**STUDIO HOURS:** Access is from 7:30 a.m. to 1: a.m daily. Your Titan card is required to open the door and will function only within these hours. Security will monitor the studios after midnight. Studios are closed at 1 a.m. and students will be asked to leave.

Cancellation of class session: you will be notified via email if the class is cancelled or has a delayed start time due to weather or illness.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
This course is a creative exploration of design as it applies to fiber arts with felt making as the primary area of focus. Students will learn to use wool fiber to create both art pieces and simple “art wearables” as projects. A variety of wools and other types of fibers will be explored to create unique surfaces. Students will also learn basic design.

**COURSE STRUCTURE**
Class time will consist of work sessions for demonstrations, learning techniques through required exercises, planning compositions, and critiques. Projects will be discussed in group formats as well as individually. There will be class time allocated to work on your assignments. However, most of the work must be completed outside of class. Do not rely upon class time to get assignments completed. Expect to work outside of class a minimum of 5 hours a week or more to achieve improvement and success. Students must allow for adequate time to explore an idea and apply techniques properly. There are no short cuts and no last minute creations.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**
Students will be able to:
--Describe and use three felting methods to make structurally sound, well-designed artwork
--Integrate felting methods to create new surfaces and forms
--Demonstrate an understanding of design theory through their artworks and in written/oral critiques
--Demonstrate an understanding of color theory as it applies to design and specifically as it applies to blending fibers
--Demonstrate personal expression and communication through the creative process

**TOPICS and TECHNIQUES**
Areas that will be covered, (but are not limited to), are art elements: Color, Line, Shape, Texture, and Value. These elements will be integrated into flat wall pieces, 3D effects, resist methods for volumes and forming wearables, nuno felting onto fabric, cobweb felt, and needle felting for embellishments. Students will also learn to blend their own unique colors.

**STUDIO ETIQUETE**
Studios and common supplies are for course work only. Students are not permitted to use the facilities or supplies for extracurricular organizations. Personal items and supplies on assigned work spaces are not to be used without the owner’s permission. Do not waste or hoard community supplies. Students are expected to maintain their work and storage areas. Common areas are to be kept clean. Abuse of the space or materials will result in your course grade being lowered a full grade.

**CRITIQUES, PARTICIPATION, EFFORT**
Class discussions and critiques are critical to the success of your coursework. Critiques are analytical discussions about your projects in terms of understanding the assignment, skill sets, and problem solving. These discussions will introduce art vocabulary for which you will be responsible. Students will present critiques of their own and other students’ work.
Successful critiques incorporate both positive and negative statements. Strong critiquing skills requires a suspension of personal taste. Prior to a critique you should consider your own work, analyze the aesthetic decisions you make, and be ready to answer questions or consider other possible directions for your work. These critiques will be both oral and written.

**ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to attend all sessions. After missing 2 classes, your final grade will be lowered by 5% for each day missed. **Missing at total of 6 class sessions for ANY reason will result in course failure.**

If you are late or leave early by 30 minutes, you are considered absent. Attendance is taken. **Do NOT** ask if you may be excused or email me if you are going to miss a class. **Do NOT** email me to send you information about missed work. If you are ill, a note from the nurse or physician must be turned in the DAY you return to class and no later. At the beginning of class you should be in the studio with the necessary materials out and ready to work. I demonstrate techniques once at the start of the class. It is the student’s responsibility to contact another student about material covered if you miss a class.

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**GRADES and ASSESSMENT**

Exercises must be completed before starting any project. Some Preparatory design work is required for projects.

1000 points total:

- 900 for 3 projects
- 100 for 6 Exercises

**GRADES distribution will be as follows:**

- A 100-93%, A- 92-90%, B+ 89-87%, B 86-83%, B- 82-80 %, C+ 79-77%, C 76-73%, C- 72-70%, D+ 69-67%, D 66-63%, D- 62-60%, F 59%

11 = A 10 = A-

- Clear and complete understanding of the concepts introduced through the assignment. Exceptionally creative thinking and production with unique applications of concepts in solving problems. Sensitive use of materials and tools. Excellent craftsmanship. Extensive participation in class discussions. Excellent work habits.

9 = B+ 8 = B-

- Good understanding of specific concepts and use of materials/craftsmanship as introduced through the assignments. Creative application of these concepts in solving problems. Shows some improvement, but most areas could all be improved with more effort or paying closer attention to craft and/or instructions. Strong participation in class discussions and critiques. Good work habits.

