UNIT VII:  

CREATIVE SEWING

TOPIC B:  

ORIGINAL DESIGNS

OBJECTIVE:  

Students will be able to make standard modifications to a pattern to obtain a specific design or look for a garment.

CONCEPT:  

The seamster does not have to be limited to rack pattern designs. With a little training, any pattern can be converted to produce exactly the design or look desired. This is a skill that serves the seamster on many occasions.

COMPETENCIES:

1. Identify methods for developing original designs.
2. Study flat pattern design principles.
3. Apply flat pattern design techniques.
4. Incorporate original designs and/or specialized techniques in project(s).
ACTIVITIES/OPTIONS

1. How to Make Original Designs (Introduction)

2. Pattern Changes (Samples)

3. Fashion Design Project

4. Original Design Project (Optional)

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Materials and supplies for demonstration
- Butcher paper
- Pencil and eraser
- Paper scissors
- Rulers
- Transparent tape
- Sloper
- Overhead transparencies (II-VII-32 through II-VII-34)

Copies of mini-pattern pieces (II-VII-37 through II-VII-43) (May be laminated for students to trace)

Students supply materials
ACTIVITIES/OPTIONS

Option 1: How To Make Original Designs: Introduction
Introduce the students to this unit by demonstrating some of the theories and examples of pattern modifications. (Also known as flat pattern design.) Included in this topic is a copy of the resources developed to support this unit in the Fashion Strategies curriculum.

There are a number of publications that address this topic and teachers are encouraged to review the material thoroughly before beginning instruction.

Option 2: Pattern Changes (Samples)
Have students make samples of pattern changes requested. Two different student activity guides have been included as examples. One would probably be used for a semester or trimester class, and the other one for a year-long class.

Either give each student a set of the mini-patterns to use for their samples or run several sets of the mini-patterns on colored card stock and laminate them for the students to trace around.

Some guidelines about darts and the principles pertaining to darts have been included for students and/or teacher reference. Also, a guide for pattern symbols that must be transferred and/or included as a pattern is modified or originally developed.

Option 3: Fashion Design Project
For a final application project, have the students make a garment that meets specific design requirements, such as:

Final project requirements: (sample)
Options:
- Half-scale design
- Doll dress
- Full-scale design

Must include:
1. A collar of your design.
2. At least one change to the bodice front and back. (Move at least one dart.)
3. At least one change to the sleeves.
4. A skirt you've designed to go with your bodice. (You can make a dress.)

One major criteria:
STUDENTS MUST HAND IN BOTH THEIR PATTERNS AND THEIR FINISHED DESIGN PROJECTS FOR CREDIT.
ACTIVITIES/OPTIONS

Option 4: Original Design Project (Optional)
Assign the students to:
1. Totally develop a pattern for themselves from scratch,
2. Make the project in muslin first, and
3. Then construct in the selected fabric.
All of this is optional and dependent upon skill levels of class members, time restrictions, etc. This could be broken into three (3) components and only part 1 assigned, only parts 1 and 2, or all three.

RESOURCES

Books
From Fairchild Books and Visuals, 7 West 34th Street, New York NY 10001, 1-800-247-6622.

Designing Apparel Through the Flat Pattern, 6th Edition; Kopp, Rolfo, Zelin, Gross; Catalog No. 737-5.

How to Draft Basic Patterns, 4th Edition; Kopp, Rolfo, Zelin, Gross; Catalog No. 747-2.

Basic Pattern Skills for Fashion Design; Bernard Zamkoff and Jeanne Price; Catalog No. 570-4.

Creative Pattern Skills for Fashion Design; Bernard Zamkoff and Jeanne Price; Catalog No. 682-4.

From Clotilde Inc., 2 Sew Smart Way B8031, Stevens Point, WI 54481-8031, 1-800-545-4002.

How to Make Sewing Patterns, McCunn, Donald H., Catalog No. 151688.

Fabulous Fit, Rasband, Judith; Catalog No. 155634.

Make it Your Own, Lori Bottom and Ronda Chaney, Catalog No. 154464.
EVALUATION/TEST QUESTIONS

1. Identify methods for developing original designs.
   
   1. Name three (3) ways original designs can be developed.
      1. Modifying a pattern
      2. Combining patterns
      3. Developing pattern

   2. It is not a good idea to modify a pattern—it's better left the way it was.
      A. True
      B.* False

   3. Pattern changes are very difficult and require a lot of skill.
      A. True
      B.* False

2. Study flat pattern design principles.

   1. Darts can be: (Check all that apply)
      _xx_ Moved
      ____ Avoided
      _xx_ Combined
      _xx_ Divided
      ____ Ignored
      ____ Converted to facings
      _xx_ Converted to gathers
      _xx_ Converted to seamlines
      _xx_ Converted to tucks
      ____ Combined with facings
      _xx_ Converted to flare
      ____ Released

   2. When adding flare to a skirt, it is important to keep the ____ seam(s) on the grainline.
      A.* Center front and back
      B. Side
      C. It doesn't matter—either will be okay

   3. When changing bodice lines, it is important to keep the ____ seam(s) on the grainline.
      A.* Center front and back
      B. Side
      C. It doesn't matter—either will be okay

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EVALUATION/TEST QUESTIONS

4. Darts should be repositioned so they end near the fullest part of the body.
   A. * True
   B. False

5. The dart positions in patterns are correct for everyone who wears that size.
   A. * True
   B. False

6. Darts are the medium by which fabric is made to conform to the body contour.
   A. * True
   B. False

7. Change the waist dart in the bodice front to tucks.

8. Add flare to the skirt pattern below.

9. Draw a flat collar pattern for this bodice.
EVALUATION/TEST QUESTIONS

X. Fill in the pattern markings for the following items:

1. CF CB
   Center Front and Center Back

2. 
   Grainline

3. 
   Foldline

4. or
   Notches

5. 
   Slash marks = original line marked out

6. 
   Cross hatched = original part of pattern not used

7. 
   Guide line (mark in red)

8. 
   Stitching line

9. 
   Top stitching line

10. 
    Precision points

11. 
    Gathers

12. 
    Single pleat

13. 
    Inverted double pleat