

Breaking the Rules in Pattern Cutting: An Interdisciplinary Approach

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A photograph of a cluttered desk, likely used for pattern making or design. The desk is covered with various items: a calculator, a small yellow box, a pair of scissors, a ruler, and numerous pieces of paper, some of which are crumpled or torn. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the desk's surface. The text "WHAT IS A PATTERN CUTTER?" is overlaid in large, black, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

WHAT IS A PATTERN CUTTER?

Do They Break Rules?

https://i.ytimg.com/vi/g_nZRN19z5Q/maxresdefault.jpg

Breaking a Rule involves going against a set of regulations or guidelines, which direct a practice or method within a particular area of activity. This mutinous concept can make pattern cutting appear more exciting and creative to the student and often leads to them exploring concepts and approaches from other disciplines.



<http://www.britishfashioncouncil.co.uk/uploads/files/1/busines.jpg>

The Aim of this Paper: is to investigate ways to effectively implement interdisciplinary activity into the teaching of pattern cutting in order to disrupt and shatter pre-conceived ideas.

Interdisciplinarity involves the combining of two or more academic disciplines into one activity.

For instance in this research, pattern cutting is merged with disciplines such as health and engineering.



Modelling on the stand and flat pattern cutting in the fashion studio. Photograph: Kevin Almond.

The Second International Conference for Creative Pattern Cutting



Logo designed by: Kevin Almond.

<http://www.hud.ac.uk/media/universityofhuddersfield/content2013/schools/artdesignandarchitecture/images/research/fashion/CreativeCutEvent.jpg>



Pattern Cutting Workshop by Julian Roberts

https://app-images.hiive.co.uk/images/uploads/fdffcb57-bae7-452f-a581-dfb7202c211b-pic-bfc128_patterncutting_165.jpg?width=1600



Pattern Cutting Workshop by Shingo Sato

<http://britishfashioncouncil.com/uploads/files/1/galleries/278/Shingo-Sato.jpg?w=300>

Four main themes related to interdisciplinary approaches to cutting clothes emerged from *The Second International Conference for Creative Pattern Cutting* (2016). These were;

- Changing perspectives through combined teaching methods
- Combining traditional approaches with digital technologies
 - Use of different media
 - Pattern cutting and science



Symbiotic approach to pattern cutting and design. Photograph: Greg Climer.

