

# Programme of Courses on Haute Couture Techniques

2026 Calendar

Conservation, research in and dissemination of the heritage linked to the figure of Cristóbal Balenciaga are focal and cohesive aspects of the mission at the Cristóbal Balenciaga Museum. In keeping with this undertaking, for several years the Museum has been exploring ways to convey the technical knowledge and procedures associated to Cristóbal Balenciaga's work. The Museum therefore runs various lines of action to promote an education programme drawing on technical documents and transmission, intending not only to highlight the immaterial facet of the designer's know-how, but to make said knowledge available to a new generation of fashion professionals.

Intensive practical courses taking place in their entirety at the Museum and offering participants an immersion in the Balenciaga universe. Added to this are the new online training options made possible by digital tools.

The programme offers three different itineraries: tailoring, fantasy and embroidery. It also comes in different levels of accomplishment enabling the participants to gradually improve their technical skills, with a total estimated dedication of 256 hours.

The course programme runs periodically throughout the academic year, offering participants the opportunity to follow an itinerary adapted both to their individual interests and to their availability.

TAILORING	Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels  A series of techniques for making daywear, particularly suits, paying special attention to the use of woollen fabrics and the steps involved in hand-making lapels, collars, buttonholes, pockets and sleeves.
FANTASY	Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels  A series of techniques for making day, cocktail and bridal wear, with specific focus on fabrics such as silk, taffeta and lace, on internal structures like corsets, and on how to make gathering, apply organza, fine batting and fasteners.
EMBROIDERY	Beginner level 1A and 1B (new implementation)  Specialised haute couture techniques on how to embroider by hand using the Lunéville method.

Tailoring	Dates	Registration	Duration	Format	Price
Level 1. Beginner	11 September 13 September	01 June 15 June	20 hours	On-Site	290€
Level 2. Intermediate 2A	12 January 01 February	01 Dec 2025 15 Dec 2025	30 hours	Online	340€
Level 2. Intermediate 2B	09 February 01 March	01 Dec 2025 15 Dec 2025	30 hours	Online	340€
Level 3. Advanced	22 June 26 June	15 March 30 March	35 hours	On-Site	475€
Fantasy	Dates	Registration	Duration	Format	Price
Level 1. Beginner	02 October 04 October	16 June 30 June	20 hours	On-Site	290€
Level 2. Intermediate	09 March 29 March	01 January 15 January	30 hours	Online	340€
Level 3. Advanced	29 June 03 July	01 April 15 April	35 hours	On-Site	475€
Embroidery	Dates	Registration	Duration	Format	Price
Level 1. Beginner 1A	14 May 17 May	15 February 01 March	28 hours	On-Site	415€
Level 1. Beginner 1B	19 May 22 May	15 February 01 March	28 hours	On-Site	415€

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Javier Martín	A regular collaborator of the Museum, Javier Martín teaches the tailoring and fantasy courses. He graduated at the Polytechnic University of Madrid as an Advanced Fashion Designer in 1991. During his formative years, he met Carmen and Emilia Carriches, workers at EISA Madrid and first assistants to the atelier manager, Felisa Irigoyen. From them he learned Cristóbal Balenciaga's specific dressmaking techniques and how he constructed his volumes.
Elisabeth Gasbarre	Elisabeth Gasbarre, who trained at the École Lesage in Paris, has worked in the Atelier Cécile Henri, producing creations for the Dior, Chanel and Azzaro collections. She has also worked for fashion designers and companies from several countries such as Hermès, Chafor, Alexis Mabille, Impasse 13, Didit Hediprasetyo and Francesca Fossati. As a professor, she teaches at her atelier in Lyon as well as in other parts of France and fashion centres around the world.

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The Museum reserves the right to change the above course dates or to partially or completely cancel the programme for reasons of force majeure.

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