

Fashion Fictions workshop plan

Stage 2

Extended workshop

Option A: 6 hours

Option B: 12 hours

Create visual or material prototypes to represent life in fictional fashion Worlds, working collaboratively in small groups; share outcomes and reflect on the experience

Version 1.1, November 2022, by Amy Twigger Holroyd

The latest version of this plan and the accompanying slides are available to download on the [Contribute: Stage 2 webpage](#)

Are you using this plan to run a workshop?

Great! Please [email](#) to let me (Amy) know! I'd be delighted to hear how it went, and receive any feedback to inform future iterations.

Want to share this plan, or an adaptation of it?

This plan, the accompanying slides and the online [Contribute: Stage 2 guide](#) are published under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International licence](#) which allows you to share and adapt them in any medium and for any purpose, providing that you credit the author (Amy Twigger Holroyd) and apply the same Creative Commons licence to whatever you create.

If you'd like to adapt the Fashion Fictions materials to support participatory speculation activities in spheres other than fashion, please visit the [Adapting Fashion Fictions](#) webpage.

Options / timings

- For **Option A (6 hours)**, follow the plan below, **including all yellow sections / text / timings** and ignoring all blue sections.
- For **Option B (12 hours)**, follow the plan below, **including all blue sections / text / timings** and ignoring all yellow sections.
- Note that breaks are not included in the plan, but should be provided – there is some flexibility in the timings of the discussion activities.
- The four parts can be combined into sessions as desired, e.g. Welcome & Part 1 / Part 2 & Part 3.
- Ideally, Parts 1 and 2 will take place on different days, in order to give participants the opportunity to collect and bring in materials appropriate to their planned prototype.
- The plan was devised based on an in-person format, but can be adapted for an online workshop.

Preparation

- **Select one World per small group / select five Worlds for participants to choose from**

Resources needed

- Slides (download from [Contribute: Stage 2](#) webpage)
- **Handout A:** printed copies of the selected Worlds (**2-3 copies per group / one set of five per three participants** – download [Handout A docx format](#) sample for editing) or access to online versions
- **Handout B:** matrix worksheet (one per World group – note A3 size) – download [Handout B ptx format](#) / [Handout B pdf format](#)

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- **Handout C:** inclusion worksheet (one per World group) – download [Handout C docx format](#) / [Handout C pdf format](#)
- Pens and paper for individual and group notes
- Basic workshop resources, e.g. markers / coloured pencils / pencils / various types of paper / scissors / glue / tape / string
- Digital creation/documentation equipment, e.g. camera / smartphone / laptop (if appropriate, you could ask participants to bring their own)
- Ideally, participants will have the opportunity to bring in specific materials for Part 2, as needed for their prototype; if this is not possible, you may need to provide more materials in the workshop, e.g. assorted junk materials / old garments / fabric / yarn / sewing kit / old magazines / cardboard
- If available, printing facilities can support participants to shift between physical and digital prototype formats
- If working online, consider how participants will collaborate and share files (e.g. set up a Google Drive / Google Docs).
- For wonder-capture activity (Part 3): Printed feathers, shells and leaves ([download sheets to print in colour in A3 pdf format](#)) plus pinboard and drawing pins or washing line and pegs. Digital alternative: a digital pinboard where people can post their contributions on top of the relevant shapes ([email Amy](#) if you would like to use our simple [Dotstorming board](#), set up for this purpose).

Possible adaptations

- **Flipped format:** Ask participants to consider the World(s) on offer for exploration in advance of the workshop and ([Option B](#)) to select the one they wish to explore. Ask them to use [section 3 of the Contribute an Exploration guide](#) to capture their personal thoughts about the fiction before the workshop.
- **Solo working:** This plan is based on participants working collaboratively in small groups, but can be adapted for solo working. Build in additional opportunities for those working solo to discuss their ideas with others, if they wish (especially if following [Option A](#)).
- **Lucky dip:** Ask the groups to [choose a World from the website](#) at random (e.g. by choosing a random number).

Feel free to make any further adaptations needed to suit your context!

