



Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc

Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning

An Independent Course of Study in Hand Spinning

Revised December 2015

Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc.
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INTRODUCTION

The **Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning** is designed to encourage members of the **Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc.**, who wish to undertake a planned program of independent study, to develop and refine their hand spinning skills, and to research fibres and equipment available for hand spinning.

AIMS

- to develop guidelines for evaluating each spinner's own work
- to accumulate materials which will deepen their understanding of the methods used to achieve their results
- to increase understanding of the role of the materials and equipment in achieving optimum results
- to develop confidence in each spinner's own achievement enabling them to impart their knowledge and enthusiasm to others whenever opportunities arise
- to encourage applicants to attend as many workshops as are available and learn from as many experienced spinners as possible.

MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION

The courses for the Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning and the Advanced Certificate in Hand Spinning are available from the Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc.

APPLICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

Those wishing to undertake the Courses and present their work for evaluation for the award of the Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning, the Advanced Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning, and the Masters of Hand Spinning, must be financial members of the Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc. (the Guild).

Financial membership must be maintained throughout the period of Registration.

The applicant being a financial member of the Guild must **REGISTER** with the Guild by completing the attached form. This **REGISTRATION** will mark the

beginning of a **two (2)** year or shorter period during which the applicant will complete the program and present the work for assessment for the award of the **Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning**. Re-registration is required for the Advanced Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning, to be completed within a further two years or less.

On registration each applicant will be given a number to be attached to all work presented for evaluation.

The Guild will appoint a member as Registrar to maintain the records of applicants of the Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning.

MENTORS

The Guild will invite skilled, knowledgeable hand spinners to volunteer as mentors for one or more applicants of the Certificate. Applicants may request a mentor by contacting the Registrar. Applicants who are working on the Certificate are encouraged to consult a mentor on an informal basis if questions arise in interpreting directions, requirements or terminology. The role of the mentor is advisory only and the advice may be accepted or disregarded by applicants. Since mentors are not involved in the evaluation process, any inquiry will not affect the evaluation of the applicant's work in any way.

EVALUATION

The Guild will appoint a highly experienced hand spinner to evaluate each applicant's work and recommend the award of the Certificate. Should there be some part of the presented work, which requires improvement or additional study, the applicant will be notified in writing and can resubmit work as notified.

The course includes:

- recognition, use and care of all equipment available for the production of high quality, consistent yarns
- recognition of a wide variety of fibres of animal, vegetable and synthetic origin, and study of their major properties
- spinning a variety of fibres into yarns using appropriate preparation methods, equipment, spinning techniques and finishing methods
- presentation of specified Fibre and Yarn Samples together with a Work Book detailing the methods involved in their production.

All sections marked ➡ MUST be included in your Work Books.

Your WORK BOOKS should be A4 size, large arch lever folders (or similar) to take plastic sleeves and loose-leaf pages, and arranged systematically so that particular samples and information are easy and convenient to find for evaluation. Your WORK BOOKS will be submitted for evaluation as a record of your work, research, skill development and samples produced, but its greatest value is as a resource for the your continuing use. Additional materials may be included in the Work Books but will not be evaluated.

All fibre and yarn samples are to be presented in your Work Books in small clip lock plastic bags, set out on pages with clear labels showing the relevant number of the question and any extra details required.

The Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning is to be presented for evaluation and satisfactorily completed before application is made for the Advanced Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning. If students wish to do further in depth study they may do so by registering for a Masters in Hand Spinning.

NOTES FOR REGISTERED APPLICANTS

1. **Applications for Registration** (together with the current **Registration Fee**) must be received by the Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc and marked to the attention of the Registrar of the Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning.

2. **Sample Evaluation – within one month of registration**

Applicants are required to **submit 3 small skeins of their hand spun plied yarn (each approximately 25gms or 10m) (spun into thick, medium and thin wool)**, for initial evaluation. Each sample should be spun from fibre suited to the thickness of the sample yarn. The fibre can be washed before or after spinning. As a guide:

- **Thick** should be equivalent to commercial 10 to 12 ply;
- **Medium**, equivalent to commercial 5 to 8 ply; and
- **Thin**, equivalent to commercial 2 to 3 ply.

Skeins must be clearly labelled with the Applicant's Registration No. and Skein No. An appropriate return stamped addressed envelope should be included. Each skein, with constructive comments, will be returned as soon as possible.

3. **Evaluation of the Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning** will be submitted in two parts:

Evaluation Part I

- Knowledge, Use and Care of Equipment
- Fibre Study 2A) Wool

Evaluation Part II

- Fibre Study 2B) Cotton
- Fibre Study 2C) Alpaca
- Fibre Study 2D) Mohair
- Completed article

Work may be submitted for evaluation at any time from February to November. ALL of the following **MUST** accompany the submission of the **WORK BOOK** and **SAMPLES** for evaluation:

- Application for evaluation form
- Completed check list

4. Applicants whose work meets the requirements will be notified of their **successful completion** of the **submitted parts of Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning**.
5. Applicants whose work does not meet the requirements will be notified and may re-submit their upgraded work for evaluation.



Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc
www.nsweave.org.au

PO Box 578, Burwood, NSW 1805

CERTIFICATE of COMPETENCE IN HAND SPINNING

REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Current registration fee to be included with completed application. Payment is by cheque or direct deposit.

Family name _____

Given names _____

Postal Address _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail _____

Guild membership (Receipt No. for current calendar year) _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return this form and fee to:

REGISTRAR

Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc.

