

# Creativity in Business

## How to Be Successful

Sally Tomkins



*Creativity is intelligence having fun ~ Albert Einstein*

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# Sally Tomkins



- ❑ Trained as designer/pattern cutter in the UK
- ❑ Worked in the fashion industry for 30 years, 14 years in the US
- ❑ Has global experience
- ❑ Specializes in Innovation, Research, Design, PD, Merchandising & Process Management
- ❑ Is a creative & critical thinker for business-centric fashion
- ❑ Focuses on organizational structures & team development
- ❑ Develops, mentors & coaches creative talent



# Career Overview

- ❑ Focused on ladies tailoring at college
- ❑ First job - private company design & commercial roles
- ❑ Moved to large public company - Courtaulds Textiles
- ❑ Promoted to GM of research & innovation division to support the company
- ❑ Worked with all European & US apparel divisions when Sara Lee purchased Courtaulds
- ❑ Moved to US with Sara Lee
  - ❑ Consolidated 9 divisions into 1: Research, Design, PD & Merchandising to support the global apparel corporation
- ❑ Worked on Hanesbrands spin-off in 2007
- ❑ Moved to Jockey who believed innovation was the way to succeed



# Course Objectives



- Prepare students for the transition from college into business
- Provide a clear perspective on how their role fits into the business world
- Help them better understand the apparel industry
- Instruct how to integrate themselves into the business effectively & deliver results
- Develop a commercial perspective & understanding of the implications of their decisions
- Understand the *full* process of getting a product to the customer
- Discuss the importance of team work
- Teach change management
- Cover profit, margins, performance & roles



# What This Course Offers

## Moving from college into business

- ❑ Different business options
- ❑ Insights into the workings of the business environment
- ❑ Tools to become a powerful contributor to company success
- ❑ A clear picture of what would be expected of them
- ❑ Insights into the fashion industry & the value of creative talent
- ❑ An understanding of how the **whole** process works
- ❑ Guidance on how to navigate & improve the process
- ❑ How to develop their career plan & build their network
- ❑ Tools to support emotional resilience & confidence in their role
- ❑ 8 flexible modules to cover specific college/course needs



# What This Course Does

## Teaches how to excel in your job

- Provides an in-depth understanding of the business side of fashion
- Develops tools to capitalize on their skills & talents.
- Works on self-confidence to enable students to harness their creativity
- Discusses the value of working as a team
- Teaches communication skills
- Discusses the role they play to supports the goals/objectives of the company



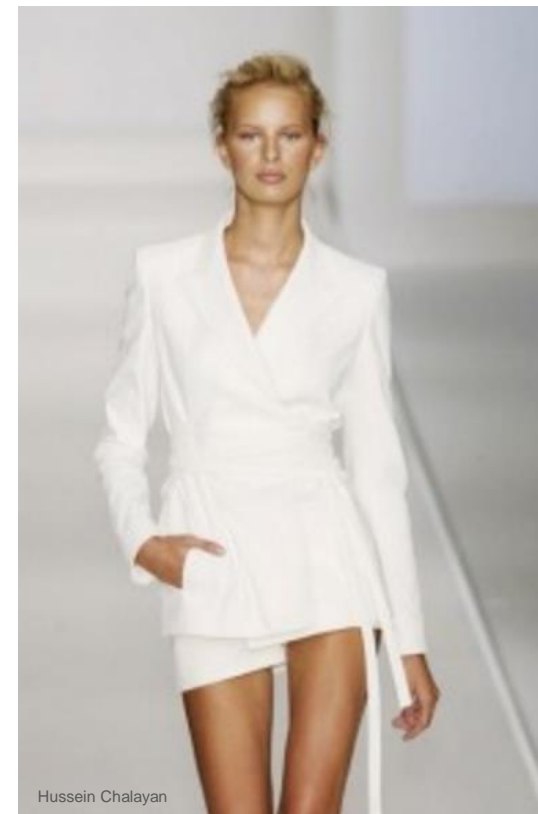
# The Value Of The Course

## Student value

- Help them be more prepared for the business environment
- Understand what is expected of them
- Understand their role & how they fit into the organization
- Learn how to become an asset to the team & the company
- Learn how their role impacts other departments
- Learn how to develop tools for success
- Discover how to utilize their skills & talents effectively

## Business value as an employee

- Understand the role they play in business
- How to take responsibility for their work & become active members of the company
- How the process works in order to become an effective contributor
- Understand the importance of working as a team & use good communication skills
- How to take initiative & become confident in their abilities



# Course Modules

- Business Options
- Innovation
- Support Data
- Creativity & Product Design
- Technical Design
- Process & Timeline Management
- Mentoring & Coaching
- Design Project





# Business Options



## Module 1

- Provides students with the understanding of business choices
- Research assignment on business types
- How to navigate the various work environments & cultures
- Team work, project management, branding, job description, organizational structures
- How to research a company for interviews
- How to research & make informed career options
- An overview of job expectations
- How to make an impact
- Practical tips to ensure personal success
- Personal development
- Building a business plan outline



# Innovation



## Module 2

- What innovation means in the fashion industry
- Product innovation
- Fabric, trims, packaging, marketing, environment innovation
- How to apply innovation & talk about it
- Innovation in the supply chain
- The changing face of retail & online
- Innovation pipeline
- Protecting innovation with patents & trade marks