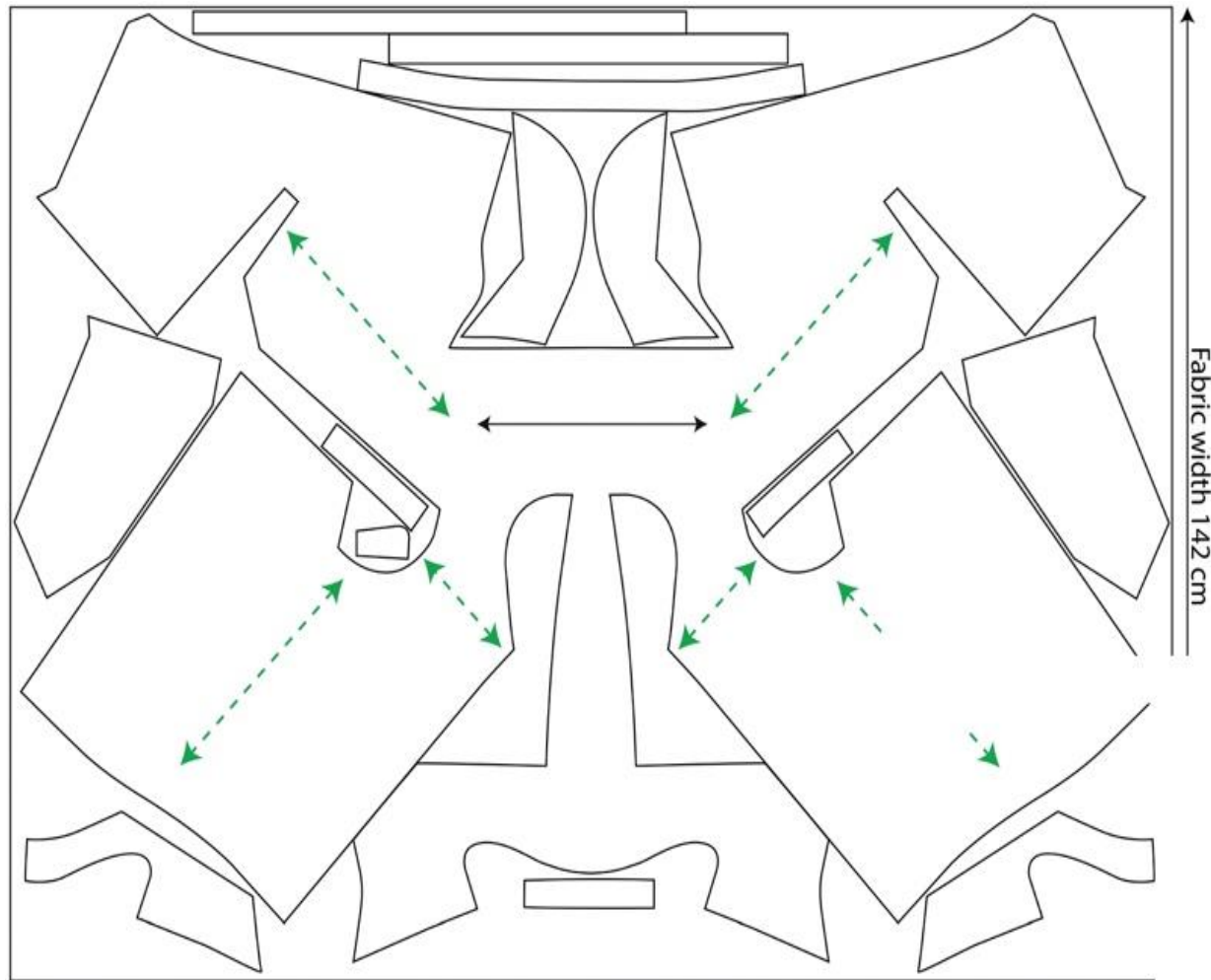


How Does a Box Become a Garment - Drawing silhouette analysis, interaction between the body and boxes photograph. Photograph: Laura Hardingham.



Juliana Sissons: “The fashion design process is an interactive one, dealing with the body as the primary site for investigation, where the designer and cutter work in collaboration to develop the designer’s initial concept”

<https://app-images.hiive.co.uk/images/uploads/70ebcd04-0ba8-4994-bf2c-dfb6b6c285b6-pic-juliana-sissons.jpg?width=1600>



Visual analysis of hard shell jacket. Langer's lines are marked with thin red lines on the torso and arm. Photograph: Daniel Grizel.



MakeUse: Encoded way finding system for the creation of garment form - Early test using paper prototype. Photograph: Holly McQuillan.

There are five key themes that can be drawn from the findings presented in this paper.

- Many fashion students find pattern cutting challenging and therefore the sector needs to explore different mechanisms for engaging students.
- Secondly in this research, there is strong evidence to support the idea of pattern cutting as a craft underpinned by technical skills that use a set of basic rules.
- Understanding basic rules and procedures is paramount, however, applying them in different scenarios is equally essential and should be encouraged along with the manipulation of these techniques to explore boundaries.
- The fourth key theme is to promote creativity and disrupt conventional approaches.
- Support collaboration and innovation within pattern cutting.

Ultimately, it could be argued that interdisciplinary working does not break rules in a traditional sense. As discussed it relates to the amalgamation of two ways of working within one pursuit however the results of this one pursuit have the potential to break established notions of the activity itself.