PO BOX 578

BURWOOD NSW 1805

OFFICE USE ONLY

Registration form recd

Registration No

Registration receipt No

SYLLABUS PART I

TECHNICAL SKILLS IN SPINNING AND FIBRE KNOWLEDGE

Sections marked ➤ **MUST** be included in the Work Books for evaluation. Inclusion is optional for other sections but will be valuable if recorded.

1. KNOWLEDGE, USE AND CARE OF EQUIPMENT

- 1. Most raw fibres need some preparation to be able to spin them easily. The tools to do this fibre preparation are combs, flickers, carders (hand, board and drum) and wool combs and pickers. Each of these tools is used to prepare the fibre for spinning. The spun yarn is either worsted, woollen or semi-worsted/woollen spun depending on the preparation method used.

Obtain diagrams, sketches, photos or photocopies of:

- i) Flickers
- ii) Combs (dog type)
- iii) Hand carders
- iv) Board carder or Blending board
- v) Drum carders
- vi) Wool combs

Explain their use and care and which ones are more appropriate for worsted or woollen spinning.

- 2. What is the make and type of spinning wheel that you are using?
- i) Sketch or photograph your spinning wheel labelling each part. Briefly describe the function of the following parts:
 - ii) Drive wheel
 - iii) Flyer
 - iv) Mother-of-All
 - v) Footman
 - vi) Treadles
 - vii) Bobbin
 - viii) Whorl

➤ 3. **The whorl** (also known as pulley) **and ratios of the wheel.**

Measure the number of times the flyer goes around every time the drive wheel goes around once (one treadle). Attach a piece of thread to one side of the flyer and a piece to a spoke on the drive wheel. Align the flyer and the drive wheel so that both are in a vertical position with the thread at the top. Turn the drive wheel slowly for one revolution and count the number of turns the flyer makes. This will give you the ratio of the size of the drive wheel to the whorl.

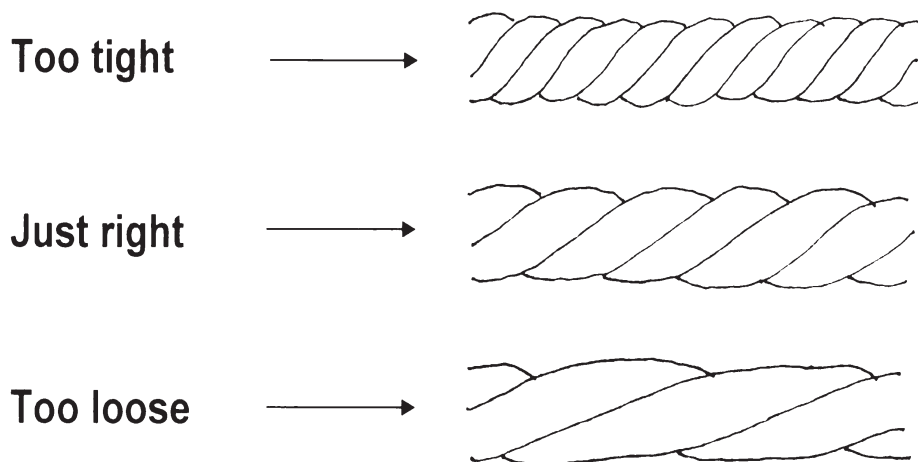
Do this for each groove in your whorl.

Record your results.

- i) What is the function of the whorl?
- ii) How many grooves does your whorl have?
What does this mean?
- iii) How can you utilise the different groove sizes?
- iv) How do you care for your spinning wheel?

➤ 4. Sketch or explain how your fingers can be used to maintain even tension while plying.

The following diagram can be used to check your plying twist.



- ➡ 5.
 - i) Compare the use of a separate lazy kate with using fixed bobbin storage holders on a spinning wheel as a lazy kate when plying.
 - ii) Suggest a simple improvised lazy kate.

- ➡ 6.
 - i) Sketch your niddy noddy and show the placement of the yarn in winding a skein.
 - ii) Sketch the tying method for a skein - how can skeins be best presented for Show Judging?

- ➡ 7. Blend equal amounts (50%/50%) of 2 colours of wool fibres (sliver or fleece) using one of the tools in ➡ 1. to give as even a colour distribution as possible.
 - i) Submit a sample of each of the 2 colours of fibre used.
 - ii) Submit a 10m spun skein of the blended fibre.

**2. FIBRE STUDY – FOUR FIBRES WILL BE STUDIED:
WOOL, COTTON, ALPACA AND MOHAIR**

NOTE: All spinners should maintain adequate tetanus immunisation

For the following exercises please present singles in 10m (minimum) skeins and plied yarn in 20m (minimum) skeins, unless otherwise stated.

A. WOOL

All samples in this section must be spun from wool fleece (not prepared tops) with each fibre suited to the thickness of the sample yarn. Please refer to the table on page 12. Wool can either be spun in the grease or scoured before spinning. All plied samples should be washed before presentation.

SOURCE OF FIBRE – Knowledge of Production, Collection and Treatment

- 1. Outline of a shorn fleece naming the sections and giving the appropriate uses of these sections.
- 2. Label a diagram of a magnified wool fibre. Indicate the tip and cut end.
- 3. Briefly explain or define these terms in relation to wool fibres:
 - i) scales
 - ii) crimp
 - iii) micron
 - iv) yolk
 - v) fibre breaks
 - vi) second cuts
 - vii) lanolin
 - viii) scouring
- 4. Name the common breeds of sheep in Australia.
 - i) Select four (4) and supply a sample of the fleece and brief notes on the fleece characteristics.
 - ii) Describe how you would prepare each fleece for spinning in relation to the characteristics of the fleece.
 - iii) What tool/s would you use? What method of spinning?

- ➔ 5. i) List the main characteristics and properties of wool relevant to its yarn production and end use.
- ii) Prepare a Care Label for wool.

- ➔ 6. Show in diagram form or actual samples, wool prepared for worsted spinning and wool prepared for woollen spinning – note the difference in fibre orientation and appropriate length of fibre.

SPINNING WOOL

Include a sample of fibre, singles and plied yarn where appropriate.

- ➔ 7. For each of the following experiments submit a small sample of your work. Yarn may be wrapped around a small card for presentation.
 - i) Spin singles using fine, medium and coarse fibres. (3 samples)
 - ii) Spin a length of yarn varying the number of treadlings (i.e. increase the speed of your treadling) but drafting the same amount of fibre. Comment on the difference along the length of yarn.
 - iii)
 - Spin an S twist singles and ply it Z twist.
 - Spin a Z twist singles and ply it S twist.
 - Knit or crochet using these 2 yarns on the one swatch.
 - iv) Spin a fine, medium and thick singles by controlling the amount of fibre when drafting. Spin this singles as a continuous length (about 6m) of yarn.
 - v) Spin a length of yarn using short draw. Ply.
 - vi) Spin a length of yarn using long draw. Ply.
 - vii) Ply two singles with:
 - the same diameter and direction of twist;
 - different diameters and the same direction of twist;
 - different directions of twist;
 - vary the amount of plying twist.
 Compare the results. (4 samples)
 - viii) Describe the best way of joining a break while spinning. How do you join a break while plying?

Optional: Spin a length of yarn changing the whorl groove used but keeping the amount of fibre drafted and the speed of treadling the same.
Comment.

For the following exercises please present singles in 10m (minimum) skeins and plied yarn in 20m (minimum) skeins, unless otherwise stated.

All plied samples should be washed before presentation.

MEASURING TWIST

- ➔ 8. Prepare and spin fine, medium and thick yarns in both worsted and woollen methods.

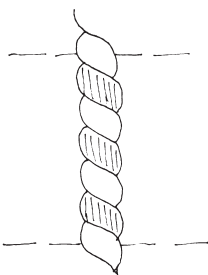
Supply a sample of the fibre, singles yarn (10m skein) and plied yarn (20m skein) in fine, medium and thick in both worsted and woollen spun.

Wrap a length of your hand spun yarn around a piece of cardboard for 2.5cm so that the wraps of yarn touch one another but are not stretched too tight. Count and record the number of wraps per 2.5cm (inch).

Complete the two tables on the following page. For each example in the table, comment on your choice of fibre and your results.

The following table can be used when sourcing fleece for this exercise.

| Yarn | Fleece | Fibre diameter in microns (μm) | Examples of sheep breeds |
|--------|-----------------|---|--|
| Fine | Fine Merino | Less than 22 | Merino, Cormo |
| Medium | Fine Cross-bred | 22 – 26 | Polworth, Bond, S.A. Merino, Border Leicester/Merino Cross |
| Thick | Cross-bred | 26+ | Border Leicester, Corriedale, English Leicester, Romney |



Yarn showing 3 twists per unit length. For one twist the fibre goes round both front and back of the yarn.

WORSTED SPUN

| | Before washing skein | | | After washing skein | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Yarn | Singles diameter: wraps per 2.5cm | Number of plied twists per 2.5cm | 2 ply diameter: wraps per 2.5cm | Number of plied twists per 2.5cm | 2 ply diameter: wraps per 2.5cm |
| Fine | | | | | |
| Medium | | | | | |
| Thick | | | | | |

WOOLLEN SPUN

| | Before washing skein | | | After washing skein | |
|--------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Yarn | Single diameter: wraps per 2.5cm | Number of plied twists per 2.5cm | 2 ply diameter: wraps per 2.5cm | Number of plied twists per 2.5cm | 2 ply diameter: wraps per 2.5cm |
| Fine | | | | | |
| Medium | | | | | |
| Thick | | | | | |

Note: Please comment on the unwashed skeins but you only need to submit the washed skeins.

FINISHING SPUN YARN

- 9. Spin several skeins of approximately 10 metres each using unwashed fleece of your choice.

Use these skeins to:

- i) Comment on why washing is an important step in finishing a spun yarn?
- ii) Scour using a variety of detergents and fabric softeners.
- iii) Wash by hand and machine.
- iv) Dry washed skeins both weighted and unweighted.

Comment on your results.

Optional: Find out the pH of your water supply. Find out the pH most suitable for wool.

- 10. Select two of your hand spun yarns (one from woollen spun yarn and the other from worsted spun yarn) for the following exercises.

- i) Wrap a length of your hand spun yarn around a piece of cardboard for 2.5cm so that the wraps of yarn touch one another but are not stretched too tight. Count and record the number of wraps. Suggest an appropriate needle size for your yarn for either plain knitting or double crochet.
- ii) Knit or crochet each of the two samples approximately 10cm x 24cm.

These samples will be tension strips using the needle/hook size you think is appropriate and two other needle/hook sizes; one larger and one smaller than your suggested needle/hook size.

Start the strip on the smallest needle/hook size, then the middle size, then the largest needle/hook size.

- iii) Label the samples stating the needles/hooks used together with your comments on their suitability. Suggest suitable uses for these yarns.

CHAIN PLYING

- ➔ 11. i) Sketch and label a diagram showing the structure of a yarn plied in this method.
- ii) From woollen or worsted spun singles, make a 10m chain plied length of yarn.
- iii) iii) Explain the advantages of this method and give examples where this would be the best method of plying used. Are there any disadvantages?

You may now submit for assessment:

EVALUATION PART I

- 1. Knowledge, Use and Care of Equipment
- 2. Fibre Study (A) Wool

Please notify the Guild and the Registrar prior to submitting work for assessment.

CHECK LIST (PART I)

This Checklist should be printed as required by the candidate, used as needed, but one clean copy has to accompany the Work Books for assessment.

APPLICANT'S NUMBER (DO NOT USE YOUR NAME)

Applicants to tick (✓) each item in column A

| I | TECHNICAL SKILLS IN SPINNING AND FIBRE KNOWLEDGE KNOWLEDGE, USE and CARE of EQUIPMENT | | | |
|----|--|---|---|---|
| | | A | B | C |
| 1. | Diagrams, use and care of: | | | |
| | i) Flickers | | | |
| | ii) Combs (dog type) | | | |
| | iii) Hand carders | | | |
| | iv) Board carder or blending board | | | |
| | v) Drum carder | | | |
| 2. | vi) Wool combs | | | |
| | i) Sketch or photograph of wheel (labelled) | | | |
| | ii) Drive wheel | | | |
| | iii) Flyer | | | |
| | iv) Mother-of-all | | | |
| | v) Footman | | | |
| | vi) Treadles | | | |
| | vii) Bobbin | | | |
| 3. | viii) Whorl | | | |
| | i) Function of whorl | | | |
| | ii) Meaning of grooves | | | |
| | iii) How to utilise different groove sizes | | | |
| 4. | iv) Care of wheel | | | |
| | Sketch or explain use of fingers to maintain plying tension. | | | |
| | i) Comparison of 2 lazy kate systems; and | | | |
| | ii) Improvised lazy kate | | | |
| 6. | Sketch of: | | | |
| | i) Niddy noddy with yarn placement; and | | | |
| 7. | ii) Skein tied for judging | | | |
| | i) Samples of 2 coloured wool fibres; and | | | |
| | ii) 10m spun skein of the blended fibre | | | |

| 2A FIBRE STUDY (WOOL) | | A | B | C |
|------------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. | Outline of a shorn fleece naming the sections and giving the appropriate uses of these sections. | | | |
| 2. | Diagram of a wool fibre | | | |
| 3. | Explain/define: | | | |
| | i) Scales | | | |
| | ii) Crimp | | | |
| | iii) Micron | | | |
| | iv) Yolk | | | |
| | v) Fibre breaks | | | |
| | vi) Second cuts | | | |
| | vii) Lanolin | | | |
| 4. | i) Samples of fleece from 4 different sheep common in Australia and characteristics. | | | |
| | ii) Describe preparation of each | | | |
| | iii) Tools/Method of spinning | | | |
| 5. | i) Characteristics and properties of wool | | | |
| | ii) Care label | | | |
| 6. | Diagrams/Samples of preparation for woollen and worsted spin. | | | |
| 7. | Spinning wool: | | | |
| | i) Singles – fine, medium and coarse | | | |
| | ii) Vary treadling/speed | | | |
| | iii) S twist singles plied Z twist Z twist singles plied S twist Knitted or crocheted swatch | | | |
| | iv) Fine, medium and thick singles | | | |
| | v) Short draw and plied sample. | | | |
| | vi) Long draw and plied sample. | | | |

| | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>vii) Comparison of 4 samples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - same diameter and direction of twist - different diameters and direction of twist - different directions of twist - varied amount of plying twist | | | |
| | <p>viii) Joining a break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - while spinning - while plying | | | |
| | <i>Optional</i> – Comment – Changing whorl groove | | | |
| 8. | <p>Measuring Twist Comparison table – Worsted spun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine - Medium - Thick | | | |
| | <p>Measuring Twist Comparison table – Woollen spun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine - Medium - Thick | | | |
| | Comment on results | | | |
| | Sample skeins | | | |
| 9. | <p>Spun yarn finishing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Comment – Why wash ii) Scouring iii) Wash by hand/machine iv) Dry – weighted/unweighted | | | |
| | <i>Optional</i> – pH of water supply | | | |
| 10. | <p>Woollen spun/Worsted spun – tension comparison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) needle size ii) Tension strip samples iii) Comments and suggestions | | | |
| 11. | <p>Chain plying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Sketch and label ii) Sample 10m skein iii) Advantages/disadvantages | | | |



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PO Box 578, Burwood, NSW 1805

CERTIFICATE of COMPETENCE IN HAND SPINNING

APPLICATION FOR ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION PART I

1. Knowledge, Use and Care of Equipment,
2. Fibre Study (A) Wool

Family name _____ Given name _____

Address _____

Phone/Fax _____ E-mail _____

Registration No _____ Date of registration _____

Current Guild membership number _____

*This form must be submitted
with the completed work books and check list.*

SYLLABUS PART II

2. FIBRE STUDY (continued)

B. COTTON

FIBRE KNOWLEDGE

- 12. Name 2 varieties of cotton commonly grown in Australia.
For one variety of cotton provide labelled illustrations of:
 - i) plant
 - ii) boll
 - iii) fibre

- 13. Explain the characteristics used in assessing cotton fibres.

FIBRE PREPARATION

- 14. Name the main stages in:
 - i) Commercial cotton fibre preparation.
 - ii) Hand preparation (note the difference between wool and cotton carders).

- 15. List the main characteristics and properties of cotton relevant to its yarn production and end use.

- 16. Provide samples of the following cotton fibres (each labelled), which can be used for hand spinning:
 - i) seed cotton (diagram if unavailable)
 - ii) ginned cotton
 - iii) cotton sliver
 - iv) puni

For the following exercises please present singles in 10m (minimum) skeins and plied yarn in 20m (minimum) skeins, unless otherwise stated.

