

Spinners Certificate Program
Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore
Masters Level - Detailed Requirements

Overview:

The purpose of this level is to give the participant the opportunity to develop any aspect of spinning or yarn production that fits a stated purpose. This may be an investigation of any technique to create handspun fibers for a specific finished product. The emphasis here is to be on the intended purpose for which the yarn is produced.

Instructions:

Participants will focus on the aspects of spinning that contribute materially to a finished product or production of surface design. Acceptable study material would include spinning as it applies to weaving, crochet, knitting, etc. Color may be used as a design factor, but must not be the sole focus of this work. To be acceptable, studies that limit the participant to one fiber, one type of equipment or one design study must explain the rationale for such limitations.

Before beginning, the participant will submit an outline for Rating Committee review and approval. Approval of the outline does not imply that the final study results are approved in advance. The judges will use the outline as a guide in rating the final results. If, after the in-depth research has started, the proposed outline is found to be unfeasible, the topic may be modified or changed to another by notifying the Spinning Certificate Program Registrar and by sending a revised outline. The Rating Committee will review the revised outline.

Specific Requirements:

Section 1 - Statement of Purpose:

This is to be a thorough description of the intentions of the participant. The statement should be no longer than three pages and include an explanation of the purpose of the study, its desired outcome, and an outline of the plan of study.

Section 2 - Background Information:

This section is to include the development of the study concept, including the inspiration for the study, historical references, and research. This section should be fully documented, with references where appropriate, and may include pictures.

Section 3 - Preliminary Work:

This section is to include samples or small finished pieces with accompanying information attached including full descriptions of the place these have in the study. The purpose here is to show the method of study and progression of the work as indicated by the outline in the Statement of Purpose Section. The work submitted may also include photographs, drawings, etc. Sampling is very important, as is a discussion of the lessons learned. Include clearly labeled samples of things that worked and didn't work, to document the learning process.

Section 4 - Presentation of Work:

The participant will present two to four finished pieces in which the quality and design of the spinning contributes materially to the overall excellence of the pieces, whether they are utilitarian, decorative, or both. These works must adequately conclude the study. They must be executed by the participant with the highest degree of skill, and show the culmination of the concept and stated intention of the participant.

Section 5 - Conclusions:

This section is to be a written summary of the outcome of the study. It should discuss the original purpose of the study, and explain how the work presented in Section 4 concludes the study.

Submission of Masters Level Work:

- All written work and samples for the Masters Level will be submitted in three-ring binders properly tabbed by section. All pages and labels will be neatly typed.

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- The binder(s) will contain:
 - Cover sheet
 - Table of contents
 - Appropriate tabs for each section on folders.
 - All written material will be in participant's own words, not copied from any source, except in the case of footnoted quotations. It must be typewritten.
 - Finished articles for the Masters Level will be labeled and delivered for judging in a container appropriate for mailing.

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