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Certified Professional Course in History of Fashion Criticism

## Intersectionality in fashion criticism

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### Intersectionality in Fashion Criticism

Intersectionality in fashion criticism refers to the analysis of how various forms of discrimination and oppression intersect and overlap within the fashion industry. This concept recognizes that individuals may experience multiple forms of discrimination based on factors such as race, gender, class, sexuality, and ability, and that these intersecting identities shape their experiences within the fashion world.

Intersectionality in fashion criticism highlights the importance of considering the ways in which different forms of privilege and marginalization intersect to influence how individuals are represented, treated, and valued within the industry. By examining fashion through an intersectional lens, critics can better understand the complexities of power dynamics, representation, and social hierarchies at play in the fashion world.

Related Terms: Social Justice, Diversity, Inclusivity, Representation, Identity Politics

#### Examples:

- An intersectional fashion critic might analyze how certain fashion brands cater primarily to wealthy white women, excluding or marginalizing people of color, low-income individuals, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.
- By considering the intersecting identities of models, designers, and consumers, intersectional fashion criticism can shed light on the ways in which the industry perpetuates systemic inequalities and reinforces harmful stereotypes.

#### Practical Applications:

- When writing fashion critiques, critics can incorporate intersectional analysis by examining how a garment, collection, or fashion campaign reflects or challenges dominant narratives around identity, power, and representation.
- Fashion publications and media outlets can benefit from intersectional fashion criticism by diversifying their editorial perspectives, amplifying marginalized voices, and advocating for greater inclusivity within the industry.

#### Challenges:

- One challenge of intersectional fashion criticism is the complexity of navigating multiple intersecting identities and experiences within the fashion industry, which requires a nuanced understanding of privilege, discrimination, and social justice.
- Critics may also face resistance or backlash when challenging mainstream fashion norms or critiquing popular brands for their lack of diversity or inclusivity, highlighting the need for greater awareness and accountability within the industry.