SPINNING COTTON

Experiment with the short draw and long draw methods for spinning cotton fibres and consider the advantages and disadvantages in using these methods for your samples.

- 17. Spin a singles and 2 ply yarn for four (4) of the following, if available:
 - i) Directly from seed
 - ii) Ginned and opened (steamed or bowed) and then handcarded.
 - iii) From commercial punis
 - iv) From commercial sliver
 - v) Spindle spun using either a charka, supported spindle, stylus or modifying your wheel by shaping a piece of dowel to a point and inserting it into the orifice of your wheel.

- 18. Describe the treatment of hand spun cotton yarns in preparation for knitting/crochet/weaving.

- 19. Knit, crochet or weave a small sample (10cm x 10cm) with one of the 2 ply yarns:

Optional: knit a moss stitch face washer 20cm x 20cm.

- i) Label, indicating the method of fibre preparation and spinning.
- ii) Attach a Care Label.

C. ALPACA

FIBRE KNOWLEDGE

- 20. Label a diagram/sketch/photo/photocopy of:
 - i) Shorn huacaya alpaca fleece explaining the uses for the various sections.
 - ii) Explain the difference between huacaya and suri alpaca fleece.

- 21. i) Compare the structure and properties of alpaca fibres with wool fibres.
 - ii) Explain the differences between cria and adult fleece and how these affect the use of the fleeces.

- 22. Labelled samples (can be washed in the same manner as wool) of:
 - i) Huacaya staple or lock.
 - ii) Suri staple or lock.
 - iii) Cria staple or lock.

FIBRE PREPARATION, SPINNING, FINISHING AND USES

Note: If you suffer from allergies, very dusty alpaca fleece should be washed prior to preparing and spinning.

Prepare and spin alpaca fibre for the following yarns (each skein minimum 10m):

Include a sample of the unspun alpaca used.

For skeins and samples provide a label stating yarn characteristics, potential uses, fibre preparation, spinning technique, finishing methods used and Care Instructions.

- 23. i) Fine plied yarn from hand prepared alpaca.
 - ii) Thicker plied yarn from hand prepared alpaca.

- 24. i) Fine plied yarn from commercially combed alpaca tops.
 - ii) Thicker plied yarn from commercially combed alpaca tops.

- 25. i) Alpaca blended with wool 50/50 and prepared and spun according to your choice. Supply a sample of the alpaca and wool fibres.
- ii) What are the advantages of blending alpaca and wool?
What other fibre/s are suitable for blending with alpaca?
- 26. Knit or crochet a sample (approximately 10cm x 10cm) using any of the above yarns.
- 27. List the main characteristics and properties of alpaca relevant to its yarn production and end use.

D. MOHAIR

FIBRE KNOWLEDGE

- 28. i) Label samples of staples from kid (first shearing), young goat (second shearing) and adult (third shearing) angora goat fleece.
- ii) State the differences between the above staples particularly in terms of appearance and handle.
- 29. i) Compare mohair and wool fibres.
- ii) How do any differences affect fibre preparation methods and spinning techniques for mohair?
- iii) Define guard hair and kemp.

FIBRE PREPARATION, SPINNING, FINISHING AND USES

Mohair fibre can be washed (scoured) before spinning using the same method as used for wool.

Experiment with mohair fibre using:

- i. Different preparation methods eg combing, hand carding by
 - a) placing the locks across the carder
 - b) placing the locks vertically on the carder
- ii. Varying the twist in both singles and plied yarns.
- iii. Finishing mohair yarn for knitting eg brushing a plied skein while on the niddy noddy and before washing.

Comment on your results.

- 30. i) Using a few staples of adult mohair, scour as for wool. Spin and ply (chain ply acceptable) a minimum of 5m.
- ii) From unscoured fibre, spin and ply a similar amount of yarn.
- iii) Evaluate the two yarns and use your findings to decide on any advantages/disadvantages of scouring before spinning.

- 31. Using the same fleece as in ➤28 and knowledge from your experiments with mohair, prepare, spin and ply the following yarns (skeins 10m each):
- i) Kid mohair (first shearing):
 - a. combed (dog comb), worsted spun
 - b.1 carded, short draw
 - b.2 carded, long draw.
 - ii) Young goat (second shearing):
 - a.1 combed (dog comb), worsted spun, fine
 - a.2 combed (dog comb), worsted spun, medium
 - b.1 carded, short draw, fine
 - b.2 carded, long draw, medium.
 - iii) Adult (third shearing) mohair – combed, worsted spun to the most appropriate thickness.
 - iv) Using one of the above yarns, knit or crochet a sample 10cm x 10cm.
- 32. i) State the properties desirable in a wool fibre suitable for blending with mohair.
- ii) Keeping as closely as possible to these qualities spin a 50/50 blend wool/mohair plied yarn (10m).
- iii) Name the wool type selected and include a sample.
- 33. i) Knit/crochet a sample 10cm x 10cm from a 50/50 wool/mohair.
- ii) Compare with the sample prepared for ➤31 iv) above.
- 34. List the main characteristics and properties of mohair relevant to its yarn production and end use.
- 35. Prepare a Care Label for mohair.

3. COMPLETED ARTICLE (SMALL)

- ➡ 36. Select one of the fibres (or a blend) studied, then prepare and spin approximately 100g – 150g of yarn to make a small article of your choice (eg scarf, beret, cushion, small bag etc). This article may be woven, knitted, crocheted or made by any other suitable method.

