

Fiber
Jerry Bleem
July 24-30, 2022

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Twisting, the most elemental textile gesture, lengthens fibers into longer lines. After learning to spin wool with a drop spindle and on a spinning wheel, we will ply it into a stable state. This energy-storing structure can be functional, visual, conceptual and political. Once a flexible filament is created, where does it go? What does it "do?" After covering the basics of ropemaking, spinning and plying, we'll look at familiar looping techniques [crochet and knit] to organize our strings. A constant focus, examining material possibilities, will help us retrace the processes discovered by our fiber ancestors during the last several millennia. Emphasis will be placed on skill development and establishing a learning community in which all participants are teachers and learners. Being acquainted with spinning, knitting and/or crochet would be helpful but not necessary to participate in this course, open to all skill levels.

MATERIALS LIST

- Sharp scissors
- Crochet hook ["J" or "K"] **and/or** knitting needles ["8," "9" or "10"]
- ***scrap yarn left over from other projects [or what your friends have left over from their projects]
- ***pliable planes that could be cut into line; e.g. plastic shopping bags, cloth scraps, long-fibered paper
- A skein of yarn [if unfamiliar with crocheting or knitting: bring a skein of worsted acrylic yarn]
- ***flexible lines that are yarn-like/string-like but are made of other materials; e.g., heavy thread, jute twine, thin ribbon and fine electrical wire
- PLEASE NOTE: Items marked *** could be materials already in your home/studio. These materials are less about buying and more about finding and collecting—a kind of treasure hunt!
- Flash drive (to protect and save data to and from Library computers)
- Padlock for your studio locker, if desired (For rent in the Supply Store for the week)

The Supply Store has a small selection of materials for all mediums. If you intend on purchasing items from the store once you arrive on campus, please reach out to our supply store to ensure we have those materials in stock. Call 865-436-5860 Ext. 25 or email store@arrowmont.org

MATERIALS FEES: \$20-\$35

Materials fees will be charged for materials used in the studio and/or provided by instructors for use in the studio by the entire class. In order to keep these fees as low as possible, fees are assessed on an individual class basis and may vary from class to class depending on the amount of materials used and the number of students in the class. Materials fees are paid on the last day of class.

Please be advised that above course description and materials list is written and approved by the instructor

If you have any additional questions about this class, below is the contact info for your instructor:

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