques certificate program.

Covering three 30-hour courses, the program is designed for anyone with an interest in cosmetics. "Different walks of life come through to take the courses," says lead instructor Jacquie Hutchinson, who has taught in the program for 12 years.

"I have some students who want to become makeup artists, or to do something on the side like weddings for friends ... Some want to work in theatre or in fashion shows or do film makeup."

The first course, makeup techniques, gives students a solid foundation to build on, says Hutchinson. In addition to basic makeup applications, students also learn about skin care. "The best-looking makeup can

**"It's not a lecture class. It's very hands-on."**

Jacquie Hutchinson

only look as good as it can be on incredible skin," she says.

Each class includes a demonstration by Hutchinson, who is also a national product trainer and makeup artist for Revlon. Students then perform their own applications using products from the school's makeup lab or from home. Practicing on classmates gives them the chance to work with different skin types and tones, says Hutchinson.

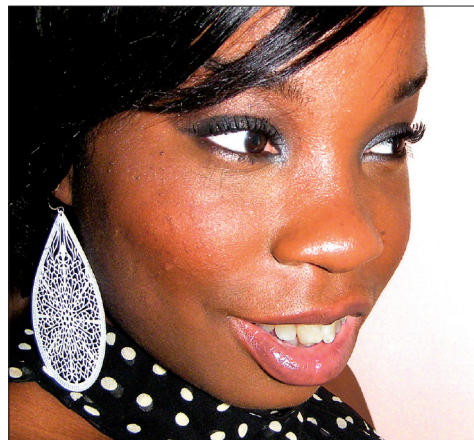
In makeup artistry I and II, students develop skills

such as eyebrow shaping, highlighting, contouring and putting together makeup kits. They also learn how to create different looks for weddings, film, runway, photography and other special occasions.

Classes are small, so students get the individual attention they want, says Hutchinson.

"It's not a lecture class. It's very hands-on ... At the end of each class, we (examine) each look and we break it down and look at ways to improve it, and this is how we learn from each other as well."

Since completing the program in August, Francis has freelanced on various makeup jobs including actor headshots and glamour shoots. She sees her new



Broadcasting graduate Jennifer Francis returned to Centennial College to earn her certificate in makeup techniques.

skills as the perfect supplement to her day job doing corporate videos.

"It just keeps you working and I really like this

genre — television, film and all that," she says. "If I'm able to direct and able to do makeup at the same time, it's a bonus."

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