Give reasons for your choice of fibre(s), preparation methods and spinning methods in relation to the article made.

Include a fibre sample and yarn sample.

Attach a Care Label.

You may now submit for final assessment:

EVALUATION PART II

- 2. Fibre Study (B) Cotton, (C) Alpaca, (D) Mohair
- 3. Completed article

Please notify the Guild and the Registrar prior to submitting work for assessment.

CHECK LIST (PART II)

This Checklist should be printed as required by the candidate, used as needed, but one clean copy has to accompany the Work Books for assessment.

APPLICANT'S NUMBER (DO NOT USE YOUR NAME)

Applicants to tick (✓) each item in column A

| 2B | FIBRE STUDY (COTTON) | A | B | C |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| 12. | Name 2 varieties of cotton grown in Australia | | | |
| 13. | Labelled illustration: | | | |
| | i) Plant | | | |
| | ii) Boll | | | |
| | iii) Fibre | | | |
| 13. | Characteristics used in assessing cotton fibres. | | | |
| 14. | Stages in: | | | |
| | i) Commercial fibre preparation; and ii) Hand preparation/carders. | | | |
| 15. | List the main characteristics and properties of cotton relevant to its yarn production and end use. | | | |
| 16. | Samples of cotton fibres, labelled: | | | |
| | i) Seed cotton | | | |
| | ii) Ginned cotton | | | |
| | iii) Cotton sliver | | | |
| | iv) Puni | | | |
| 17. | Skeins spun from: (select 4) | | | |
| | i) Seed | | | |
| | ii) Ginned and opened (steamed or bowed) | | | |
| | iii) Puni | | | |
| | iv) Commercial sliver | | | |
| | v) Spindle spun | | | |
| 18. | Treatment of cotton yarn. | | | |
| 19. | 10cm x 10cm sample (knit, crochet or weave): | | | |
| | i) Label, include fibre preparation | | | |
| | ii) Care Label | | | |
| | Optional: Knitted moss stitch face washer | | | |

| 2C FIBRE STUDY (ALPACA) | | A | B | C |
|--------------------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 20. | Labelled diagram/sketch/photo of: | | | |
| | i) Shorn alpaca fleece | | | |
| | ii) Huacaya and Suri alpaca fleece | | | |
| 21. | i) Comparison of alpaca fibres with wool fibres | | | |
| | ii) Difference between cria and adult fleece | | | |
| 22. | Labelled samples: | | | |
| | i) Huacaya staple or lock | | | |
| | ii) Suri staple or lock | | | |
| | iii) Cria staple or lock | | | |
| 23. | i) Fine plied yarn from hand prepared alpaca | | | |
| | ii) Thicker plied yarn from hand prepared alpaca | | | |
| 24. | i) Fine plied yarn from commercially combed alpaca tops | | | |
| | ii) Thicker plied yarn from commercially combed alpaca tops | | | |
| 25. | i) Alpaca blended with wool 50/50 and prepared and spun according to your choice | | | |
| | ii) Advantages of blending alpaca and wool - Suggest other fibres to blend with alpaca | | | |
| 26. | Sample 10cm x 10cm (knit or crochet) using any of the above yarns. | | | |
| 27. | List the main characteristics and properties of alpaca relevant to its yarn production and end use. | | | |

| 2D FIBRE STUDY (MOHAIR) | | A | B | C |
|--------------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| 28. | i) Label samples of staples from kid, young and adult angora goat fleece | | | |
| | ii) State the differences between the above staples | | | |
| 29. | i) Comparison mohair and wool fibres; | | | |
| | ii) Differences in fibre preparation and spinning techniques | | | |
| | iii) Define guard hair and kemp | | | |
| 30. | i) Scoured skein | | | |
| | ii) Unscoured skein | | | |
| | iii) Evaluate advantages/disadvantages | | | |
| 31. | i) Kid mohair: a. combed, worsted spun b.1 carded, short draw b.2 carded, long draw | | | |
| | ii) Young mohair: a.1 combed, worsted spun, fine a.2 combed, worsted spun, medium b.1 carded, short draw, fine b.2 carded, long draw, medium | | | |
| | iii) Adult mohair – combed worsted spun to the most appropriate thickness | | | |
| | iv) Sample 10 cm x 10cm (knit or crochet) using one of the above yarns | | | |
| | | | | |
| 32. | i) State the properties desirable in a wool fibre suitable for blending with mohair | | | |
| | ii) Keeping as closely as possible to these qualities, spin a 50/50 blend wool/mohair plied yarn (10m) | | | |
| | iii) Name the wool type selected and include sample | | | |
| 33. | i) Sample 10cm x 10cm (knit or crochet) from 50/50 blend | | | |
| | ii) Compare the sample with 31 iv) above | | | |
| 34. | List the main characteristics and properties of mohair relevant to its yarn production and end use | | | |
| 35. | Prepare a Care Label for mohair | | | |

| | | | |
|----------|---|----------|----------|
| 3 | COMPLETED ARTICLE (small) | | |
| 39. | Select one of the fibres (or a blend) studied, then prepare and spin approximately 100g of yarn to make a small article of your choice (eg scarf, beret, cushion, small bag etc). This article may be woven, knitted, crocheted or made by any other suitable method. | | |
| | | A | B |
| i) | Choice of fibre(s) | | |
| ii) | Preparation methods | | |
| iii) | Spinning methods | | |
| iv) | Fibre sample | | |
| v) | Yarn sample | | |
| vi) | Care Label | | |



Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of New South Wales Inc
www.nsweave.org.au

PO Box 578, Burwood, NSW 1805

CERTIFICATE of COMPETENCE IN HAND SPINNING

APPLICATION FOR ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION PART II

2. Fibre Study: (B) Cotton, (C) Alpaca, (D) Mohair

3. Completed Article

Family name _____ Given name _____

Address _____

Phone/Fax _____ E-mail _____

Registration No _____ Date of registration _____

Current Guild membership number _____

*This form must be submitted
with the completed work books and check list.*

REFERENCE BOOKS AND JOURNALS

The following list of books and journals is intended to help registrants in the **Certificate of Competence in Hand Spinning** to locate useful material. No one book contains everything you may need to know so that contacts with your mentor and fellow spinners are of prime importance. However, you can continually refer to this list until you have all the information you need.

