



MARIA-LENSSEN  
BERUFSSKOLLEG

## Browzwear Case Study

# FASHION STUDENTS INTEGRATE 3D INTO THEIR COURSEWORK AT MARIA LENSSEN VOCATIONAL COLLEGE

Maria Lenssen Vocational College welcomes students studying fashion or seeking training in beauty, social and health related professions. More than 1000 students are currently enrolled in various programs at the school in Mönchengladbach, Germany.

## THE CURRICULUM

During the second half of their first year of studies, Maria Lenssen students interact with VStitcher in a CADAW-Grafis course where they construct simple skirt models. The aim is to point out the correlation in the pattern construction department by concentrating on exact pattern construction and proper fit. At the same time, the students realize the connection between material and template since not every model is suitable for every material. Later in their coursework, the students construct their own patterns in Grafis. At first, these are simulated in the 3D program to test on the models before being sewn during project week. This process allows the students to master several different stages of advancement and further integrate the 3D software into their coursework and projects.



## THE 3D EXPERIENCE

Instructors at Maria Lenssen report that students enjoy working with 3D and are eager and open to independently exploring the software and trying new techniques.

“As faculty, it’s so much fun for us to watch the students get comfortable with 3D,” said Barbara Sessinghaus, who teaches at the school. “They are able to work creatively and

simply enjoy the software as they become more comfortable working with it.”

For many students who come to Maria Lenssen, it is not obvious to them at first that fashion itself - the construction of fashion, the design, the pattern construction and the whole process - is all connected to computer work.

## THE INTERNSHIP

At the end of the second year of studies, Maria Lenssen students have the opportunity to take what they’ve learned about 3D design and apply it in an eight week internship placement. The school stays in close contact with companies in Mönchengladbach, Düsseldorf, Cologne and other nearby cities to facilitate placement and also encourages students to go abroad for the internship period. Every two years, the school hosts an in-house job fair called ‘Jobvision’ where students can learn about working in the fashion design industry directly from major companies, Maria Lenssen alumni, and other colleges of further education.



## THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Thanks to the school's close contacts in the fashion design industry and because many of the teachers come from the industry, Maria Lenssen prides itself on working with cutting edge software like Browzwear's VStitcher and Lotta, and other various digital media. In addition to the typical Office suite, Maria Lenssen prepares their students by getting them comfortable with 2D graphic design tools, PLM, 2D pattern CAD programs

such as Grafis which is integrated with Browzwear's VStitcher.

"We always make an effort to teach using the latest software versions to prepare our students as well as possible for their future work," said Sessinghaus. "One major part of our program is to have our students use and interact with digital media through presentations or through their communications with our staff.

## LEVERAGING BROWZWEAR

Grafis CAD software integration with VStitcher allows Maria Lenssen students to concentrate on relevant issues during the 3D simulation and modify or adjust the avatar as needed while they work.

"The students create their simulations quite easily with a bit of practice and enjoy the fact that the interior processing can be visualised," said Sessinghaus. "From our experience, other CAD systems with dxf-suffixes remain lengthy and complicated compared to the Grafis and Browzwear combination."

At the implementation of the latest version of the software, Maria Lenssen faculty benefited from intensive training from the Grafis team. They track their progress using

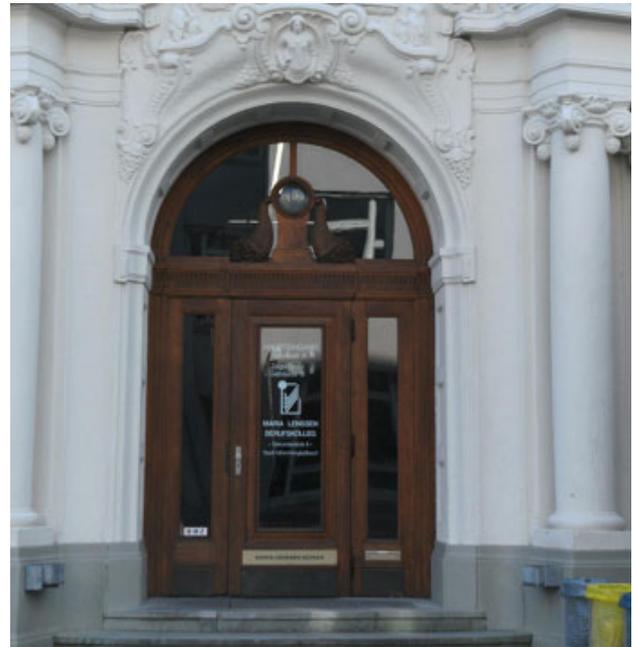
Browzwear's online resources and participate in Browzwear video training conferences as well.

"We view the developments of 3D in the fashion sector positively, and we see the opportunities for reducing costs through minimisation of samples and client specifications using 3D," said Christiane Postler, a Unit Leader at the school. "Maria Lenssen is committed to using Browzwear in our curriculum because we believe that 3D will have a steadily increasing influence on the fashion industry."

In the future, Maria Lenssen plans to integrate 3D simulations in design construction subjects as well, including product line planning and conceptual design.

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

In 1870, the Maria Lenssen Vocational College opened its doors to its first seven students in Mönchengladbach, Germany. Maria Lenssen, the daughter of a business magnate from Rheydt, founded the school as a private college for continued education in handicrafts. At the beginning, the institution was called College for Further Education and Industry for Girls and Women, and it specialised in the textile sector. In 1902, the name changed to Royal College for Trade and Craftworks for Girls, and in 1918, after the addition of a new annex, the name changed again to Public College for Trade and Craftworks. In 1949, the school expanded with the addition of the vocational college for textile technicians.



In 1991, the school added two more buildings and a vocational training program for assistants in textile technics. Its current name, Maria Lenssen Vocational College, was adopted in 1998. In 2003, the fashion college formerly residing in chateau Eller in Düsseldorf was integrated. Today, apart from fashion, there are other training programs for beauty, social and health related professions. Currently, approximately 1000 students are enrolled.

For more information, visit the school online at [www.maria-lenssen-berufskolleg.de](http://www.maria-lenssen-berufskolleg.de) or follow them on Instagram at [modeschule\\_moenchengladbach](https://www.instagram.com/modeschule_moenchengladbach).