

Jewellery Studies Frequently Asked Questions

When do the jewellery and gemmology programs start?

All programs start in the Fall semester and follow the September to April academic year. Two and three year programs break from May to August and resume in September.

What if I have questions about a program or wish to see the facility?

Jewellery Studies hosts Information Sessions once a month from November until May. To register and to see dates, times and locations please go to:
www.georgebrown.ca/info_sessions.aspx

Are any jewellery or gemmology courses offered from May to August?

Several jewellery specialization credit courses from full time programming are offered in May and June. Please contact Jewellery Studies in February for the list of courses to be offered in the Spring semester. Gemmology offers a 3 week intensive exam preparation course for those writing the Canadian or British gemological exams.

Are all jewellery courses, both mandatory and specialization electives, offered every semester?

Mandatory jewellery courses are offered once an academic year in either the Fall or Winter semester. To repeat a course the student must wait until the next academic year and will not advance to a level 2 course until successful completion of the level 1 course. A selection from the jewellery specialization course list is offered in the Fall and Winter semesters, as well as a limited offering in the Spring semester.

May I attend Full Time day courses as a part time student?

Yes, you may enroll as a part time student taking Full Time course offerings. However, full time students have priority registration and courses may reach maximum enrollment with full time students. Part time students may not register until the first week of classes.

Where will I find information about the questionnaire and portfolio?

You may download and print the questionnaire and portfolio guidelines from the Jewellery Studies website: www.georgebrown.ca/jewellery. Go to the specific program page to which you have applied and look for the link to the questionnaire and/or portfolio guidelines.

For which programs do I need to submit a portfolio?

Jewellery Arts is the only program for which you need to prepare and submit a portfolio.

I am applying to F114 Jewellery Arts. Should I send the questionnaire and portfolio together or separate?

Please send the portfolio and questionnaire together in the same package to facilitate the Divisional Selection assessment.

What are the requirements to fulfill a program certificate or diploma in Jewellery Studies?

Each of the four programs offered by Jewellery Studies has specific and different course requirements for completion. See the Curriculum Planner documents on the program pages of the Jewellery Studies website (www.georgebrown.ca/jewellery).

Several types of courses make up program requirements: college wide mandatory courses (computer, General Education), program mandatory courses (core jewellery courses) and program electives (jewellery specialization courses). You must complete all the required courses and achieve a GPA of 1.7 to be eligible to graduate.

Are the jewellery programs sequential? Do I take Jewellery Essentials first, then if I wish to continue for a second year do I take Jewellery Methods, and then Jewellery Arts for a third year?

No, the jewellery programs are not sequential. Each program is a stand alone program with specific outcomes. You should apply to the program that best fits your career goals, whether it is the one, two or three year program.

May I transfer between jewellery programs bringing credits earned in one program into the other?

It is possible to apply to transfer programs and bring credits from one program to the other. For instance, after successfully completing one or two semesters of the Jewellery Essentials program you may apply to transfer to the Jewellery Methods program. Or if you are currently in the two year Jewellery Methods program, but decide that one year of study is sufficient for your career goals you may transfer to the one year Jewellery Essentials program and complete the certificate requirements.

There are two important factors that affect the ability to transfer programs. The first is that although the first semester is identical for all three jewellery programs, in second semester the Jewellery Arts course offerings begins to diverge from Jewellery Essentials and Jewellery Methods course offerings. The second factor is that the program may be full, in which case we cannot add more students.

It is our very strong recommendation to apply for the program that best fits your career goals.

What is a 'course pre-requisite'?

After the first semester most jewellery courses have courses from previous semesters that must be successfully completed prior to enrolling in them. For instance, you must pass Design and Colour (Ghum 1049) before enrolling in Jewellery Design 1 (Jewl 1055); or you must pass Goldsmithing 1 (Jewl 1013) before taking Goldsmithing 2 (Jewl 1030). See the Curriculum Planner documents available on the website program pages for F110, F111 or F114 for a complete list of course pre-requisites.

Do Continuing Education jewellery courses have Academic Equivalencies with Full Time jewellery courses?

No, for courses to be equivalent they must have the same outcomes, content and teaching hours and this makes it difficult to establish equivalencies between Con Ed and Full Time courses. However, Prior Learning Assessment may be arranged with Jewellery Studies to assess previously learned skills with relation to specific courses and eligibility for exemptions.

How may I check my application status?

The fastest and easiest way to check your status is through STU-VIEW, an access portal on the GBC website. Use your GBC student number and your assigned PIN number (both are on the letter thanking you for your application to GBC) to access your application status.

How may I help my application to move smoothly and quickly through the admissions process?

The single biggest hold up in the admissions process according to college statistics is waiting for transcripts or testing scores to arrive. Start as soon as possible to collect transcripts or arrange for Assessment testing at the college if transcripts are not available or not appropriate. Please review the Admissions requirements information on the website or in a college calendar for details.

How much creative independence will I have in my projects and assignments?

Learning hand skills requires practice, repetition and clearly defined technical goals. Projects and assignments are structured to provide students with specific and well defined goals that will advance skill level with various materials, processes and professional situations as they progress through the program. Applicants looking for the 'open studio' approach of an art college will not find it at George Brown College Jewellery Studies.

Do I need to bring my own tools?

All full time students receive a tool kit in each year of study as part of the Material Fee that is included in your tuition. In first year you are loaned additional tools to complete a basic hand tool kit.

How many hours of part time work can I fit into my timetable?

Experience has shown that students who work more than 12-15 hours at their part time job seriously compromise their education. They achieve C's rather than B's and A's.