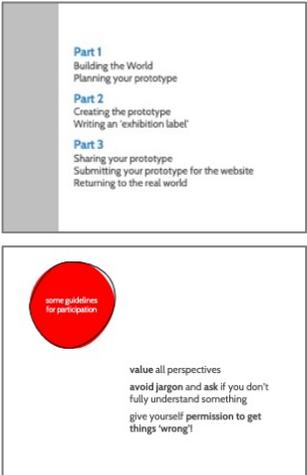
Workshop plan

Welcome & selecting a World (20 minutes / 45 minutes)

Time	Slides	Aim	Resources needed
Main room / large group			
5 mins		<p>Welcome</p> <p>Play video (embedded in slides, or available in the Introduction section of the Contribute: Stage 2 guide) to introduce Fashion Fictions.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/about/</p> <p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#introduction</p>
5 minutes		<p>Explain that this is a Stage 2 workshop that builds on Worlds already submitted to the project.</p> <p>The challenge is to create a visual or material prototype (or prototypes) to represent everyday life in one specific Stage 1 World.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#introduction</p>

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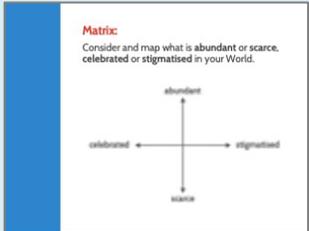
<p>5 minutes</p>		<p>Run through the timeline for the workshop (<i>you may wish to add days/times to the slide, as required</i>).</p> <p>Run through some guidelines for participation (<i>edit slide as required for your group</i>).</p>	
<p>5 minutes</p>		<p>Explain that these Worlds will be explored in this workshop, one per group (<i>edit the slide with your choice of Worlds</i>).</p> <p>Give the full 100-word outline of the relevant World to each group and ask them to read it through together.</p> <p>Handout A: <i>printed copies of the Worlds on offer (2-3 copies per group)</i></p>	

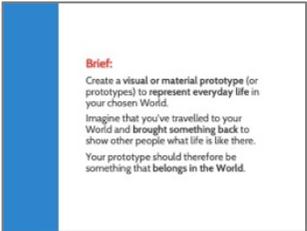
<p>30 minutes</p>		<p>Explain that these Worlds are on offer for exploration in this workshop (<i>edit the slide with your choice of Worlds</i>).</p> <p>Hand out printed copies of the Worlds.</p> <p>Handout A: <i>printed copies of the Worlds on offer (one full set per three participants)</i></p> <p>Give participants time to read and think about the Worlds individually.</p> <p>Explain the conditions for selection, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it's OK if one or more of the Worlds are not selected • if more than four people choose a particular World, they will be split into two groups exploring the World separately <p>Ask each member of the group in turn to say which World(s) they're thinking of choosing, and what they find interesting about them.</p> <p>Ask participants to commit to one World via a signing up sheet.</p>	
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Part 1: Building the World & planning your prototype (1¾ hours / 4 hours)

Time	Slides (or live website)	Aim	Essential reading for facilitators
Main room / large group			

5 minutes	 <p>world-building tips</p> <p>work with the text but bring in your own ideas to create your own interpretation</p> <p>everything is up for debate: society, culture, economy</p> <p>remember you're imagining a parallel world (not the future)</p> <p>make it enticing</p> <p>make it physically possible but stretch the imagination</p>	<p>Explain that the participants will soon move into their groups. In their groups, they will develop a shared understanding of the world by 'fleshing out' the fiction – or building the world.</p> <p>Run through the world-building guidelines on the slide.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#fleshout</p> <p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#tips</p>
10 minutes	 <p>Initial ideas:</p> <p>If you went to this World, what would feel the most surprising or strange?</p> <p>How are clothes owned and used in this World? What is the everyday experience of fashion there?</p>	<p>Explain that before the participants move into groups, you would like them to capture their personal thoughts about the fiction.</p> <p>Give them 10 minutes to make notes in response to the two questions on the slide.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#fleshout</p>
5 minutes		<p>Explain that you will now move the participants into their groups to start building the world.</p> <p>First, they should discuss their initial thoughts about the World, i.e. their responses to the two questions.</p>	
Breakout rooms / small groups			
20 minutes	 <p>Initial ideas:</p> <p>If you went to this World, what would feel the most surprising or strange?</p> <p>How are clothes owned and used in this World? What is the everyday experience of fashion there?</p>	<p>Groups discuss their initial thoughts about the fictional World, making shared notes if desired.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#fleshout</p>

