



## Course details

### Course title

Textiles and Fashion: How to make and use embellishments

### Course code

Q00025397

### Course date

Start: 09/07/26

End: 30/07/26

### Number of classes

7 sessions

### Timetable

Thu 9th Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

Tue 14th Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

Thu 16th Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

Tue 21st Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

Thu 23rd Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

Tue 28th Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

Thu 30th Jul, 12:30 to 15:00

### Tutor

Tracey Sweetman

### Fee range

Funding available - £168.00

### How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

## Venue

Clovelly Centre (Southampton)  
60-68 Clovelly Road  
Southampton  
SO14 0AU

## Level of study

Advanced

## Course overview

This advanced course is designed for experienced textile and fashion learners who want to push their creative practice by exploring sophisticated embellishment techniques. Focusing on both traditional and contemporary methods, the course teaches how to design, construct, and apply a wide range of decorative elements to enhance garments, accessories, or textile artworks. Learners will experiment with advanced surface-decoration processes such as beadwork, hand embroidery, appliqué, fabric manipulation, 3D textile structures, couture embellishment techniques, and mixed-media detailing. They will investigate how embellishments can elevate a design concept, add texture, create focal points, and communicate personal style. Students will work through idea development, sampling, and refinement, creating a series of high-quality embellishment tests before applying selected techniques to a final project. The course also explores professional considerations, including design cohesion, durability, placement, and how to integrate embellishment into finished pieces without overwhelming the form or construction. With tutor guidance, learners will develop their own creative direction while strengthening precision, craftsmanship, and problem-solving skills. By the end of the course, participants will have a collection of advanced embellishment samples and a fully embellished piece that showcases technical expertise and a strong design identity—ideal for portfolio building or progressing towards professional work.

## Course description

This advanced course is designed for skilled textile and fashion learners who want to elevate their creative practice through the development and application of high-level embellishment techniques. Building on existing sewing and design experience, the course explores how decorative elements can transform garments, accessories, and textile artworks, adding depth, texture, and visual impact.

Learners will investigate a wide range of advanced embellishment methods, including beadwork, couture-inspired embroidery, fabric manipulation, appliqué, 3D textile structures, and mixed-media decoration. Through guided experimentation, students will produce detailed samples that demonstrate different materials, techniques, and design approaches. Emphasis is placed on precision, craftsmanship, and understanding how embellishment can enhance—rather than overwhelm—a design.

The course also covers aesthetic and practical considerations such as placement, scale, durability, and how embellishment interacts with fabric structure and garment construction. Students will move from research and sampling into planning and creating a final embellished piece, developing their own creative direction with individual tutor support.

By the end of the course, learners will have built a refined portfolio of embellishment samples and produced a completed project showcasing advanced surface-decoration skills and a strong personal design identity. This course is ideal for those progressing toward professional work.

## **What financial support is available?**

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

## **What other support is available?**

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

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