

CBBAG Core Curriculum Courses

Six courses comprise the CBBAG core curriculum, leading to a CBBAG Certificate of Completion.

Bookbinding I, Bookbinding II, and Bookbinding III are available as both in-studio and CBBAG Home Study courses.

Both in-studio and Home Study courses taken through the Monitoring Stream can lead to a Certificate of Completion upon their successful completion.

While Finishing and Restoration & Repair are available both as in-studio and CBBAG Home Study courses, only in-studio courses can lead to a Certificate of Completion as these Home Study courses are only available through the Resource & Reference Stream.

The final core curriculum course, Paper Treatments for Binders, is only available as an in-studio course.

Below is a brief description of the core curriculum courses:

Bookbinding I

This six-day course introduces the variety of tools, materials, sewings, and constructions fundamental to hand bookbinding. The course starts with the making of a simple pamphlet and proceed to the binding of two hard cover books. This class prepares participants to explore bookbinding on their own or continue with more advanced studies.

Bookbinding II

This six-day course introduces intermediate techniques, such as rounding and backing and sewn end bands, necessary for traditional binding structures. Participants sew two models, completing one as a German case binding and the other as either a Bradel or split board binding.

Bookbinding III

This course introduces the advanced techniques used for traditional leather covered, fine binding structures. Participants make two models, both with sewn headbands, attached boards, and covered in half leather. The first model will be sewn on recessed cords with a hollow tube construction; the second model will be sewn on raised cords with a tight back construction.

Finishing

This six-day course introduces the basic concepts and techniques used in decorating leather-bound books. The course covers: blind and gold tooling; titling; several methods of inlay and

onlay; historical decorative tools; and typical elements of design. Participants try their hands at various techniques using an assortment of different leathers.

Restoration & Repair

This six-day workshop focuses on cloth and leather bindings of the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth century, the deterioration problems they develop, and the various techniques currently used to repair them. Participants are asked to bring examples on which to work.

Paper Treatments for Binders

This four-day course covers the basic treatments used to solve the paper problems that binders frequently encounter in printed book materials. The course includes topics such as mould, pressure sensitive tape, minor tears, tide lines, localized staining, cockling, acidity, and discolouration. Washing, light bleaching, drying, and flattening methods are taught. Participants are asked to bring examples of paper problems (preferably unbound) on which to work, under supervision.