

2021 FALL CLASSES

**You will be required to show proof of vaccination to register for these classes.
Your instructor may also ask you to wear a mask in class.**

*Classes marked with an * are scheduled in-person; these may change to Zoom if the CDC/State guidelines change.*

KNITTING

Knitting Club

Monday mornings (10:00 a.m. – noon) September 13 – December 13

\$70 for 14 weeks

OR Tuesday afternoons (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.) September 7 – December 14

\$75 for 15 weeks

OR NEW SESSION!!! Wednesday mornings (10:00 a.m. – noon) September 8 – December 15

(we will begin this session when we get 4 people; give us a call to sign up)

\$75 for 15 weeks

OR Thursday afternoons (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.) September 9 – December 16

\$70 for 14 weeks

OR Thursday evenings (7:00 – 9:00 p.m.) September 9 – December 16

FULL! Call to be put on the wait list

\$70 for 14 weeks

OR Friday mornings (10:00 a.m. – noon) September 10 – December 17

\$75 for 15 weeks

Advisor: Suzanne Kelly

This is not a class, but a support group for beginners through advanced knitters. Some knitting experience is required: you must know how to knit and purl. Members receive a \$5 merchandise credit for each week in attendance PLUS 10% OFF all yarn. Feel free to join anytime, even after the sessions have started. (We will prorate the fee). Not sure if this is for you? Try a class for free.



Knit Your First Sweater!

Minimum 3 participants

3 sessions total (Call the shop by September 22 to express interest. All sessions will be arranged to accommodate participants' availability.)

\$100 plus materials

Instructor: *Rebecca Brown*

Are you eager to knit your first sweater but intimidated by the process and making sure it will fit? This class aims to dispel those worries! We'll discuss getting gauge, what the heck is meant by "ease", and look at different construction methods. The pattern suggested for this class is suitable for first-time sweater knitters both in terms of construction and fit. *This sweater will be knit top-down.*

Please bring: A copy of the pattern (<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/ankers-sweater---my-size>); appropriate yarn, needles, and notions; your blocked gauge swatch; and your sense of adventure!

Knitting Basics

Minimum 2 participants

Sunday (1:00 – 3:30 p.m.) September 26 **OR** October 24

\$45 *plus materials*

Instructor: Rebecca Brown

Interested in learning to knit but not sure how to begin? You'll learn a lot of new words (swatch, knit, purl, cast-on, cast-off, garter, stockinette) and how to start and finish the most basic project. You'll learn how to read a simple pattern and you'll leave with the skills to complete the project. You can then take these skills and make other useful squares/rectangles (like a scarf)!

Please bring: One skein of worsted weight yarn and size US 7 straight needles (someone in the shop can help you find the right materials), along with your sense of adventure!



Intarsia Sweater

Minimum 2 participants

Sunday (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.) meets twice: Sundays, October 3 **AND** October 31

\$75 *plus materials*

Learn a new skill in miniature! Knit up this sweet baby sweater featuring an intarsia design to expand your skill set. We'll also talk about getting gauge and sweater construction, which makes this project ideal for a first sweater. This class is perfect for intermediate knitters who know their knits from their purls and aren't afraid of w&t.

Please bring: A copy of the pattern (<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/city-block-sweater>); appropriate yarn, needles, and notions; a blocked gauge swatch; and your sense of adventure!

Colorwork Cowl



Minimum 2 participants

Sunday (3:00 – 5:00 p.m.) October 3 **AND** October 31

\$75 *plus materials*

Instructor: Rebecca Brown

Colorwork doesn't have to be hard or intimidating. This is a great small project that will have you switching colors with ease after a few rounds. After finishing this cowl, you'll have the skills to tackle more complex colorwork projects. You'll learn how to decipher a chart and hold your yarn so you're on the road to success. This class is perfect for intermediate knitters who want to expand their skill set and add a little color to their knitting!

Please bring: A copy of the pattern (<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/moonwake-cowl>); appropriate yarn, needles, and notions; and your sense of adventure!



Lace Cowl

Minimum 2 participants

Sunday (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.) November 7

\$45 *plus materials*

Learn to knit lace with this lovely cowl! This project is quick to knit and a perfect gift for you or someone special. You'll learn what YO means and how to read a lace chart. This class is perfect for adventurous beginners who know their knits from their purls and are ready to add more texture to your knitting. Before class, please knit through the border, so we can get right to the lace!

