

## Art 185LJ Spring 2023 - Natural Dye Experiments

We will be out in nature collecting plants, bugs, mushrooms and lichens, and in the dye lab stirring our pots and experience the alchemy of color appearing on fabrics, yarn and garments. You will read a few texts and watch some movies helping you think of the role of these dyes and colors throughout history.

Instructor: Lisa Jevbratt

Time: Friday 10AM to 2PM

Place: Art 0254 (old papermaking area close to the woodshop) and out in nature. Check class website for locations every week. Organize carpools with class mates, you are responsible for being at the right place.

Class Website (updated weekly): [http://rosebud.arts.ucsb.edu/~jevbratt/teaching/s\\_23/](http://rosebud.arts.ucsb.edu/~jevbratt/teaching/s_23/)

There is a **\$30 materials fee** for the class. It covers the chemicals we will be using and the fabric for all the dye samples we will be making each class, as well as a couple of scarf size pieces of fabrics in silk and cotton.

### **Some additional materials/supplies you will need:**

Rubber gloves

Pens, cardboard, journal, etc. needed to make a dye journal/chart

Old/basic cotton or linen t-shirt/pillow case/kitchen towel

Fabric/yarn/garment for final project

### **Assignments:**

1. A few small home experiments documented on Flickr (25% of the grade)
2. Dye sample chart/notebook (35% of the grade):

Make small samples of the dyes we make throughout the quarter. Design an interesting way to catalogue/display/store your samples. (I started a Pinterest board with some examples of charts) Document your chart on Flickr.

3. Final project (40% of the grade):

Use what you learned in class to dye something that can be used: a piece of garment, a household cloth, some amount of yarn/wool enough to make something. Document your process on Flickr.

### **Reference materials:**

You will be asked to watch some videos and read some texts. We will discuss these in class.

### **Attendance:**

Attendance is mandatory. If you miss more than 1 class it will lower your class grade. You cannot pass the class if you miss more than 2 classes. However, if you are sick or need to quarantine, we work something out. Always inform the instructor about illness, or other reasons for not being able to attend.

### **Safety:**

Use caution when boiling plants in the lab and at home. Some plants might be toxic. Use gloves and have good ventilation. Ammonia used with some dyes can hurt eyes and skin. Be very careful.