

Distance Learning (Correspondence) Jewellery Design, Manufacture and Repair:

Level: Certificate

This entire course is carried out via Distance Learning (correspondence). Distance learning is ideal if you need to adapt around work, family and other commitments. It is also extremely beneficial should you simply wish to fast track your studies and not be restricted to a timetable. As this is a practical career, the level of your practical knowledge will be improved by constant repetition of skills learnt and actual pieces produced.

This course is ideal:

- Whether you wish to do design, manufacturing and repair work for friends and family;
- if you wish to have a basic understanding of jewellery making to start your own business from home;
- if you want to incorporate jewellery making techniques in your existing artworks or creative crafts;

Course Outline:

- Jewellers Studio layout and equipment
- History of Jewellery and Jewellery Design Eras
- Metals and materials used by jewellers
- Fundamental Hand Manufacturing techniques
- Mass production methods
- Theory behind Coloured Gemstones, Semi-precious stones and Diamonds (not grading)
- Common Jewellery repairs
- Basic Stone Setting
- Jewellery Drawing and Design Theory

Prerequisites:

There are no previous educational requirements for entry into the Certificate course. Artistic ability is necessary, as well as practical skill for working with tiny articles and fine precision tools. Technical aptitude, good eyesight and eye-hand co-ordination are also important. The ability to concentrate for long periods and to do neat, precise work, are important qualities of successful goldsmiths/jewellers. Sometimes a jewellery maker works on a particular piece for days or weeks and this requires perseverance, patience and concentration.

You may be asked to submit photos of crafts or art made by yourself.

Practical Prerequisites:

You need to have access to a computer and the internet.

You need a valid e-mail address

You need a digital camera (not cellphone) with a micro focus function that can download images to a computer (Photos that are out of focus are not acceptable and will not be graded)

Outcome:

At the end of your studies you will receive a Certificate indicating that you have a basic level of operational knowledge with general knowledge of fundamental areas of Jewellery Design, Manufacture and Repair. Generally you will be comfortable and confident in any studio surroundings. You will understand and apply safety practices and be familiar with the operation and maintenance of jewellery making hand tools and equipment. You will be able to identify the basic tools and equipment and know the purpose of each. You will be able to draw, identify, understand the construction of, and manufacture standard types of jewellery pieces eg. Plain wedding bands, rings with cabochon stones, pendants, bracelets and earrings .

Duration of Studies:

The minimum time in which students can complete this Certificate course is 7 months.

The maximum time given to complete the program is 1 year.

How does it work?:

Your program consists of 7 Study Packs. Each subsequent Pack will follow as you complete the practical projects and online open book exam (provided you are up to date with your tuition payments.)

- Each project pack contains a written ring bound theory and project instruction book.
- Some basic tools and all materials needed to complete the projects in each instruction book.

To complete each Study Pack you have to:

- learn jewellery making theory to complete the theory tests.
- do practice projects help you to get to know your tools and the techniques needed
- make a graded project at the end of each Study Pack. The graded project tests your understanding of the skills taught and the practical application thereof. You must take detailed photos from various angles of these projects to be sent to us for grading.
- watch how to videos on the web showing you how to properly execute every technique.
- make 5 exam projects that need to be posted to us at certain intervals during your course. These will be graded and tutor feedback given. These Exam project grades will be added to your final mark. These projects can be re-made and graded until the desired 70% is reached.

This course is designed so you can learn at home. If you should have any questions about anything in our course, you have access to a tutor during office hours 8 – 5 Monday to Friday by phone, fax and e-mail. During weekends leave a message or send an e-mail and your query will be attended to first thing on Monday morning.

Grades:

An overall course average of 70% (theory and practical) or above is required to graduate and earn your Certificate.

Breakdown of Study Packs

Study Pack 1: The Studio

Program instructions, How to approach distance learning, Planning your studies.

Jewellery Theory 1: History of Jewellery, Studio Layout and basic tools, Preparing a workspace, Safety in the studio, Units of Measure, Metals used in jewellery making, Everyday manufacturing and finishing Routine.

Theory test 1: Open book on all above theory

Study Pack 2: Sawing and Piercing

Jewellery Theory 2: History of Jewellery, Basic sawing principals, finishing routine, polishing.

Theory test 2: Open book on all above theory

Practice Projects 2: Sawing basics, Transferring a pattern to metal, filing, finishing and polishing.

Graded Project 1: Application of a combination of skills learnt and practiced.