7 = C+ 6 = C-

- Average understanding of the concepts. Acceptable application of project concepts in solving problems. Some understanding of materials and tools. Tendency to repeat design or technical errors that have been previously pointed out. Frequent or repeated use of clichés after they have been pointed out. Little personal/aesthetic growth. Average craftsmanship with obvious flaws. Being content with “good enough” work. Limited participation in class discussions and critiques with quality of contribution low and or inappropriate.

5 = D+ 4 = D-

- Incomplete work, incorrect methods per assignment, or little understanding (or lack of interest in learning or improving), concepts in problems. Unimaginative and poor application of these concepts in solving problems. Standard and sloppy use of materials and tools. Little or no class participation. Continual use of clichés in work and discussions. No personal or aesthetic growth.

Project failure: copying work directly from a published source, having another student work on or complete your project, projects that are late past two days (not class periods).

**Other factors that will affect project grades**

⇒ Turning in late work. The grade will drop one full letter for **DAY**, (not class period), it is late. **EX:** A drops to A- if turned in on a Wednesday after it was due on Tuesday.

⇒ No project will be accepted after two days past due date.
HOW A PROJECT IS ASSESSED

**Design and Presentation**: the assigned formal design elements and principles of organization are effectively/creatively integrated to maintain the unity of the artwork.

**Concept**: the design and technique work in unison to convey your idea or the projects’ assigned goals

**Craft**: a clear proficiency of required techniques, level of completion, the project’s condition/presentation is neat and professional

**Commitment and effort**: a demonstration of self-motivation, perseverance, analysis and revision demonstrated. A willingness to explore critical comments, pushing beyond requirements, level of improvement (after the first project)

**Internet REFERENCES**
HandEye Journal online, [http://handeyemagazine.com](http://handeyemagazine.com)
At McGill Library

Surface Design online, [http://www.surfacdesign.org](http://www.surfacdesign.org)
at McGill Library

Turkey Red Journal, [http://www.turkeyredjournal.com](http://www.turkeyredjournal.com)

International Feltmakers Association, [http://www.feltmakers.com](http://www.feltmakers.com)

Northeast Feltmakers Guild, [http://northeastfeltmakersguild.org](http://northeastfeltmakersguild.org)

Artists: Moria West, Andrea Graham, Jenny Pepper, Kristina Goransson

Artist Pat Sparks, [http://sparkfiberarts.blogspot.com](http://sparkfiberarts.blogspot.com)

Artist Polly Stirling, [http://www.wildturkeyfeltmakers.com/PollyStirling.html](http://www.wildturkeyfeltmakers.com/PollyStirling.html)

Artist Chad Alice Hagen, [http://www.chadalicehagen.com](http://www.chadalicehagen.com)

**World of Threads**

**Books at McGill Library**
*Uniquely Felt*, author Christine White

*By Hand: The Use of Craft in Contemporary Art*, authors Shu Hung and Joseph Magliaro

*Nomadic Felts (Artistic Traditions in World Cultures)*, author Stephanie Bunn

*Felt (Textiles That Changed the World)*, author Willow Mullins

*Handmade Nation: the Rise of KIY, Art, Craft, and Design*, authors Faythe Levine and Cortney Heimerl

*Cloth and the Human Experience*, edited by: Annette Weiner and Jane Schneider

*5000 years of textiles*, edited by Jennifer Harris

**Accessibility Statement**
Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers, should contact the Director of Disability Resources, located in 209 Thompson-Clark. phone: 724-946-7192

*continued*

*Students are responsible for maintaining their supplies. Westminster College is not responsible for lost or damaged items*
ART 219 Fiber Art Felt Spring 2016 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week 1, Jan 18 Course intro, Exercise 1 A,B,C Basic Felting, shadowing

Week 2, Jan 25 Exercise 2 Design with Prefelt, Felt lace

Week 3, Feb 2 Exercise 3 Design with color carving, wool resists, craters

Week 4, Feb 9 Exercise 4 Design with plastic resists and tape, merge techniques

Week 5, Feb 16 Exercise 5 Design with spikes and flaps
Intro to carding and blended fibers
Intro to Project 1

Week 6, Feb 23 Project 1 design and plans due, workday

March 5-13 Spring Break

Week 7, Mar 15 Project 1 workday

Week 8, Mar 22 Project 1 workday

March 24-29 Easter and Tuesday is a Monday Schedule

Week 9, Mar 31 Project 1 workday

Week 10 Apr 2 Project 1 DUE, Project 2 Intro, Exercise 6 Resist felt for 3D forms

Week 11 Apr 12 Project 2 workday

Week 12, Apr 19 Project 2 workday
Week 13, Apr 26 Project 2 DUE, Project 3 Designs due. workday

Week 14, May 3 Project 3 workday

Final: May 10, 8-10, Project 3 Due, Clean up and return equipment