Please bring: A copy of the pattern (<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/ptarmigan>); appropriate yarn, needles, and notions; and your sense of adventure!

WEAVING

Beginning Weaving

Minimum 3 participants

Session 1: Thursday (10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) September 9 AND September 16

Session 2: ZOOM CLASS (9:30 a.m. – noon) October 1, 4, 6, 8, 11

\$190 *plus materials (includes loom rental fee)*

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

This 2-day class is a start-to-finish beginning weaving experience on a 4-shaft loom. The first day, students are guided through measuring out a warp, beaming the warp, sleying the reed and threading the heddles. The first few rows of weaving will be complete before the end of the day. The looms go home with students with instructions for weaving a sampler between the classes. Support is available between the classes for those who need a little confidence. On the second day, the samplers are completed and we take a step back to get an introduction to project planning and drafting. Portable 4-shaft tabletop looms are provided for use during and between the classes as part of the class fee. An additional materials fee covers the yarn used for the sampler. Materials fee: cost of 6-9 oz perle cotton (\$1.44 per ounce) and the optional purchase of *Learning to Weave* by Debbie Chandler. **Note that the Zoom class covers the same material but is spread over 5 shorter days. The Zoom class is also appropriate for advanced beginners.**

Special offer for Beginning Weaving only: Take the class with a friend for just \$20 more! You'll work on one loom and make one sampler, but you will both learn just as much!

Advanced Beginning Weaving

Minimum 3 participants

Thursday (10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) September 30 AND October 7

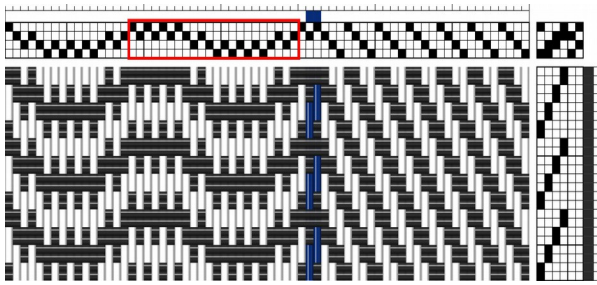
\$190 *plus materials (includes loom rental fee)*

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

This is similar to the Beginning Weaving class, but it assumes students have some prior weaving experience. Participants will make something useful. The specific project will be decided by the teacher and students prior to the first class. Students may use their own loom or borrow a portable 4-shaft tabletop loom for use during and between the classes as part of the class fee.

This 2-day class is a start-to-finish weaving experience on a 4-shaft loom. The first day, we will plan the project together, wind the warp and start warping the looms. Many beyond beginner tips and tricks will be shared. Between the classes, students will finish warping and start weaving. Support is available between the classes. On the second day, we'll dive into more in-depth project planning and do some drafting. Materials: Students will need to purchase the yarn for their project.

Prerequisite: Students must have taken a beginning weaving class or have some weaving experience. They must be able to warp their loom independently.



Weaving Project Planning

Minimum 3 participants

Monday (1:00 – 4:00) September 13*

OR Saturday (9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) October 2*

OR Monday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) November 8 (**ZOOM ONLY!**)

OR Thursday (5:00 – 8:00) November 11*

\$45

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

Have you taken the Beginning Weaving class but you're not confident enough to plan and execute a project on your own? This class is for you. Participants will be guided through planning a weaving project including selecting yarns, designing and drafting, and making yardage calculations. Loom limitations, appropriateness and weaver ability will all be taken into consideration.



NEW! Inkle Weaving

Minimum 3 participants

Saturday (10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) October 23

\$60 (*includes borrowing a loom if needed*)

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

Inkle weaving is a simple and inexpensive way to weave narrow bands of fabric. There are limitless possibilities of color design. Participants will learn to make heddles and efficiently warp the loom in different color patterns and will weave a narrow band, bookmarks, or shoelaces.

When signing up, please indicate whether you have an inkle loom or not. Some looms are available to borrow for the class and will be available for purchase at a discount following the class. There will be a break for lunch.



NEW CLASSES! Gamps and Stripes!

Minimum 3 participants

Gamps: Monday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) October 18*

Stripes: Monday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) November 1*

See prices below

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

This is a 3-part package, with a kit and two classes. The components can be purchased individually or combined.

- **A Gamp Kit** – All the yarns you need to make a twill color gamp with 6 colors of one of the new GistYarns lines. Purchasing a kit is an economical way to approach a 6-color gamp without purchasing 6 full cones of yarn.
- **Gamp Class** – This 3-hour class will talk about and look at different kinds of gamps, why they are useful and how to design them. After a general discussion of various gamps, we'll focus on color gamps and the how to use the Gamp Kit. Students may use the kit we've put together or may use whatever yarns they choose. There is no weaving in the class. All warping and weaving will be done on the individual's own.
- **Stripe Class** - This 3-hour class will talk about how to design stripes for warp and/or weft. We'll discuss Fibonacci series, geometric series, name drafts, and other stripe design rationales. We'll play with colored pencils. Finally, we'll use the leftover thrums from the gamp to make color wraps for exploring different stripe ideas, because now that you know how the color combinations play together based on the gamp, you'll want to design something with multiple colors of that new yarn! There is no weaving in the class.

Prerequisites: Participants must have a basic understanding of weaving and weaving drafts. If they plan to weave a gamp or a stripe project, they must be able to warp their loom independently.

Gamp Kit: \$45

Gamp Class: \$45

Stripe Class: \$45

Gamp Kit and one class: \$85

Gamp kit and both classes: \$125

Any additional yarns purchased within 14 days of the class will be discounted 10%.

NEW! Yarn Substitutions for Weavers

Minimum 3 participants

Tuesday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) September 28*

OR Thursday (9:30 – 12:30 p.m.) October 28*

\$45

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

Have you ever come across a weaving pattern you love, but the yarn is no longer available, or you have something in your stash you would rather use? This class will walk through several examples of substituting a different yarn in a pattern. We'll look at potential benefits and pitfalls and how to avoid them. If participants have specific projects in mind, they should communicate that to the instructor prior to the class.

Prerequisites: Participants must have a basic grasp of planning a weaving project. No actual weaving is required for the class



NEW! Yarn Explorations

Minimum 3 participants

Monday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) September 27*

OR Thursday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) November 11*

\$45

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

This class is appropriate for spinners and weavers alike. What does it mean to say 6/2 cotton or 2/20 wool? How does that translate into a weaving project? How does twist affect a yarn? What's the difference between worsted and woolen, and does it matter? How can a mystery yarn be identified? We'll also look at resources and tools available to spinners and weavers. There will be much hands-on exploration in this class!



Scarf in a Day

One participant at a time

Call to schedule a date – allow a minimum of 4 hours

\$75 includes materials, instruction and use of the pre-warped loom for a day

Come in and weave a rayon chenille scarf on a pre-warped loom. You will receive personal instructions how to wind bobbins and weave the scarf. When you are done weaving, you cut the scarf off the loom and take it home for finishing. Fringing and washing instructions will be provided. No need to invest in a loom, warping, and materials. Let us do that for you!

SPINNING

Spinning Club

First Monday of each month (1 – 3 p.m.)

No charge

Advisor: Suzanne Kelly

This is a drop-in class. Join us to sit, spin and relax with your wheel or spindle once a month. We'll share techniques, tips, and conversation. All levels are welcome. Participants will receive 10% OFF spinning fibers the days the club meets.

Beginning Spinning on a Wheel

Minimum 3 participants

Wednesday (10:00 – 4:00 p.m.) September 8 (*A second session may be added if there is interest. Call for info.*)

\$90 includes materials

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

Do you want to be able to spin your own yarn for knitting, weaving or gifting? Do you want to try different wheels to see what works best for you? Do you want to understand the difference between roving and top, and how to use them? Students will learn to spin from different types of commercially prepared fiber and try several types of wheels. Equipment and fiber will be provided for use in the class. Students may bring their own wheel, in good working order, if they have one.

Beginning Drop Spindle

Minimum 3 participants

Tuesday (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.) September 14

OR Thursday (5:00 – 8:00 p.m.) October 14

\$45 includes materials

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

Love fiber? Love yarn? Learn to make your own yarn from commercially prepared wool fibers using a drop spindle. Spinning with a drop spindle is relaxing and portable. Students may bring their own drop spindle, borrow one from the instructor, or purchase one at the shop. Each student in this half-day class will go home with a small skein of handspun yarn.



