

**DIPLOMA OF ARTS FURNITURE DESIGN
2009-2010**

PROPONENT Forest Heritage Centre Inc.
Acacia Street
Dwellingup
Western Australia 6213
Tel: 08 9538 1395 Fax: 08 9538 1352
Email fhc@forestheritagecentre.com.au
ABN 16 142 846 377

COURSE DETAILS

Name

Diploma of Arts (Furniture Design) National Course Code
21127VIC

Duration

Two years full-time, comprising four twenty week semesters
Nominally 24 contact hours per week.

Course Commences

January 2009

Entry Requirements

Entry to the course is open to students who have successfully completed a year 12 programme or equivalent levels of competency and can demonstrate aptitude in drawing and/or construction. Mature age students who can demonstrate competence in, drawing, design or wood construction are also eligible for entry into the course.

Enrolment

This is the only course of its type in Western Australia. The main requirement for entry to the course is that students have the necessary aptitude to successfully undertake the programme. Basic computing skills would be an advantage. There are 12 places available for the course. Applicants will be short-listed and successful entry will be confirmed via an assessment process to determine aptitude including written application, curriculum vitae, folio and interview.

Fees

Students fees will be (approximately) as outlined below in accordance with the funding arrangements set by the Western Australian Department of Training (2009). The course is composed of four semesters and students will be invoiced on a semester basis. Fees per Semester: Approximately \$550.00 (to be advised by DET later in 2008) plus a Resource Fee of approximately \$200.

Additional Costs

In addition to the above, **students must source and purchase all materials for all projects.** Students are to supply their own set of hand tools for the duration of the course. A comprehensive tool list will be provided on enrolment. Some of the recommended hand tools can be purchased through the Forest Heritage Centre. A full set will vary between \$1500 - \$2000. The majority of tools will need to be purchased during 1st year. Additional materials including books and drawing equipment will be required as each module is delivered. Approximately \$700 would need to be budgeted for in the first year. This course is funded by the Western Australian Department of Training. Youth Allowance and Abstudy is available to eligible students.

LOCATION

The course will be conducted by the Australian School of Fine Wood, a division of the Forest Heritage Centre, at their Dwellingup facility. Occasional modules may be delivered off-site (Perth) requiring students to travel. Industry excursions will also require students to travel. The Forest Heritage Centre is a unique rammed earth construction, styled on three leaves. It houses a Fine Wood Gallery, forest interpretive displays and the Australian School of Fine Wood. To add to the forest experience, surrounding the Forest Heritage Centre is a network of walk trails including a tree top canopy walk. Picturesque Dwellingup is located one hour and fifteen minutes south-east of Perth. The population of this historic timber town is approximately 400 people who are employed mainly in the timber, mining, orchard and tourism industries. There is a general store, post office, restaurants and hotel in town. Pinjarra, a small rural centre is 15 minutes west of Dwellingup and 30 minutes north-west is the popular coastal resort of Mandurah (population 50,000). Two hours south of Dwellingup are the beautiful Margaret River and Pemberton tourism regions – famed for their fine wine as well as their fine woodcraft. Students are expected to provide their own accommodation to attend the course in Dwellingup. Accommodation options may be available, when required, in Dwellingup and the surrounding district. Forest Heritage Centre Staff can advise.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

The course is designed to meet the training need of people wishing to work in the fine wood industry as self-employed fine wood designers and makers or as employees within an established business. Entry is suited to highly motivated people who have practical skills and a sensitivity to design.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Educational

At the completion of the course, graduates will be competent in areas such as the following:

- Working with clients and industry
- Operating a business
- Design and making of unique commissioned furniture items
- Design and making of production furniture items
- Marketing products
- Operating a wide variety of furniture production equipment as a designer-maker
- Working safely as a designer in a manufacturing environment
- Production of drawings for concept development and production purposes
- Manufacture of prototypes and final products as a designer-maker
- Working within the arts community

This group of competencies equips graduates to design and make furniture using a variety of materials and to function effectively within the furniture design community.

Vocational

Graduates of this course find a career as self-employed designers making commissioned items of furniture for local, national and international clients. This also includes short run production items for wider markets. Items produced will include a high level of unique design and innovative use of a wide variety of materials including wood, metal, textiles and high quality finishes. This work may be produced for international markets where outlets exist or can be established. An additional source of work is the production of specialised components for other furniture manufacturing operations, luxury yacht builders and bespoke cabinet making firms.

Articulation

A significant number of graduates gain entry, at an advanced level, to courses leading to higher qualifications in which the primary emphasis is on the design, rather than manufacture of furniture. The Australian School of Fine Wood has a Memorandum of Understanding with Curtin University to admit Diploma graduates to the degree programme with advanced standing. Graduates may pursue this outcome along with the vocational outcome described above.

AWARD OF QUALIFICATION

Overall assessment is competency based according to guidelines provided by the National Training Authority. All units of the course set out in the course structure, must be satisfactorily completed. There are no optional units.

ASSESSMENT

Each module description includes learning outcomes and assessment criteria. Students will be assessed against these criteria and must meet all the criteria to be granted a competent grade for the module. The course will use a variety of assessment strategies as outlined in each module description. Assessment methods have been chosen to reflect the learning required for each module.