20 minutes		<p>Invite each group to use the matrix to develop their thinking.</p> <p>Handout B: matrix worksheet (one per World group)</p>	https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#fleshout
10 minutes		<p>Invite each group to respond to the inclusion prompt to develop their thinking.</p> <p>Handout C: inclusion worksheet (one per World group)</p>	https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#fleshout
10 minutes		<p>Invite participants to pause and reflect on their ideas so far in relation to the prompts on the slide, then to discuss as a group.</p>	https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#fleshout
Main room / large group			
1 hour 10 minutes		<p>Ask each group in turn to share their thinking about their World. If they need prompting, you could ask about their responses to the questions and tasks.</p> <p>Invite questions or comments from the other groups. Have a couple of questions ready to</p>	

		<p>spark conversation, if needed, for example: How do you feel about this world? Is it somewhere you'd like to be?</p> <p>Split the time equally between the groups.</p>	
Main room / large group			
5 minutes		<p>Explain that you are now moving on to the next part of the workshop: planning the prototype.</p> <p>Run through the brief on the slide.</p>	https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#plan
5 minutes		<p>Talk through examples of prototypes created by Fashion Fictions participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical artefacts, garments, outfits or temporary assemblages, documented in a photograph Examples of media from the fictional world, whether an Instagram account, a news website homepage or magazine covers – created digitally, physically, or a blend of the two 	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#plan</p> <p>To learn about the prototype examples:</p> <p>World 54, Exploration A</p> <p>World 91, Exploration A</p> <p>World 1, Exploration A</p> <p>World 2, Exploration A</p> <p>World 124, Exploration A</p> <p>World 28, Exploration A</p> <p>World 19, Exploration A</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further ideas include digital formats such as screengrabs from Google Maps or WhatsApp; examples of ephemera such as a receipt; and even a film 	<p>World 50, Exploration C World 72, Exploration A World 31, Exploration B World 45, Exploration C</p>
<p>5 minutes</p>	<div data-bbox="434 496 741 727"> <p>You might ... work physically, digitally or a mix of the two and create a single prototype or multiple items</p> <p>Remember ... depending on the time available, the prototypes might be rough expressions rather than refined visions!</p> <p>To submit your work for the Fashion Fictions website you need to document your prototype in 1-5 digital images</p> </div> <div data-bbox="434 740 741 971">  <p>members of each group will bring different skills and experience continue to value all perspectives if you submit for the website, prototypes will be credited to the group collectively using a Creative Commons licence</p> </div> <div data-bbox="434 984 741 1216"> <p>Planning the prototype: What fashion-related objects, media and spaces would someone living in your World come into contact with? Which one of these everyday, even mundane, things would communicate the distinctiveness of your particular World most effectively? How will you create your prototype? What materials do you need?</p> </div>	<p>Talk through possible ways of working (<i>edit slide as appropriate for your facilities</i>).</p> <p>Add information about the resources you have available and/or opportunities for participants to bring in items for use in their prototype (e.g. if Part 2 takes place on a different day to Part 1).</p> <p>Run through some guidelines for working together on the prototypes (<i>edit slide as required for your group</i>).</p> <p>Explain that the group has 30 minutes / 1¼ hours to generate ideas and make some decisions. By the end of that time they should have a clear plan.</p> <p>Run through the questions on the slide, which should guide discussion.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#plan</p>
<p>Breakout rooms / small groups</p>			

<p>30 minutes / 1¼ hours</p>		<p>Groups discuss their prototypes. Check in with each group, supporting them to finalise their plans.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#tips</p>
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Part 2: Creating your prototype & writing an 'exhibition label' (2 hours / 4 hours)

Time	Slides (or live website)	Aim	Resources needed
Main room / large group			
5 minutes		Welcome and recap brief.	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#make</p>
Breakout rooms / small groups			

