

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SLW08575: FASTENINGS AND FINDINGS FOR JEWELLERY

Tutor: SARAH MACRAE

Dates: LONG WEEKEND FRIDAY 8 MARCH – MONDAY 11 MARCH

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

From simple earring hooks to complex hidden necklace fastenings the way a finding fits with the piece is important to the quality of the finished article. A beautiful necklace can be 'devalued' by using a bought finding or enhanced by a well thought out specially designed catch. This course will investigate fastenings and findings, looking at ways to integrate them with your design style. A range of different mechanisms will be demonstrated from traditional box catches, and how to vary the shape, to ways of incorporating magnets. The course will look at simple safety eights to other ancient mechanisms such as the penannular and circle brooch mechanisms, hinge and screw fittings and interlocking fastenings.

Sarah will show slides of examples and bring samples to look at and handle and explain how to use fastenings and findings so they become part of your piece rather than a functional afterthought.

As well as demonstrations to the whole group you will have the opportunity to discuss your individual needs throughout the course. You are encouraged to bring a piece you are in the middle of making, if appropriate, to make a catch for, but this is not essential. Sarah aims to support and facilitate whatever you wish to achieve.

You will be generally expected to work in silver but can use other metals or other materials if it is appropriate. You should achieve a greater understanding of a range of catches and findings and make at least two. **Please note – you must be able to solder before attending this course.**

The tutor is always happy to talk to you before the course to ensure that it is suitable. There is a questionnaire attached to the end of these course notes, if you could send this back to Sarah it will help her to plan the course to suit your needs as far as possible. Please write to her c/o the College, or e-mail direct to sarahmacrae2@yahoo.co.uk

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills, and for more experienced practitioners who want to expand skills. The focus is on working towards independent practise.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Sarah Macrae, a studio jeweller and teacher, trained at the University of Brighton. She is author of *Designing and Making Jewellery* and exhibits regularly with the Designer Jewellers Group.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 8 March

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
5.30pm	Workshops available for dropping off equipment and materials
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm – 9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. Introduction to the group, looking at samples, inspirational slide presentation.

Other days: Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 March

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working: the workshop/studio is open until 10pm – students may work untutored if they wish.

Departure day: Monday 11 March

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Bring examples of your own work, actual pieces or photographs.

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

The shop stocks most/all of the materials required for this course.

Available from the Shop:

Silver sheet, wire and a range of sizes of tube

The shop has basic tool kits to hire (no charge) consists of pliers, saw, files etc.

Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Sketchbook/notebook

Any tools

Examples or photographs of your own work

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

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It would be helpful if you could complete the attached questionnaire.

Questionnaire

This form is simply to give me some background information so that I can plan the best experience I can for you. It is entirely up to you how much or how little information you feel like giving me or indeed whether you complete it and send it to me or not.

Name

Course dates Day or resident

Phone / email

Your experience

(It is really useful to know what experience you have, if any – don't be modest – tell me what you have done.)

Transferable skills

Can you tell me what work you normally do or did before you retired as often people bring transferable skills to the course that are very helpful. For example, opera singing would not seem to be an obvious transferable skill for making jewellery but in fact the breath control developed for singing gave one lady a flying start with using the French blowtorches we use for soldering.

Any other interests, hobbies or skills

Your expectations

There is nothing worse than being on a course that is not what you expected it to be. Is there anything in particular that you want to achieve or learn on this course?

If you have a definite idea it is a great help to me when I am preparing to know what everyone wants to make. If you can do a drawing – it really doesn't matter how simple or rough – it is just to give me some idea. I won't hold you to these drawings – you can change your mind if you want to. Equally, if you are not sure yet what you want to make, wait until the course begins and we can talk about it.

Please either return to the Bookings Office, West Dean College, West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0QZ or send by e-mail to sarahmacrae2@yahoo.co.uk