GOING OUT? HERE ARE FOUR FASHION IDEAS TO CONSIDER



by Jaylyn Davis
STAFF WRITER
SHE/HER/HERS
iue25001@uconn.edu

One important aspect of college is social life. While we all have homework, projects, exams, jobs and many more things to take care of, it's nice to take some time off and go out.

There are a million things you can do while going out. However, it always requires an outfit. Sometimes, choosing what to wear can be a tough choice.

Here are four different ideas to consider based on your style.

Casual

If you prefer simplicity, this one's for you. Dressing casual doesn't require fancy dresses or tuxedos that cost hundreds of dollars. I find casualness most appropriate when you're going to chill with friends, heading to a cafe, studying at the library, attending a local event or walking around town.

Casualness varies in apparel. A common pairing is jeans and a basic T-shirt — both are plain and don't have vibrant color schemes or patterns.

Another option is a tank top or a cuter shirt with sweatpants. They're perfect for working out, attending a yoga class and staying comfy during the cooler months.

Semi-formal

If you're going on a date, heading to a restaurant or attending a research conference, you should consider wearing something that's elegant but not too overdressed.

The most common semi-formal attire is either midi dresses or two-piece suits. Silk tops and tailored pants are also decent choices if you don't feel like looking like a wedding guest. If you want to add some sparkle, you can wear heeled sandals or boots.

Luxurious and classy

Many of us have been to an exquisite event, whether it was an upscale party, a gala, prom or a wedding. If you're heading to one of those events, showing off your snazzy style is the way to go.

For feminine choices, the best ornate options are high heels and a floor-length gown with jewels and glitter. Wear something that reflects your spirit. You can also add makeup, nail polish and accessories such as necklaces, bracelets and earrings to add extra glimmer.

If you're more masculine or just aren't into dresses, one-colored tuxedos are a suitable choice. It's advised you also wear dress shoes and a tie. Some accessories to include are watches and cufflinks.

Sporty

Sports games are a popular choice for going out, especially at the University of Connecticut, where there's usually at least one competition per day. Nearby are New York and Boston, two major cities that are home to NFL, NHL, NBA and WNBA teams.



If attending a sports game is on your to-do list, a jersey is a great outfit-starter, particularly if you plan to root for a certain team. You could also accessorize with bandanas and flags. Additional items you can wear are headbands, hats, scarves and face paint.

It's hard to go wrong with fashion. There are so many different ways to dress up to go out, but some options may be better suited depending on the occasion. I hope these outfit ideas help you resolve your indecisiveness when you decide to take a well-deserved break from homework and spend some time with friends.

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British Invasion: The great rock'n'roll swindler

by Ayyan Tamjeed
ASSOCIATE LIFE EDITOR
HE/HIM/HIS
art24001@uconn.edu

Impresario, visionary, charlatan, anarchist, a master manipulator and the pirate king of pop.

These are just some of the words used to describe Malcolm McLaren, today's person of interest on British Invasion! This week's column will be an exploration of the man, the myth and the legend of McLaren.

Born in January 1946, McLaren was entrusted in the care of his grandmother Rose Corré Isaacs, after his mother seemingly wanted nothing to do with him. Even if his mother didn't like him, his grandmother was the opposite and very protective of Malcolm. It was Isaacs who told him the words "to be bad is good... to be good is simply boring," A mantra he would live by until the end of his days.

His first foray into music management, the industry that would make him infamous, came on the other side of the Atlantic, with the New York Dolls. The foray wasn't successful — they began working together in 1973, and the band broke up in 1975 — but the red leather and Soviet Union imagery certainly left a mark on pop culture.

The New York Doll's provocative stage wear was supplied by McLaren and Vivienne Westwood's fashion store in London. McLaren first opened the shop in 1971, selling clothes designed by then-girlfriend Westwood. The shop went through many names, the most notable being SEX, and was at the forefront of the burgeoning punk movement in the UK with their radical designs and customers, who started one of Britain's first punk bands: The Sex Pistols.

The band was started by two customers of the SEX boutique, Steve Jones and Paul Cook, on the advice of McLaren. Originally, it was going to be called QT Jones and the Sex Pistols, but McLaren stepped in and made a few major changes.

First, he fired bassist Glen Matlock and

> **"that pattern seems to me always dealing with something old, with a root, and then turning it upside down and making it new again."**
> MALCOLM MCLAREN

slid Sid Vicious into the role. Even though he had no musical skill, he was hired because he had stage presence. After spotting John Lydon mulling about the store with a shirt that said "I hate Pink Floyd," he recruited him into the band as the frontman and gave him the stage name Johnny Rotten. As a final touch, McLaren shortened the name to just The Sex Pistols.

Throughout 1977 and 1978, The Sex Pistols were the bane of polite British society and a boon for the tabloids, as their outrageous publicity stunts and offensive music off their debut album got the people talking. But the Americans would be the undoing of the Sex Pistols' budding career.

Their American tour of 1978 was a train wreck to say the least. Due to infighting and poor planning, the band travelled across the U.S. to fluctuating audiences in a bevy of different moods, as Jones and Cook were about done with Sid Vicious' antics and Rotten started wanting more control over the band's direction.

At their final show in San Francisco, Rotten told the crowd, "You ever get the feeling you've been cheated?" In this case, Rotten was talking about McLaren cheating him and his bandmates out of money when they asked for it and the increasing tensions between himself and McLaren. Rotten left the band soon after. The Sex Pistols soon broke up after the death of Sid Vicious in 1979 and Rotten's lawsuit against McLaren and his management company over a number of improprieties, from missing royalties, improper use of his stage name and control over The Sex Pistols brand.

After his brief stint with The Sex Pistols, McLaren soon dealt with other figures in Britain's alternative scene in the early 80s, such as Boy George, Adam and The Ants and Bow Wow Wow. On the bright side, none of them ended as acridly as McLaren's relationship with the former Sex Pistols. On the other side, they're nothing to write home about.

He also tried his hand at a solo career, releasing two albums of note. He worked with hip-hop radio show duo The World's Famous Supreme Team and producer Trevor Horn to introduce hip-hop to the UK, along with other music influenced by Africa and the Americans, on 1983's "Duck Rock." His follow up the next year was the deeply bizarre "Fans," characterized by the mashup of beautiful opera singers with electronic music.

Outside of his exploits in music, McLaren also tried his hand in another avenue filled with visionaries and liars: Politics! In 1999, McLaren campaigned to become the first Mayor of London. While he didn't win, he certainly had the most unique platform of all his opposition.

Standout policies from the manifesto he published in The New Statesman include introducing bars in libraries, protecting the right to protest, decriminalizing (some) drugs and starting a lottery for the homeless so they could find housing.

McLaren died in 2010 after a battle with cancer. In an interview with Boston Globe writer Jim Sullivan in 1985, McLaren described his methods like this: "There's a pattern that seems to be developing in the way I work, right from The Sex Pistols onward. And that pattern seems to me always dealing with something old, with a root, and then turning it upside down and making it new again."



GRAPHIC BY JAMES CARLTON, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS