

SPINNING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

SEMESTER I:

Sheep as a fibre source; skirting, sorting, scouring; fleece preparation for spinning - carding by hand and machine

Spinning wheel maintenance

Woollen spinning techniques including long and short draw; basic blending methods

Acid dyes on wool; dye safety

Creating the 10-step colour wheel with printer's and painter's primaries; colour theory

SEMESTER II:

Sheep breeds and their wool types; choosing a fleece and recognizing faults

Wool combing and worsted and semi-worsted spinning techniques; yarn finishing

Colour blending and colour theory

History and operation of many types of spinning wheels

Plant dyes on wool; use of mordants; dye safety

SEMESTER III:

Preparation and spinning techniques for 5 fleece types

Twist and its relationship to diameter

Spinning to end use; time management techniques as related to spinning and end use products

Mohair; mohair blends

Multiplying and 3-ply chaining

Exotic and lichen dyes on protein and cellulose fibres; use of after baths; fastness testing; dye safety

SEMESTER IV:

Spinning silk in all forms; silk blends; reeling silk; making mawata

Exotic fibres - dog hair, alpaca, llama, camel, angora, cashmere, qiviut

Indigo dyeing; dye safety

SEMESTER V:

Flax preparation and spinning; flax blends and bast fibres as available

Cotton preparation and spinning - various forms and species of cotton fibres; cotton blends

Fibre identification techniques

Synthetic and regenerated natural fibres and their blends

SEMESTER VI:

Novelty yarn construction

Yarn analysis and duplication

Creative dyeing; dye safety

Judging handspun yarns and projects; mounting a juried show

Creating a resume and portfolio

Planning a Design Challenge

In-Depth Study proposals