



Feed your BRAIN

ROM Courses
begin March 2014

Spring 2014 Course Outline

A Century of Fashion and Style

Instructor: Dawna Pym

Sundays, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM, (5 weeks excluding April 20 & May 4)

March 30, 2014

We will begin with an overview of the history of the ROM's Textile department, some of its curators and specific collections. We will discuss the 1910s and what fashionable women wore before WWI from their unmentionables to outer wear. We will also examine post WWI styles and how the war permanently changed society and clothing for women.

April 6, 2014

This class will examine how the developing social and cultural freedoms of the 1920s and 1930s influenced the female silhouette and fashions. The new and more boyish look of the "Flapper" is reflected in everything from new style underwear, dresses, hairstyles and accessories. The economic events of the 1930s created hardships and a desire to escape these challenges which was reflected in the understated day clothes and the sexy evening wear. We will pull together this period by looking at what happens to clothing and "fashion" during WWII.

April 13, 2014

The post WWII and 1950s era signaled a more positive mood with Dior's "New Look" along with the return of glamour, elegance and sophistication in fashion. Women will have a choice now whether to embrace haute couture or more casual clothing for their new "family" oriented lifestyles. We will discuss these ideas and examine how the 1950s influences carry over into the early 1960s styles.

April 27, 2014

We will begin with the late 1960s and examine the social, cultural and political changes that the young embraced in their new "Youth Quake" style. Also, we will also discuss how the 1970s and 1980s fashions that followed represented the "Zeitgeist" of these periods. Women in these decades were faced with more clothing choices than ever before as well as how to interpret these fashions to enhance their ever changing societal role.

May 11, 2014

In this final class, we will discuss the diverse ideas of body image, beauty and style of the late 20th and early 21st century. We will look at the people, designers and events that are shaping fashion and what we want to wear in the future.

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