

4■Month Beginner Course: Woodcut & Linocut Printmaking

Duration: 4 months (16 sessions)

Frequency: 1 session per week

Session duration: 2 hours

Target: Absolute beginners with no prior printmaking experience.

Course Goal: Build technical confidence in relief printmaking through observation, carving, inking, registration, and edition making while developing an individual visual language.

Core Materials (for full course):

- Soft carving linoleum blocks (A5–A4)
- Plywood/MDF or woodcut blocks (beginner-friendly soft wood)
- Lino and woodcut carving tools (V/U gouges)
- Bench hook / non-slip mat
- Brayers (rollers)
- Relief printing ink (water-based + oil-based demo)
- Palette sheet/glass slab
- Baren / wooden spoon / press access
- Cartridge paper, printmaking paper, newsprint
- Tracing paper, carbon paper
- Pencils, markers, masking tape, ruler
- Apron, gloves, cloths, cleaning materials

Month 1 — Foundations

Sessions 1–4

Month 2 — Building Technique

Sessions 5–8

Month 3 — Transition to Woodcut

Sessions 9–12

Month 4 — Independent Practice

Sessions 13–16

1. Session 1

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Introduction to relief printmaking; history of woodcut & linocut; tools and safety; mark tests.

Outcome: Understand positive/negative space and safely handle tools.

2. Session 2

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Drawing for print: line, texture, reversal, contrast. Create thumbnail sketches.

Outcome: Develop 3–5 print-ready compositions.

3. Session 3

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Transfer image to lino; tool handling exercises; controlled carving.

Outcome: Complete first carved sample board.

4. Session 4

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Ink rolling, pressure control, first monochrome print.

Outcome: Produce first edition of 3–5 prints.

5. Session 5

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Refinement techniques; reduction and layered thinking.

Outcome: Improved edition with cleaner image.

6. Session 6

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Texture exploration and expressive carving.

Outcome: Texture sample archive.

7. Session 7

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Multi-block basics and registration methods.

Outcome: Register two-color trial print.

8. Session 8

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Mid-course project planning and printing.

Outcome: One finished linocut artwork.

9. Session 9**Structure (2 hrs)**

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Introduction to woodcut; wood grain and tool differences.

Outcome: Understand material behavior.

10. Session 10**Structure (2 hrs)**

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Wood block preparation and image transfer.

Outcome: Prepared woodcut matrix.

11. Session 11**Structure (2 hrs)**

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Carving depth, line hierarchy, edge control.

Outcome: Half-finished wood block.

12. Session 12

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Woodcut proofing and correction.

Outcome: Produce corrected proof prints.

13. Session 13

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Advanced inking methods and paper selection.

Outcome: Experiment sheet.

14. Session 14

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Edition making: consistency and documentation.

Outcome: Edition of 5–10 prints.

15. Session 15

Structure (2 hrs)

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Final project development and artist statement writing.

Outcome: Complete final print concept.

16. Session 16**Structure (2 hrs)**

15 min discussion

20 min demo

65 min practical work

20 min reflection & clean-up

Activities

Final print production, critique and display preparation.

Outcome: Final edition + portfolio review.

Course Outcomes

Final Learning Outcomes:

- Understand history and language of relief printmaking
- Independently prepare, carve, ink and print lino and wood matrices
- Produce clean editions with registration awareness
- Build a beginner portfolio of at least 3 completed print projects
- Present and discuss prints critically