

# THE LEATHER EXPERIENCE (BAGMAKING)



## 6 US Credits

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Leather Experience provides students with the opportunity to be fully immersed in the process of bag-making focusing on the various types of leather and basic skills and techniques in the creation of a bag. This course is highly structured and is centered on completing the three models. The program is conducted in a historic leather-working workshop under the supervision of professional artisan instructors.

### **COURSE HOUR BREAKDOWN & ACADEMIC CREDIT**

This is a very intensive hands-on program and each day is composed of a morning session from 9 AM to 1.30 PM and an afternoon session from 12 to 5.30 PM for a total of 35 hours per week and grand total of 90 instructional hours plus independent project work.

The course combines lecture, demonstration, practice, independent work, and evaluation and critique in every day in the workshop. The first week focuses on learning the correct use of tools and techniques that are required for the completion of the final project(s).

### **TEACHING METHODS**

Instructors are present in the workshop at all times. Each day as mentioned above combines lecture, demonstration, practice, and evaluation. During the project preparation and completion portion of the program instructors are on hand to ensure workshop safety as well as answer questions and provide input and assistance with student work.

### **CRITIQUE & EVALUATION**

Throughout the program, students are given constant feedback on their progress from basic skill acquisition and progress on their sample pieces as well as their final project(s).

Final critiques and evaluations are focused on the overall mastery of technique, construction of the project, technical quality, ways in which the item and/or techniques can be improved and not necessarily on the shape and design.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this course is to give the students a abbreviated version of technical skills necessary for leather bag making.

This course will focus only on machine stitching.

Students will complete 3 pre-determined models of bag.

## **MATERIALS**

Students will be introduced to a variety of leather available for leather bag making and how each type can be used. For the purposes of this program only calf leather will be used. In addition, students will be introduced to various supplementary materials that are used in the industry.

## **TOOLS**

The course will cover the proper use of common leather working tools such as cutting and skiving blade, awl, folding stick and others.

In addition, students will learn how to use the sewing machine, skiving machine, splitting machine and also the glue-spraying machine.

## **TECHNIQUES**

Main techniques covered include: machine sewing, machine and hand skiving, edge finishing, and gluing.

## **LESSON PLAN OVERVIEW (Week by week)**

Due to the nature of the program – lesson plans are broken down by week in order to accommodate for skill acquisition, practice time, and review of new material.

### **WEEK ONE: Tools, Materials, and basic forms.**

- Introduction to the course outline, projects and timeline.
- Introduction to the tools and materials that they will be using for the duration of the course.

### **PROJECT 1**

Practice Forms - Students starts by learning how to properly cut, skive, glue and assemble and at the same time learn the proper use of all the tools available to them by practicing on pre-prepared forms. After that, they will use the finished form to practice how to use the sewing machine

### **PROJECT 2:**

Glass case - Through the making of a simple glass case, students are required to put into practice the skills they learned from the previous project into the making of a simple item in leather. They will also learn about the use of supplementary materials that goes into the making of a leather item.

### **PROJECT 3:**

Passport Case - Through this project, student learn about how to work with leather of different softness and flexibility and how to treat the supplementary materials that goes into the object. They will also learn a new edge finishing technique.

### **PROJECT 4:**

T-Pouch - Through this project, student will learn how to install zippers, they will also build on previously learned techniques and also another way to do lining.

## **WEEK TWO: Model 1- Document Case**

### **PHASE 1:**

Review of the prepared patterns - Explaining what all the patterns are and how they are to be used. Choosing of leather and all the supplementary materials required for construction of the bag.

### **PHASE 2:**

Preparation of materials - Cutting, Splitting, Skiving or Reinforcing of Leather and other supplementary materials

### **PHASE 3:**

Assembly of Bag - Preparation of individual pieces, assembly of said pieces into a final bag, installation of hardware and accessories.

### **PHASE 4:**

Finishing and Checks - Review and evaluation of the final product and also the entire production process.

## **WEEK THREE: Model 2 - Vanity Case**

### **PHASE 1:**

Review of the prepared patterns - Explaining what all the patterns are and how they are to be used. Choosing of leather and all the supplementary materials required for construction of the bag.

### **PHASE 2:**

Preparation of materials - Cutting, Splitting, Skiving or Reinforcing of Leather and other supplementary materials

### **PHASE 3:**

Assembly of Bag - Preparation of individual pieces, assembly of said pieces into a final bag, installation of hardware and accessories.

### **PHASE 4:**

Finishing and Checks - Review and evaluation of the final product and also the entire production process.

## **WEEK FOUR: Model 3 - Shopper**

### **PHASE 1:**

Review of the prepared patterns - Explaining what all the patterns are and how they are to be used. Choosing of leather and all the supplementary materials required for construction of the bag.

### **PHASE 2:**

Preparation of materials - Cutting, Splitting, Skiving or Reinforcing of Leather and other supplementary materials

### **PHASE 3:**

Assembly of Bag - Preparation of individual pieces, assembly of said pieces into a final bag, installation of hardware and accessories.

### **PHASE 4:**

Finishing and Checks - Review and evaluation of the final product and also the entire production process.