Although many of the books listed were first published ten or even twenty years ago, their content is relevant for today's spinners. Most of the books listed can be purchased from booksellers who specialise in textile crafts. Books and journals can be found in libraries – local, schools' and guilds' as well as collections on your own and friends' shelves. While *Spin-Off* is the most useful journal, others may contain useful and relevant articles. These can be photocopied and filed for your own reference.

| SPINNING GENERAL | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ALDERSON, Sarah | <i>The Spinner's Book of Yarn Design</i> Storey Publishing 2012 |
| BAINES, Patricia | <i>Spinning Wheels, Spinners & Spinning</i> Batsford 1971 |
| BOGGS, Jacey | <i>Spin Art</i> Interweave 2011 |
| BROWN, Rachel | <i>The Weaving, Spinning & Dyeing Book</i> Routledge Kegan Paul 1978 |
| CHADWICK, E | <i>The Craft of Handspinning</i> Batsford 1980 |
| CROCKETT, Candace | <i>The Complete Spinning Book</i> Watson Guptill Publications, NY 1977 |
| DAVENPORT, Elsie G | <i>Your Handspinning</i> Pacific Grove, California 1964 |
| DAYKIN, A & DEANE, J | <i>Creative Spinning</i> Gaia Octopus, London 2007 |
| DUNCAN, Molly | <i>Spin Your Own Wool & Dye It & Weave It</i> Reed, Wellington NZ 1968 |
| FIELD, Anne | <i>The Ashford Book of Spinning</i> Reed Metheuen 1986 now reprinted |
| FIELD, Anne | <i>Spinning Wool Beyond the Basics</i> Shoal Bay Press Ltd, Box 215, Christchurch NZ 1990/2002 |
| FITZPATRICK, Dorothy | <i>Australian Knee Spinning</i> Original Print 1979 |
| HOCHBERG, Bette | <i>Handspinner's Handbook</i> self published, Santa Cruz, California 1978 |
| HOCHBERG, Bette | <i>Bette Hochberg's Textile Articles</i> (reprints) self published, Santa Cruz, CA 1982 |
| JACKSON, C & PLOWMAN, J | <i>The NZ Woolcraft Book</i> |
| KROLL, Carol | <i>The Whole Craft of Spinning</i> Dover Publications, Loveland, California 1985 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| LEADBEATER, Eliza | <i>Handspinning</i> Studio Vista, London 1970 |
| McFARLAND, Susan | <i>Combs! Combs! Combs!</i> Cairnin Press, Columbus, Ohio 1994 |
| MackENZIE McCUIN, Judith | <i>The Intentional Spinner</i> Interweave 2009 |
| MERCER, John | <i>The Spinners Workshop</i> Prism, Dorchester, UK 1978 |
| MILNER, Thread Ann | <i>I Can Spin a Different Yarn</i> John MacIndoe Ltd, Dunedin, NZ 1979 |
| MORRIS, Leigh | <i>The Handspinner's Companion</i> self published, Tauranga, NZ 1994 |
| MURRAY, Robbie | <i>Spinning & Dyeing</i> Rigby, Auckland 1975 |
| NORTH, Symeon | <i>Get Spun</i> Interweave 2010 |
| OLD, Pat | <i>In a Spin</i> Sherborne Group NZ 2009 |
| RAVEN, Lee | <i>Hands on Spinning: How to Spin a Good Yarn</i> Interweave Press 1987 |
| REEVE, Jo | <i>The Ashford Book of Carding</i> 2006 |
| ROBSON, Deborah & EKARIUS, Carol | <i>The Fleece & Fiber Sourcebook</i> Storey Publishing 2011 |
| ROSS, Mabel | <i>The Essentials of Handspinning</i> self published, Kincoss, Scotland 1983 |
| ROSS, Mabel | <i>The Essentials of Yarn Design for Handspinners</i> Kincoss, Scotland 1983 |
| ROSS, Mabel | <i>Handspinner's Workbook: Fancy Yarns</i> self published, Kincoss, Scotland 1989 |
| ROSS, Mabel | <i>Encyclopedia of Handspinning</i> Interweave Press 1988 |
| SIMMONS, Paula | <i>Spinning for Softness & Speed</i> Madrona Publishers, Seattle 1982 |
| STOVE, Margaret | <i>Handspinning, Dyeing & Working with Merino & Superfine Wools</i> Kangaroo Press 1991 |
| TEAL, Peter | <i>Hand Woolcombing & Spinning</i> Blandford Press, Dorset 1976 |
| VARNEY, Diane | <i>Spinning Designer Yarns</i> Interweave Press 1987/2003 |
| WALSH, Penny | <i>The Yarn Book</i> A&C Black, London 2006 |
| VESTER, Paula J | <i>Spinning Cotton</i> 1999 |
| SPECIFIC FIBRES | |
| BAINES, PATRICIA | <i>Linen Handspinning and Weaving</i> Batsford 1989 |
| DIXON, Margaret | <i>The Wool Book</i> Hamlyn 1979 |
| FLETCHER, Joan | <i>Angora</i> NZ Spinning & Woolcrafts Society, Inc |
| FOURNIER, N & J | <i>In Sheep's Clothing: A Handspinners Guide to Wool</i> Interweave Press 1995 |
| HOCHBERG, Bette | <i>Fibre Facts</i> self published, Santa Cruz, California 1981 |
| LEADER, John D | <i>Wool: Nature's Wonder Fibre</i> Australian Textiles Publishers, Victoria 1995 |