Variety of beginner jewellery tools: Bench peg, Saw frame, Saw blades, buff sticks, sandpaper, beeswax, brass plate, , , A list / catalogue of extra tools needed to equip your studio. List of recommended suppliers.

Study Pack 3: Piercing and Joining Metals

Jewellery Theory 3: History of Jewellery, Drilling holes, Piercing a pattern on inside of metal, Flames, Soldering, measuring a ring size, ring making,

Theory test 3: On all above theory

Practice Projects 3: Make ring to size, making rings with wire and plate

Graded Project 2: Application of a combination of skills learnt and practiced.

Variety of beginner jewellery tools: hobby drill, half-round flat pliers, borax powder, easy solder, brass strip, micro torch, 1mm drill bits

Hand in Exam Project 1

Study Pack 4: Chains and Repairs

Jewellery Theory 4: History of Jewellery, Types of Chains, Chainmaille, General Jewellery repairs, repair procedure, making rings larger/smaller

Theory test 4: Open book on all above theory

Practice Projects 4: Making jump rings, Byzantine Chain, Single 1 in 1 soldered chain,

Graded Project 3: Application of a combination of skills learnt and practiced.

Variety of beginner jewellery tools: Brass/ copper wire, jump ring mandrel, Silver wire, ring to repair and re-size,

Hand in Exam Project 2

Study Pack 5: Basic Stone Setting

Jewellery Theory 5: History of Jewellery, Theory of Diamond classification and Precious Stones, Semi-precious stones,

Theory test 5: Open book on all above theory

Practice Projects 5: Making a Collet aka bezel, Soldering a collet, open and closed collets, tube settings.

Graded Project 4: Application of a combination of skills learnt and practiced.

Variety of beginner jewellery tools: Brass plate / wire for practice projects, Cab stones, silver plate, silver collet strip,

Hand in Exam Project 3

Study Pack 6: Mass Production Methods and Modern Technology in Jewellery Making

Jewellery Theory 6: History of Jewellery, Types of carving wax, Wax carving tools, Investment, mold making

Theory test 6: Open book on all above theory

Practice Projects 6: Wax carved pendant, wax carved ring,

Graded Project 5: Application of a combination of skills learnt and practiced.

Blue ring wax, blue flat wax.

Hand in Exam Project 4

Study Pack 7: Designing and Drawing Jewellery

Jewellery Theory 7: History of Jewellery, Jewellery jargon, Design Principals, Drawing Jewellery, Design Idea book.

Theory test 7: Open book on all above theory

Practice Projects 7: Technical Drawing and construction descriptions, colouring presentation drawings

Graded Project 6: Application of a combination of skills learnt and practiced.

Hand in Exam Project 5

Costs:

Total Cost: R7865 this includes:

- 2 x Prescribed Textbooks
- 7 x ring bound theory and instruction books,
- Materials and basic tools for 14 x step by step practice projects,
- Instructions and materials for all graded projects. Materials to complete 5 exam projects,
- Packaging and Postage of each Study Pack to the student,
- Tutor available by phone, fax and e-mail (office hours Monday - Friday),

The acquisition of extra tools needed to complete each project pack remains the responsibility of the student. A list of extra tools needed is sent with each study pack. Cost of extra tools to complete the course is around R2000 – R3000. Packaging and postage of Exam projects to the facilitator is for the students own account.

Payment Options:

Full Payment Upfront: Total R7865 (Full payment discount - R350= R7515) R500 non-refundable registration fee with enrolment form. Once registered, a once off payment of R7515 as soon as payment confirmation is received your first study pack is sent. Subsequent packs will be sent as soon as online tests and graded project photos are received. (within a minimum duration of 7 months). If you wish to end your studies after pack 1 you will receive a 40% refund, after pack 2 a 30% refund, after pack 3 a 20% refund, After pack 4 you will receive a 10% refund, after pack 5 no refund.

Monthly Payments:

R500 non-refundable registration and - 1 x payment of R1123 each month for 7 months minimum. Your study pack is sent as soon as payment is received. You can end your studies after any pack.

1 Year payment option:

(10% interest charged) R500 non-refundable registration fee and 12 X payments of R720.00 - Total R8651 (Debit order form to be completed). Your certificate is sent to you after the 12th payment has been received (provided you have obtained a 70% average).

We reserve the right to change program content and materials when it becomes necessary. We reserve the right to withhold certification until full payment is received and/or 70% average is reached. We are an independent/privately owned company and not affiliated or accredited with any other colleges, universities or government bodies.

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