

Assistant Professor in Fashion Studies Specialising in Sustainable Fashion

Fashion Studies at the Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences constitutes a research environment with a strong critical and cultural profile, approaching fashion as both material practice and social system. The subject is embedded within the broader humanities environment at Lund University and contributes to interdisciplinary research on culture, materiality, and social transformation. Research combines historical inquiry with contemporary cultural analysis, engaging questions of dress, embodiment, design, beauty culture, and materiality across different temporal and geographical contexts.

Current research addresses topics such as the historical development of clothing fibres and textile production, wardrobe studies and everyday dress practices, design processes and aesthetic norms, as well as the implications of emerging technologies, including AI, for fashion and creative industries. Within this broader context, particular attention is given to how clothing circulates between production, use, care, and reuse, and how meanings and attachments to dress evolve over time, contributing to wider discussions on sustainability and cultural change.

The environment brings together perspectives from material culture studies, environmental humanities, design ethnography, and cultural theory. At Lund University, these perspectives form part of a wider interdisciplinary landscape in which fashion is examined not only as an industry but as a universal and everyday practice shaping identity, social belonging, and lived experience across the life course.

The Assistant Professor will be integrated into a collegial research environment that supports both independent scholarship and collaborative development. Teaching primarily takes place within the BA programme in Fashion Studies, with opportunities to contribute to research-led education and to engage with teaching across related programmes within the department and the wider university.

The position is designed as a career-development post, offering time and support to build an independent research profile and to apply for external funding. The position includes a balance between research and teaching, with opportunities to prioritise research development, particularly in the early years of the appointment.

Sustainability constitutes a long-term strategic priority at Lund University and is developed through interdisciplinary collaboration across the humanities and beyond. At Lund University, this includes established interdisciplinary environments such as Environmental Humanities, which connect researchers across disciplines to address contemporary environmental and societal challenges. Across several subject areas, researchers address environmental change, ecological transformation, social sustainability, and existential resilience through historical, aesthetic, cultural, communicative, and material perspectives. This also includes participation in interdisciplinary initiatives such as Mistra Environmental Communication, connecting research at Lund University to international sustainability agendas.

The present recruitment forms part of a broader strategic initiative at Lund University to further strengthen sustainability research across complementary fields. Successful candidates will join a large, research-intensive university with strong international connections, offering opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, participation in externally funded research, and the development of competitive research agendas within a shared university-wide

sustainability profile. This position offers an opportunity to contribute to the development of Fashion Studies within a leading European research university with a strong commitment to sustainability.