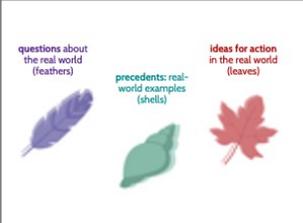
<p>1 ½ hours / 3½ hours</p>		<p>Groups work together to create their prototypes.</p> <p>Check in with each group, supporting them as needed. Help the groups to keep track of how much time is remaining.</p> <p>At an appropriate point during the session, invite participants to pause and reflect on their ideas so far in relation to the prompts on the slide, then to discuss as a group.</p>	
<p>Main room / large group</p>			
<p>5 minutes</p>		<p>Run through the guidance for the exhibition label on the slide.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#label</p>
<p>Breakout rooms / small groups</p>			

20 minutes	 <p>Exhibition label: Write a short 'exhibition label' of roughly 150 words to accompany your prototype(s). When writing the label, imagine that your prototype is to be included in an exhibition of objects/images representing a whole range of parallel Worlds. Your label is there to explain what the object/image is and to tell the viewer something about the World that it has come from.</p>	<p>Groups write their exhibition labels.</p> <p>Check in with each group, supporting them to finalise their exhibition label.</p>	https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#label
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Part 3: Sharing, submitting and returning to the real world (2 hours / 3¼ hours)

Time	Slides (or live website)	Aim	Resources needed
Main room / large group			
5 minutes		Welcome	
50 minutes / 1½ hours		<p>Ask each World group in turn to present their prototype. Invite them to do this 'within the fiction', as with the exhibition label. Explain that they could speak as if they are travellers who have just returned from the parallel World.</p> <p>For example – not “we were working on World 10, so we created this prototype that represents ...” but rather “We travelled to World 10, where X happens. We were able to bring back this object that really captures life there ...”</p>	

		<p>Invite questions or comments from the other groups. Have a couple of questions ready to spark conversation, if needed, for example: Have your feelings about the World changed since you first read the fiction?</p> <p>Split the time equally between the groups.</p>	
5 minutes		<p>Talk through the invitation to submit the prototypes for the Fashion Fictions website, and the process of uploading.</p> <p>Explain that each group should complete the form once, and that they will be asked to upload 1-5 images and the exhibition label as part of the process.</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/contribute-exploration/#submit</p> <p>https://forms.office.com/r/rTZwKWLxmH (quick link: bit.ly/FFprototype)</p>
Breakout rooms / small groups			
15 minutes		<p>Groups work together to complete and submit the form, if they wish.</p>	
Main room / large group			
15 minutes		<p>Invite participants to pause and reflect on the prompts on the slide, then discuss as a group.</p>	

<p>5 minutes</p>	 	<p>Explain that it is now time to make the transition back to the real world via a final activity, which focuses on the fresh perspective on our real-world experiences of fashion that the Fashion Fictions workshops often generate – it can be described as a sense of wonder.</p> <p>Use the slide to talk through the three ‘wonder paths’ used in this activity: questions, precedents and ideas for action.</p> <p>Explain that each person (working individually) is invited to capture one question, precedent or idea for action that has emerged for them from the workshop experience.</p> <p>Explain that for all three themes, they can think personally or collectively, and that contributions might connect directly to a particular fictional World, or not.</p> <p>Hand out feather, shell and leaf shapes (<i>or ask participants to draw their own, or alternatively use the digital Dotstorming board – see Resources, above</i>).</p> <p>Ask participants to spend a few minutes in silence thinking about their ideas and working out the wording for their statement or question. Ask them to capture it as concisely as they can, thinking of it as a headline, or a slogan. When ready, they</p>	<p>https://fashionfictions.org/wonder-capture/ https://fashionfictions.org/wonder/</p>
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		should write their statement or question on the relevant shape.	
10 minutes		Participants work individually to reflect and capture one question, precedent or idea for action.	https://fashionfictions.org/wonder-capture/
15 minutes		<p>Gather together in a circle. One by one, participants should say their name and share their question, precedent or idea for action with the group, then put it up on display (e.g. pinned on a pinboard or pegged on a washing line).</p> <p>When everyone has spoken, encourage the participants to carry the sense of wonder into the ‘wilds’ of the real world to feed into a grassroots movement for brave and imaginative change in fashion.</p> <p>Note: I’d love to see your questions, precedents and ideas for action! Send an email to me (Amy) with your news.</p>	https://fashionfictions.org/wonder-capture/
35 minutes		Extend the discussion, picking up on issues and ideas raised during the reflection activity.	