Great Wheel Spinning

Minimum 3 participants

This class is not scheduled. If you are interested in taking it, please call to put your name on a list.

\$45 includes materials

Instructor: Penny Lacroix

Are you interested in learning to spin on a Great Wheel/Wool Wheel/Walking Wheel? This is a rare opportunity to learn to use the wheel that was left in your grandmother's house, or the one you picked up at an antique store, or the one at the historic house where you volunteer. Students will practice different techniques with a variety of fibers. Learn to dance with the wheel!

Prerequisite: Students must already know how to spin. Being able to bring your own great wheel is preferred, but arrangements may be made to rent one.



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\$45

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FELTING



Baby Barn Owls in Nest

Minimum 3 participants

Friday (3:15 – 4:45 p.m.) October 15

\$30

Instructor: *Rachel Benson*

Learn the basics of needle felting while creating this cute little nest of owls. All materials provided!



Sculptural Landscape

Minimum 3 participants

Friday (3:15 – 4:45 p.m.) November 12 **AND** November 19

\$55 for full workshop or \$33 to drop in for one class

Instructor: *Rachel Benson*

Learn the art of needle felting while creating your very own sculptural needle-felted landscape. Work from an image or use your imagination. All materials provided!

PRIVATE LESSONS

Want to take a class but can't make the scheduled session? We offer **private spinning lessons** at \$35 per hour. You choice of drop-spindle (taught by *Penny Lacroix*) or wheel spinning (taught by *Penny Lacroix and Suzanne Kelly*). You will be spinning by the end of the session. Our **private lessons in crochet and knitting** are \$45 for a two-hour session taught by *Lynn Cooke*. Beginners will learn the basics plus the supplies and tools they need to get started. Our **private rigid heddle weaving lessons** are \$35 per hour and are taught by *Ann Murphy*. *Penny Lacroix* also teaches our **private 4-harness weaving lessons** for \$35 an hour. Give us a call at 978-456-8669 for more information or to set up an appointment.

Penny Lacroix is a weaver, spinner, knitter, dyer and lover of all things fiber. As a historian, she appreciates the manual creation of useful products and enjoys sharing this knowledge and skill with others. She's been weaving and spinning since 2000 and teaches classes at The Fiber Loft, the Weavers' Guild of Boston and other venues. She is a member of the Boston Area Spinners and Dyers and is co-chair of the Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild.

OUR INSTRUCTORS

Rachel Benson is a freelance fiber artist and teacher who has been teaching over 10 years. She is the owner of The Fiber Web and also teaches at Wild Salamander, Prescott School, Good Pickens' Farm, Periwinkle Glasswork, and many public libraries. Her whimsical images of nature, both realistic and abstract, may be seen at Fruitlands Museum Store, Periwinkle Glassworks and the Wild Little Art Shop. You can visit her Instagram or portfolio at:

<https://www.instagram.com/thefiberweb/> <https://www.facebook.com/fiberartbyrachel/> <https://rachelbenson.carbonmade.com>

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Anne Murphy has been a weaver for over 40 years. A lover of all types of weaving, she learned on a 4-harness loom and values the portability of a rigid-heddle. As part of the Red Shawl Society, she was known for her overshot cloth that was used for "The Woman of the Year Awards" in New Hampshire. Anne teaches classes at The Fiber Loft when she not busy with her new Siamese cat, Maya. Ann is a member of the Boston Area Spinners and Dyers.

THINGS TO KNOW

- **We accept Master Card, Visa, Discover, and American Express, as well as checks. Phone registration accepted with credit card. Tuition for classes will be charged 4 days prior to a session. No refunds after that time. Tuitions will be refunded if class is cancelled.**
- *All materials can be bought at the Fiber Loft, either ahead of time or the day of the class.*
- Unless otherwise noted in the class listing, the cost of materials is additional.
- While enrolled in a class at the Fiber Loft, students receive a *10% discount* on yarns and fibers.
- If school is cancelled in Harvard due to inclement weather, then classes at the Fiber Loft are also cancelled. Give us a call or check Facebook if in doubt.
- Teenagers are welcome in all adult classes.
- Please plan on either bringing your lunch or buying it for those classes that run all day.