Methods include:

- Journals, Sketch books
- Practical exercises
- Written assignments and tests
- Site visits

Assessment of the design and construction modules require the students to design and construct complete furniture items, and will provide a degree of holistic assessment of the broad aims of the course. Students have access to an appeals process for all modules undertaken.

To gain a pass, students must satisfactorily complete all theory and practical exercises as set out in the module syllabus. Student attendance must be at least 80% in each module.

EXEMPTIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

Where appropriate, students may be awarded exemptions for modules through recognition of prior learning. No credit will be granted in the construction modules as the topics are sequential.

EQUIPMENT

The Australian School of Fine Wood has a well equipped with a modern machine room and a comprehensive range of power tools. Other resources provided include a small reference library and computer facilities including internet access. Students will be expected to supply their own set of hand tools for the duration of the course. A minimum list of requirements including tools and texts will be supplied at enrolment.

EXPECTATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

It is expected that students will partake in extra curricular activities that will enhance the reputation of both

the Centre and provide the opportunities for the students to promote themselves. Such activities include: -

- Woodworking and other promotional shows with timetabled student involvement
- Local Community Events
- Interaction with the public particularly during construction time
- Approximately 20 hrs/year assisting with the ongoing maintenance and operation of the Centre which may include the design and construction of specific items
- The Australian School of Fine Wood also conducts the popular Creative Workshops program, which are open to the general public. Students also have the opportunity to participate in these workshops.

MODULES

Attached is the module outline for the course. Although contact hours vary between 22 and 28 hours per week, **(students should be aware that many more hours outside of class time are required to satisfy course demands)**. Access to the workshop is available 7 days a week between 9am and 5pm (unless otherwise timetabled with an instructor) after students develop competence in hand and machine tool use.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION Telephone 08 9538 1395

Diploma of Art (Furniture Design)
Course overview: 2008 Preliminary

Code	Module Name	Nominal Contact Hours
NCS	Presenting Information	16
VBA631	Construction Practices 1	100
VBA634	Intro to Furniture Design & Construction (small item)	110
VBA635	Basic Furniture Design & Construction (stand alone)	110
VBA637	Contemporary Furniture Design & Construction (One off Design)	110
VBA638	Contemporary Furniture Design & Construction (Production)	110
VBA640	Contemporary Furniture Design & Construction (Ergonomic Design)	110
VBA641	Contemporary Furniture Design & Construction (Frame & Panel)	110
VBA642	Technical Drawing	40
VBA282	Drawing 1	40
VBA284	Drawing 2	40
VBJ369	Competency Analysis	10
VBK201	Working as a Designer/Maker	60
VBK202	3D Design	80
VBK203	Materials and Technology	60
VBK204	Furniture Styles and Movements	22
VBK205	Estimating and Costing	10
VBK206	Model Making	20
VBK207	Industry Research Project	50
VBK209	Construction Practices 2	100
VBK210	Machinery Use & Maintenance	40
VBK369	Marketing & Sales Promotion	20
VBS635	OH&S	16
VBS636	Business Practices	16
VBS637	Focus on Industry	16
VBS 639	Contemporary Art and/or Design	32
VBS 640	Computer Aided Design	32
ABC 936	Wood Turning	40
MEM5.12A	Welding	40
VBK 211	Setting up a Workshop	20



FOREST HERITAGE CENTRE

Australian School of Fine Wood

Diploma of Art (Furniture Design): Selection Criteria 2009

In order for you to express your current skills and aspirations for acceptance into the course, please complete the following tasks to the best of your ability:

- 1. Provide a sketch you have drawn of a piece of furniture you admire (minimum size A4).** This may be of your own design or that of another designer. Describe what is significant to you about this particular design. (100 -200words)
- 2. Provide sketch you have drawn of a piece of furniture that you feel is unsuccessful.** Describe why you feel that the piece is unsuccessful. (100 - 200 words)
- 3. Provide a written response for each of the following.**
 - a. Describe the fine wood industry and how it differs from the commercialized furniture industry (approx. 300 words).
 - b. After graduation from this course, what are your aspirations and goals you wish to achieve in the next five years? (approx. 400 words).
 - c. On completion of the course what skills do you believe you will you have acquired, which will enable you to achieve these goals? (approx. 300 words)?
- 4. Please submit six examples of your work relevant to your application.** These should be in photographic form (A4) and include a 100 word description of each example. They may be of work in any medium.
- 5. Provide current type-written curriculum vitae to include personal details, recent education, qualifications in any field, employment and creative experience.**
- 6. Two copies of your responses should be sent to:**

**Diploma 2009 Application
Director
Forest Heritage Centre
1 Acacia Street
Dwellingup WA 6213**

**Please also forward an electronic (email) copy of your application if available to:
steve@forestheritagecentre.com.au**

You will be required to attend an interview/assessment if you are short-listed for the course.

All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome in obtaining a position on the course.

Good luck with your application. We look forward to hearing from you!

APPLICATION COVER SHEET
DIPLOMA OF ART - FURNITURE DESIGN 2009/2010

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ POSTCODE: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ SEX : (M/F) _____

TELEPHONE CONTACT: _____ (BUSINESS HOURS)

_____ (AFTER HOURS)

SIGNATURE _____

DATE OF APPLICATION _____

Post two (2) copies of application to:

**Diploma 2009 Application
Director
Forest Heritage Centre
1 Acacia Street
Dwellingup WA 6213**