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## Sewing Fundamentals Syllabus

**Instructor**

Amber Layne

[Meet Your Instructor](https://oklahomacontemporary.org/learn/studio-school/current-studio-school-instructors/amber-layne)

**Start Date | Rain Date**

Eight-week class begins Monday, September 26, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

In case of instructor illness or weather, the rain date is November 21.

**Location**

Main Building | In Honor of Bryan and Kendall Hall Studio Two | 11 NW 11th St., Oklahoma City, OK, 73102

**Open Studio Sessions**

Check availability on the [Student Portal.](https://oklahomacontemporary.org/learn/studio-school/studio-school-student-portal)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed for those new to sewing, those who haven’t sewn in a while, those afraid of their machines, those who want to build a stronger foundation in their sewing knowledge or those needing a refresh on the basics of machine sewing. Students will learn in-depth knowledge of their sewing machines while mastering the fundamentals of sewing through fun, useful, instructor-selected projects. Students must bring their own sewing machine to each class.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Week 1: The sewing machine: anatomy of a sewing machine, care and cleaning of a machine, understanding bobbins, threading a machine, installing a needle.

Students will learn and perform a general cleaning of their machines.

Week 2: Machine needles, threads, and fabrics: the anatomy of needles, thread, fabrics, and how they work together. Students will learn to sew in straight lines.

Week 3: Machine stitches: understanding what stitches are, how they are used, what feet to use with different stitches, when to use each stitch, and proper pairing of stitches with fabrics/threads. Students will create a stitch map guide. Students will learn to turn corners.

Week 4: Sewing tools and skills: tools of the trade, proper pinning, pressing, and cutting techniques explained. Students will make a pin cushion using the above mentioned skills. Students will learn to machine sew a button, and a hand sewing technique.

Week 5: Seams: understanding straight seams, seam allowances, finishing seam edge techniques, and curved seams. Students will create a seam finishing map guide.

Week 6: Zippers and Cording: the anatomy of a zipper, different kinds of zippers, how to use a zipper foot, how to install a zipper, understanding cording, how to make a wrapped cord, how to install cording. Students will make a zippered pouch. Students will learn to measure and install zippers correctly.

Week 7: Zippered pouch, review, and start of final project: finish zippered pouches, review of any techniques needed, discussion of final project.

Week 8: Final project: Constructions and design of a pillow cover using all skills acquired during the course. Students will create a pillow cover from scratch.

**RECOMMENDED READING RESOURCES**

* Gardiner, Wendy & Knight, Lorna. The Sewing Machine Accessory Bible: Get the most out of your machine-from using basic feet to mastering specialty feet. New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2011.
* Kettle, Liz. Know Your Needles. Pennsylvania: Fox Chapel Publishing Company, 2014.
* Singer, Ruth. The Sewing Bible. New York: Crown Publishing Group, 2008.
* Smith, Alison. The Sewing Book. New York: DK Publishing, 2009.
* Tobisch, Bernie. You and Your Sewing Machine: A sewist’s guide to troubleshooting, maintenance, tips and techniques. California: C&T Publishing, 2018

**REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

* At the first class, students will be required to purchase a kit of supplies. This kit includes all of the materials that you will need for the teacher-assigned projects, with the exception of the last project (part of the final project is learning to source your own materials).
* At the first class, the instructor will discuss tools. If you do not already have sewing equipment, wait until after the first course to make a purchase.
* Supplies required the first night of class: A notebook and Pen for notes, a serviced sewing machine, electric cord, foot pedal, machine manual, and all tools, feet, bobbins, and accessories that came with the machine