

Jewelry making and design department

JEWELRY MAKING (Minimum one month)

JEWELRY MAKING Levels I and II

Design, planning and fabrication of Jewelry making, and Introduction to processes and techniques. Materials and tools.

Projects include: Inlay, married metals using various metals soldered together. Form- ing; Dome; concave and convex rings, Bezel setting, Box construction, simple chain, and other mixed media.

JEWELRY MAKING INTERMEDIATE

Superior studies. Introduction to specialties. This means the jewelry making is more sophisticated, more complex, more experienced.

Projects include: Basic Repousee, Stone setting faceted, Hinge construction, Hollow ware, Three dimensional construction, Moving parts, Multiple sections, Reticulation, Basic chain making in various forms.

ADVANCED JEWELRY MAKING

Development of individuality and depth of expression and thinking out logically the various stages involved in constructing and making jewelry on a working professional level.

Projects include: Filigree, Granulation, Etruscan and Indian chain making, Mokume Gane, Kombu, and bracelets with a box clasp. Designing a collection.

SPECIAL COURSES

JEWELRY DESIGN I and II

(Minimum one month)

This is offered to give the student a continuation in further development of skills in technical illustration (enlargement and reduction, various views: frontal, side, three quartet, etc.). Coloration through use of color pencils, paints and water colors and precise instruments to obtain the effects of various metals and stones to render a faithful reproduction of the desired effects in realizations of the final Jewelry project.

JEWELRY DESIGN COMPUTER

(Minimum one month)

The Jewelry design computer course is comprised of two programs of study utilizing graphic software programs. The first program works with designed jewelry in the various points of view, top, front, side and isometric. The second program studies the various types of precious and semiprecious stones, their cuts and relative colors.

STONE SETTING (Minimum three months)

A more advanced level of stone setting beyond the beginning techniques covered in the regular jewelry making courses. The student is instructed through various exercises in the basics of faceted stone to prong constructions such as: collet, coronet, basket, tube, fustrum, gypsey. Emphasis is placed on acquiring the necessary skill in the proper use of the graver tool in settings such as: group or cluster, star, pave, canal, griff, bafi, fogli, grain, etc... and will be researched until the understanding and making cover all design and making situations.

JEWELRY CASTING and WAX MODELING

I and II (Minimum two months) LEVEL I

The course gives directed experiences in wax carving and modeling. Students work directly in various types of waxes,

hard for carving, soft for modeling, block waxes and combination waxes for particular effects. Introduction to technology and instruction all the stages of actual casting, spruing, mold making wax burnout, casting and final finishing.

LEVEL II

The student will continue to develop wax model making skills, casting technology, and will also explore the production methods in making more than one copy of their work with flexible molds.

JEWELRY ENGRAVING

(Minimum three months) Engraving and its uses are explored through practices pieces on various metals and prepared jewelry forms, rings, pendants, bracalets, etc... The engraving exercises are extremely important in the learning, it is practice and more practice in the various graves strokes, incising, gouging, pushing, etc... That will achieve the golden hand (mano d'oro). The course particularly emphasizes the technique of FLORENTINE ENGRAVING and FLORENTINE TRAFORO WORK.

GEMOLOGY New Course

(30 hours total. This course begins from Settember and January) The course is meant to give students the basics of gem materials and their identification. The treated topics can be divided into 2 blocks. The first block represents the essentials concerning the important properties of gemstones and the most important cut styles, it will consider the distinction between minerals and amorphous materials; their physical and optical poperties; particular effects and carateristic phenomena; the most important features of natural, syntheic, and artificial gemstones and the instruments, tests and procedures to be followed in their identifications. The second block will concerne the systematic: the 4 precious stones (diamnod, ruby, sapphire and emerald) and the most important semi-precious stones will be examined. All the problematics that goldsmiths and gem setters can meet with, will be analised: the student will be led to a critical analysis of the materials he is going to use (metals are minerals!) in order to single the best work sytle out (use of tools, solvents, ultrasound, hardness and toughness of the gems, etc.).

* The students taking the course of stonessetting will automatically be included in this course.