

EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

DIVISION OF
CONTINUING EDUCATION

COURSE TITLE: Intro to Jewelry Making for Youth

COURSE NUMBER: PLD 608 (22674)

CONTACT HOURS: 12

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Have you been dazzled by trendy jewelry designs and thought “I can make that for much less!”? This beginner level jewelry making class for youth is a cool introduction to fashion trends and designer skills. Learn a sparkly new hobby while making stylish gifts for your besties. You will gain the skills needed to make your own custom wire wrapped and bead strung jewelry, including: how to use jewelry making tools, discovering basic wire wrapping & stringing techniques, designing your pieces, creating your own components and findings. You will also learn about valuable beading resources and quality suppliers. By the end of this fun course, you will have created a handmade jewelry set to include earrings, wrap style transformable anklet/bracelet/necklace, ring, washer pendant and a name necklace.

II. NEEDS STATEMENT:

Creating handmade jewelry is more than a hobby. It is also a valuable art form where the artist can express their unique vision while crafting a product that builds desire and fills demand in the homespun marketplace. Big box stores and online suppliers are currently seeking handmade products due to the popularity and personalization of one-of-a-kind items. Jewelry making artisans can build an income while exploring their creativity.

III. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify and demonstrate use of various jewelry making tools.
2. Identify wire & bead types, gauges, shapes, and their applications.
3. Identify stringing & wire wrapping techniques: crimping, looping, and securing clasps.
4. Design pieces using bead stringing & wire wrapping techniques.

5. Discover sales outlets and marketing methods for your craft.
6. Demonstrate how to properly secure designs to include creating wrapped loops and attaching clasps.
7. Learn jewelry industry fashion trends and beading supplier resources.
8. Complete a handmade uniquely themed jewelry set consisting of a pair of earrings, wrap style transformable anklet/bracelet/ necklace, ring, washer pendant and a name necklace.

IV. TARGET POPULATION:

Youth between ages 12-16 interested in the art of handmade jewelry making that enjoys expressing their creativity by designing trendy fashion accessories and networking with fellow beading besties.

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, demonstration and presentation.

VI. EVALUATION:

Evaluation of each student will be based upon the ability to identify all the basic jewelry making tools, bead sizes, wire gauges, while also demonstrating stringing and wire wrapping techniques to successfully complete the class project of a finished jewelry set (earrings, wrap style transformable anklet/bracelet/ necklace, ring, washer pendant and a name necklace).

VII. REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Artistic wire in silver tone or gold tone color: 20 gauge. {1 spool}
2. Lobster or toggle clasp {2}
3. Petite chain for name necklace {16-20 inches}
4. Ear wires (clip-on, fish hook/French style, kidney, or lever back {2}
5. Other findings: 2-3" head pins {2}, 6-7mm jump rings {10-20}, size 2 crimp tubes & 3-5mm size crimp covers {2 each}
6. 4-8mm petite beads {5-6 various strands}
7. 30 inches of cord (ex. suede, leather, hemp, cotton)
8. Metal charms {2-6}
9. Metal washer {1}
10. Bead stringing wire: 7-strand {1 spool}

Materials furnished in classroom:

1. Bead design board
2. Jewelry pliers tool set & nylon jaw pliers
3. Ring Mandrel and sizer
4. Tape measure or ruler

VIII. Determining of Final Grade: Students will receive either “credit” or “non-credit” for the entire course, based on the successful completion of the activities described above. No partial credit will be offered.

IX. CALENDAR OF TOPICS:

1. Students will learn about bead stringing, wire wrapping, types and shapes of beads and metals, basic jewelry making tools and the creation of findings like custom jump rings and clasps. They will be shown examples of the instructor’s designs plus referrals to jewelry making books and industry trend magazines.
2. Students will work with artistic wire and beads to prepare a complete jewelry set consisting of earrings, wrap style transformable anklet/bracelet/ necklace, ring, washer pendant and a name necklace. The first assignment will be to create custom jump rings, ear wires & earrings using 20 gauge wire.
3. For the second assignment, students will create a wrap style transformable anklet/ bracelet/ necklace using 7-strand bead stringing wire or cording, charms and petite beads.
4. Students will create a wire wrapped & beaded washer pendant using petite beads and 20 gauge wire.
5. Students will create a trendy wire name necklace for their fourth assignment using 20 gauge artistic wire.
6. The final assignment requires students to create a bird’s nest style or single bead/stone ring using a ring mandrel, 20 gauge wire and a round bead of their choice. This final beaded design will demonstrate their knowledge of jewelry tools, supplies and finishing techniques.