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| LINDER, O & H | <i>Handspinning Cotton</i> The Cotton Squares, Phoenix Arizona 1977 |
| LINDER, O & H | <i>Handspinning Flax</i> Bizarre Butterfly, Arizona 1986 |
| LYNNE, Erica | <i>Angora: A Handbook for Spinners</i> Interweave Press 1992 |
| MEESON, N M | <i>The Handspinning of Angora Wool</i> Watmaughs Ltd Idle, Bradford |
| MURRAY, Robbie | <i>New Zealand Sheep & Their Wool, Wools of New Zealand</i> Wellington 1994 |
| POORE, Jenny | <i>Mohair from the Handspinners Viewpoint</i> NZ Spinning, Weaving & Woolcraft Society 1987 |
| ROBSON, Deborah | <i>Handspun Treasures from Rare Wool</i> Interweave Press 2000 |
| STOVE, Margaret | <i>Merino Handspinning, Dyeing & Working with Merino & Superfine Wools</i> Kangaroo Press NSW 1991 |
| WEBB, J & SAUNDERS, B | <i>Mohair From Goat to Garment</i> The Mohair Centre, UK 1992 |
| SPINNING WHEELS AND SPINDLES | |
| AMOS, ALDEN | <i>Spinning Wheel Primer</i> Interweave Press 1989 |
| HOCHBERG, Bette | <i>Handspindles</i> self published, Santa Cruz, California 1977 |
| KRONBERG, Bud | <i>Spinning Wheel Building and Restoration</i> Van Nostrand Reinhold 1995 |
| PAULI, Karen | <i>The Care & Feeding of Spinning Wheels</i> Interweave Press 1981 |
| ROBSON, Deborah | <i>A Handspindle Treasure</i> Interweave Press 2000 |
| DYEING AND COLOUR THEORY | |
| ANDERSON, Beryl | <i>Creative Spinning & Plant Dyeing</i> Angus and Robertson 1971 |
| ITTEN, Johannes | <i>The Art of Colour</i> |
| MENZ, Deb | <i>Color in Spinning</i> Interweave Press 1998 |
| MENZ, Deb | <i>The Crafters Guide to Colour</i> Interweave Press 2004 |
| SVINICKI, Eunice | <i>Step by Step Spinning & Dyeing</i> Golden Press, New York 1974 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | |
| CROLIUS, K & MONTGOMERY, A | <i>Knitting with Dog Hair</i> Hutchinson, London 1996 |
| GOHL, EPG & VELENSKY, L D | <i>Textile Science</i> Longman Cheshire Pty Ltd 1988 |
| KOLANDER, Cheryl | <i>The Silk Workers Notebook</i> Interweave Press 1985 |

| JOURNALS | | |
|---|--|--|
| Name of Publication | Publisher | Frequency of Publication |
| <i>Spin Off</i> | Interweave Press | Published quarterly |
| <i>Handwoven</i> | Interweave Press | Published bi-monthly except June/July |
| <i>Shuttle Spindle and Dyepot</i> | Handweavers Guild of America Inc. | Quarterly, available to members |
| <i>The Journal for Weavers Spinners and Dyers</i> | Weavers, Spinners and Dyers Guilds U.K. | Published quarterly |
| <i>Ply</i> | Plymagazine.com | Published quarterly |

OTHER SOURCES FOR BOOKS AND DVDs

Bookdepository.com

Fishpond.com.au

Interweave.com

Amazon.com

Youtube.com has a number of spinning videos

chicksinrubber does a very good wool combing video

NSW FIBRE SUPPLIERS AS AT MAY 2015

| | |
|--|--|
| GLENORA WEAVING SUPPLIES (Christine Sloan) Gerringong - 02 42 340244 www.glenoraweaving.com.au | Wool tops & assorted fibres Spinning equipment |
| VIRGINIA FARM WOOL WORKS (Jenny & Phillip Dunn) Annangrove – 02 96541069 www.virginiafarmwoolworks.com.au | Fleeces, wool tops & assorted fibres Spinning equipment |
| PETLIN'S SPINNING SUPPLIES (Linda Coffill) Rhodes – 02 9736 1501 (Thurs & Sat only) www.petlins.com | Wool tops, assorted fibres Spinning equipment |
| FELT FINE (Garry Sheen) Duns Creek – 02 49 385669 www.feltfine.com.au | Wool tops & assorted fibres |
| SPUNOUT (Pat Gledhill-Bennett) Gulgong – 02 63 741170 | Spinning equipment & fibres |
| DREAMWOOD ALPACAS (Donna) Tennyson – 02 45 765711 www.dreamwoodinternational.com . | Alpaca fleece |
| MARLYN ALPACAS (Jill Rowling) Thornleigh – 02 9481 0949 www.marlynalpaca.com.au | Alpaca fleece |
| REG & GILL SCOTT (Mohair growers) The Oaks – 02 46 572293 | Mohair fleece |
| MAGGIE McENALLAY Bargo – 02 46 842686 Email maggiehmac@hotmail.com | Books |