As we think about the multiple ways that we can approach the study of fashion, it's important to be conscience of the approach(es) that you might naturally take based on your own background and experiences, and the approach(es) that your constituents may take based on the academic offerings of your college/university.
This multiplicity of approaches is brought home when you look at the range of LC classification numbers TTs and that fashion design, merchandising and textiles may come under. Depending on your program, you’ll be collecting within a wide range of potential classification numbers from the GTs through the TTs and beyond.
The basis of any really useful collection begins with a collection development policy that combines information about your institution’s educational goals with information about your constituents.
Here is a very brief list of some publishers you may wish to explore. A much longer and more complete list is available on the libguide which was developed for this workshop. Please note that there are many publishers of interesting fashion, merchandising and textiles books and a number of publishers may have put out just a few books on the topic—so please plan on reviewing works from multiple publishers.
Booklist, Choice and Reference & Users Services Quarterly are all published by ALA and are sources for reviews of scholarly and popular books on fashion and textiles. Costume is the Journal of the Costume Society (UK) and provides reviews of recently published academic books and clothing and textiles history. Fashion Practice, Fashion Theory and Textiles are all important Berg journals which provide reviews of scholarly publications in the fields of fashion and textiles.
Other library catalogs are a good source of information about the latest and most important publications in the field. It gives you a good sense of how others are building their collection. Stylecat also has a New Book feature which makes it simple to see their most recent acquisitions.

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<tr>
<th>Library Catalog</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>BobCat</td>
<td>A union catalog which includes NYU and the New School</td>
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<tr>
<td>StyleCat</td>
<td>Catalog for FIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of the Arts London</td>
<td>A union catalog which includes Central Saint Martins and the London College of Fashion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other institutions with similar budgets and user-groups or in the same region</td>
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Like this publishers list, here are just a few examples of reference materials you may wish to consider for your collection. A much more extensive list is available on the libguide.
One note—some people have expressed hesitation about using the John Peacock illustrated fashion publications, due to incomplete citations. We have found these to be helpful when working with costume design students and persons needing strong visuals for clothing and accessories from particular time periods.
What databases do you subscribe to?

Research Databases:

- Art Full Text
- ARTstor
- Berg Library
- Business Source Complete
- Mintel
- LexisNexis

Again, a short list of helpful research databases, with a more complete list provided in the Libguide. The first three sources are arts and humanities based, while the last three sources have a strong business focus.
These four types of periodicals are important for creating a well-developed textile and fashion collection.

Scholarly journals may include Costume, Clothing and Textiles Research Journal, Dress, Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal, Journal of Fashion Marketing and Management, Fashion Theory, Fashion Practice, Textile, Textile Research Journal and Textile History. Trade publications may include Apparel, Earnshaw’s, Menswear, Shopping Centers Today, Sportswear International, Textile World, VM+SD and WWD. Popular publications are numerous. Please refer to the libguide for a list of these. Forecasting and trending publications are a own special type of publication. Please refer to my colleague's presentation for a in depth discussion of forecasting and trending resources.
What free information is out there?

Pathfinders:
- Rhode Island School of Design Research Guides
- Fashion Institute of Technology Research Guides
- Kent State Fashion Library Online Guides

Websites:
- Cotton Incorporated
- Complete Textile Glossary
- FabricLink
- Source4Style
- Style.com

While free information cannot begin to provide the depth and breadth of information that your constituents will need to access, there are a number of very interesting and informative free pathfinders, websites, visual resources, online magazines and even tutorials that can provide very useful information. Here I have provided links to a small sampling of them. Again, please refer to the libguide for a much more extensive listing.
What free information is out there?

Visual Resources:
- Flickr and Flickr "Commons"
- LIFE Photo Archive Hosted by Google
- Victoria and Albert Museum, Fashion, Jewellery and Accessories
- Visual Arts Data Service (VADS) based at the University College for the Creative Arts

Other:
- Fiber: Online Journal of the International Fashion and Apparel Industry
- Internet for Fashion and Beauty Tutorial, JISC
There are a number of other types of special resources that you may decide to add to your collections. You also find that you are offered donations of materials, photographs, historic books and pamphlets and original fashion-related archival material. Your own collections development policy, an understanding of the information needs of your constituents and your ability to appropriately house and care for special collections will all be factors in deciding when and if you should begin acquiring this material.
Putting it all together:
Your Fashion & Textile Collection

Comments or Questions?
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The pieces of the puzzle all fit together!