# Support Data

## Module 3

- The Importance of support data
- White space in the market
- How to read & interpret customer & consumer data
- How to do market research & its potential pit falls
- How to research design intelligence
- Predicting trends
- Traditional & non traditional ways to develop trends



# Creativity & Product Design

## Module 4

- The role of creativity in business
- Moving from college to business
- Creating a thriving work environment
- How to develop products that deliver results
- Product decisions - positive & negative effects on business
- Profitability
- Brand image
- Unique propositions



# Technical Design

## Module 5

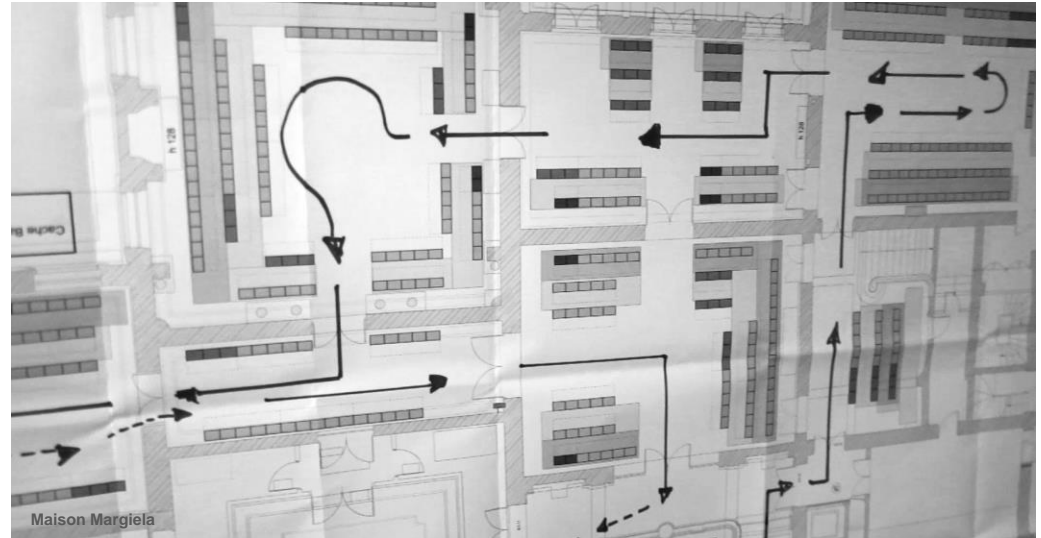
- Setting & controlling standards
- Tools to secure the quality & integrity of products
- Sealing samples
- Fit & the role design plays
- Controlling costs
- Anticipating problems & providing solutions
- Managing potential pit falls



# Process & Timeline Management

## Module 6

- The timeline process
- Building a process plan
- Understanding timings of projects
- Defining the roles & each stage of the process
- The role design plays
- Managing the design process
- Sealing samples
- Working as a team
- The importance of communication
- Speed to market



# Mentoring & Coaching

## Module 7

- Survival tools in business
- Knowing & understanding your specific skills & talents
- How to differentiate yourself
- Mentor relationships
- Working in a team
- Internal & external support systems
- Career development



# Design Project



Project designed to incorporate learning from - The Creativity in Business Program

## Research Journal

- Market data research notes
- Support data notes
- Critical path outline - detailed descriptions of each phase of the project i.e. record steps of the process
- Include photographs, sketches, articles etc.

## Business Journal

- Business plan outline for your company
- Market analysis/report for your chosen category
- Inspiration for innovation used in the proposal
  
- Finished product - garment, packaging & marketing proposal
- Set of sealing samples from each stage with notes on changes made
- Tech pack with all components documented including fabrics
- Quality standards set
- List of mentors/support staff used to achieve the result. How they helped you.
  
- Concept/design boards. Inspiration boards.
- Business proposal with support boards
- Key selling feature - innovation

Optional (Web site proposal for your company)





# Module Breakdown

		50 Minute Class	50 Minute Class	50 Minute Class	50 Minute Class	Homework Assignment
1	<b>Types of Business: Public, Private, Self owned (Assignment)</b>	Company Research	Discussion	How to be successful	Tools	
2	<b>Innovation</b>	Understanding Innovation	Product Innovation	Innovation Pipeline		
3	<b>Support Data</b>	The Market	Traditional	Non-Traditional		
4	<b>Creativity/Product Design:</b>	Work Environment	Results	Decisions	Case Study	
5	<b>Technical Design</b>	Setting Standards	Costs	Sealing Samples	Sealing Samples	
6	<b>Process/Timeline Management</b>	Build a Plan	Build a Plan	Timings	Descriptions	
7	<b>Mentoring/Coaching</b>	Skills & Talents	Importance of Mentoring	Career Development		
8	<b>Semester Project: Incorporating the above learning</b>	Introduction to Project Assignment				



# Photo Sources



- ❑ **Thom Browne Clothing** - Source: <https://www.thombrowne.com/>
- ❑ **Hussein Chalayan** - Source: <https://store.chalayan.com/>
- ❑ **John Galliano at Dior** - Source: <https://theredlist.com/wiki-2-23-1185-1200-view-post-modern-profile-dior-by-john-galliano-2.html>
- ❑ **John Galliano for Maison Margiela** — Source: john galliano for maison martin margiela
- ❑ **Maison Margiela** - Source: <https://www.maisonmargiela.com/us>

