

DILLON J.A. NAPIER

Curriculum Vita

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Professional Preparation

2024 M.S. Iowa State University	Apparel Merchandising & Design
2022 B.S. Iowa State University	Apparel Merchandising & Design
2019 A.A. Iowa Central C.C.	No Degree/ Transferred Out

Master's Research Title

An Exploration of Classical Greek Dress Through Fine Art and Draping Insights

[Google Scholar Link](#) • [ISU Digital Repository Link](#)

Professional Experience

Academic:

July 2024 – Present Electronics Textiles & 3D Printing
Makerspace Supervisor
Student Innovation Center
Iowa State University, Ames, IA

- Operated advanced equipment and the associated software tools including the Melco 16-needle digital embroidery machine, Universal Laser Systems, Juki industrial sewing machines, Stoll industrial knitting machine, and multiple types of 3D printers.
- Instructed students and faculty in the safe and effective use of fabrication lab equipment and digital tools.
- Maintained and managed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) documentation, including input and output records.
- Oversaw inventory tracking and management of lab materials and consumables.
- Supervised and trained a team of student workers, delegating daily tasks, providing technical guidance, and ensuring adherence to lab protocols and safety standards.
- Played a key role in the conception, development, and implementation of a comprehensive training video series for student instruction in the campus makerspace. Initiated the idea to use video as a scalable, consistent training tool. Collaborated on defining clear learning objectives, scripting educational content, and ensuring technical accuracy and accessibility. Contributed to the creation of engaging, informative materials

that support independent learning and improve student safety and proficiency with specialized equipment.

August 2023 – May 2024

Graduate Assistant
Digital Apparel Textile Studio
Department of Apparel, Events, and
Hospitality Management
Iowa State University, Ames, IA

- Operated various equipment and coordinating software such as Mimaki Tx300P-1800, Melco 16 needle digital embroidery machine, Cal Comp digitizing board paired with Lectra Modaris, Trotec Speedy Laser, and HP DesignJet 650.
- Tracked job progress and managed timely submission of internal and external orders.
- Monitored inventory levels and coordinated with purchasing staff to ensure timely restocking of materials and supplies.
- Prepared and submitted detailed invoices for review by the Accounts Receivable office, ensuring accuracy and compliance with institutional procedures.

August – December 2022

Undergraduate Lab Assistant
Digital Apparel Textile Studio
Department of Apparel, Events, and
Hospitality Management
Iowa State University, Ames, IA

- Operating various equipment and the coordinating software such as Mimaki Tx300P-1800, Melco 16 needle digital embroidery machine, Cal Comp digitizing board paired with Lectra Modaris, Trotec Speedy Laser, and HP DesignJet 650.
- Tracked job progress and managed timely submission of internal and external orders.
- Demonstrated the drafting process for a basic five-piece sloper set, including bodice, sleeve, and skirt components.

August – December 2022

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
AMD 225 Patternmaking 1
Department of Apparel, Events, and
Hospitality Management
Iowa State University, Ames, IA

- Demonstrated the drafting process for a basic five-piece sloper set, including bodice, sleeve, and skirt components.
- Instructed students in foundational and advanced patternmaking techniques, including dart manipulation, contouring, and design adaptation.
- Taught essential garment construction methods, emphasizing industry standards and precision.
- Evaluated and graded student work, providing constructive feedback to support technical skill development and design understanding.

University Service

2025 – Present Student Innovation Center Ignite Committee Member

2024 – Present Student Innovation Center Excite Committee Member

2023 – 2024 College of Human Sciences, Apparel Merchandising and Design
Undergraduate Scholarship reviewer

Other Scholarly Activities

Competition Juror:

2023 – Present Iowa DECA

Committee Member:

2026 – Present Digital Catalog Editor, International Textile and Apparel
Association

Membership In Professional Societies:

2023 – Present International Textile and Apparel Association

2023 – Present Costume Society of America

2025 – Present international Federation for home Economics

2026 – Present American Collegiate Retailing Association

Professional & Scholarly Work

I have had **1** design accepted and exhibited in national juried exhibition at the grad student level and **3** collections exhibited in professional competitions. I have **3** scholarly research presentations at International professional conferences and **2** professional curated exhibits.

[Google Scholar Link](#) • [ISU Digital Repository Link](#)

Juried Scholarly Presentations

1. **Napier, D.** Zhang, L. (November 2025) An Exploration of Classical Greek Dress Through Fine Art and Draping Insights. *International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference*. St. Louis, MO USA.
2. **Napier, D.** Barbour, C. Thomas, E. (November 2025) Recycled PETG in Fashion Accessories: Advancing Sustainable Design for a Circular Economy. *International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference*. St. Louis, MO USA.
3. **Napier, D.** & Orescanin, A. (March 25–27, 2026) My \$40 Birkin: How TikTok Influencers Normalize Luxury Dupes in Contemporary Culture. Annual Conference of the American Collegiate Retailing Association, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA USA

Juried Exhibits

1. **Napier, D.** & Zhang, L. (May 24th, 2024). *La Belle Epunque*. Private Collection. Developed an ensemble merging elements of 1890s La Belle Époque fashion with influences from the 1980s British punk movement, creating a unique fusion of historical and subcultural styles. 50th Annual Symposium of the Costume Society of America, Washington, D.C. USA

Curated Professional Exhibits

1. **Napier, D.** (August 9th, 2025 – December 20th, 2025.) *Lest We Forget*. Private Collection. A collection inspired by British Remembrance Day, serving as a personal tribute in memory of the designer's late grandmother. Robert Hillestad Textile Gallery, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (August – December 2025)

2. **Napier, D.** (August 9th, 2025 – December 20th, 2025). *HanZen*. Private Collection. Collection of garments created by using zero-waste techniques found in Asian cultures. Robert Hillestad Textile Gallery, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (August – December 2025)

Professional Competitions

1. **Napier, D.** (August 22nd, 2025). *Secret Garden*. A collection exploring escapism as a response to today's sociopolitical stressors, with secondary inspiration drawn from *The Secret Garden* and its themes of imagination and refuge. Omaha Fashion Week.
2. **Napier, D.** (March 1st, 2025). *HanZen*. A collection of garments created by using zero-waste techniques found in Asian cultures. Omaha Fashion Week.
3. **Napier, D.** (August 24th, 2024). *Lest We Forget*. A collection inspired by British Remembrance Day, serving as a personal tribute in memory of the designer's late grandmother. Omaha Fashion Week.

Professional Skills

Microsoft Office	Adobe Creative Suite
Backbone (Silver Certificate)	CLO3D
Lectra Kaledo Suite	Digifab Evolution & RIP Server
Lectra Modaris	Melco Digital Embroidery
Stoll M1 Plus	Tronrud Engineering TC2 Loom
Ultimaker 3D Print Slicer & Machine	Universal Laser Systems
Bambu 3D Print Slicer & Machine	Trotec Laser USA