

## Anya's Garden Perfumery Institute Basic Natural Perfumery Course

### **Syllabus, Goals, and Objectives** - revised November 2009

This course provides comprehensive basic training in perfumery techniques. It is suitable for students who are seeking a foundation for a career, or a hobby in natural perfumery. This is one of the most sophisticated courses that is offered to those who cannot attend a formal perfumery school.

### **Those who are interested in taking the course are:**

- Aspiring natural perfumers
- Those desiring an education in a natural art
- Aromatherapists who wish to expand their blending knowledge

### **There are three enrollment options:**

- **The interactive online course** takes six months to complete. The instructor is involved with students on a regular basis, and students have access to an online class chat group.
- **The self-paced online course** allows students to gain access to the Web site independent of the interactive course. This option is open for students of the interactive online course who are unable to maintain the schedule of the interactive course, or students who would rather learn on their own without interaction with other students.
- **The distance learning** option has no Web site access, and is an affordable option for those who are self-directed. It is also the best option for those students who will not have access to the Internet on a regular basis.

### **Modular Study**

The course is divided into six modules of study; one module for each month:

#### **Module 1**

1. Introduction to Natural Perfumery
2. History of Perfumery

3. Workspace - Studio Organization, Equipment, and Safety
4. Sources of Aromatics and Methods of Extraction
5. Aromatics Kit Dilution
6. Organoleptic Evaluation
7. Using a Scale in Perfumery
8. Dilution Mathematics
9. Perfumery Recordkeeping
  - Supplied - Organoleptic Evaluation Form, Scent Vocabulary Sheet
  - Lectures - One lecture for each subject in Module 1
  - Assignment due - One completed Organoleptic Evaluation Form, and a brief essay on the organoleptic evaluation process

## **Module 2**

1. Aromatic Groups and Fragrance Families
2. How We Perceive Scents
3. Expanding Organoleptic Study into Aromatic Groups and Fragrance Families
4. Shorthand Key to Scent Descriptors
5. Becoming a Contextual Level Perfumer
  - Supplied - Shorthand Key to Scent Descriptors - Professional Shorthand for Record Keeping
  - Lectures - One lecture for each subject in Module 2
  - Assignment due - Short essay on one subject that is covered in module 2, and a brief essay on a subject of the student's choice

## **Module 3**

1. Horizontal Accords
2. Phase Two of the Organoleptic/Intensity/Impact Study

3. The “Certain” Perfumer
4. A Review of Aromatic Groups and Fragrance Families
5. Expanding Your Aromatic Group Vocabulary
6. Accords
7. How to Strategize Your "Horizontal Flight" Study of Aromatic Groups
8. Horizontal Accords
9. Becoming a Certain Level Perfumer
  - Supplied - Horizontal Accord Evaluation Form
  - Lecture - One lecture for each subject covered in Module 3
  - Assignment due - One completed Horizontal Accord Evaluation Form, and a brief essay on one of the subjects covered in Module 3
  - Optional - Swapping your accords with other students

#### **Module 4**

1. Review of Accords
2. Introduction to Vertical Accords
3. Creating Your First Vertical Accord
  - Supplied - Vertical Accord Evaluation Form
  - Lectures - One lecture for each subject covered in Module 4
  - Assignment due - One completed Vertical Accord Evaluation Form, and a brief essay on one subject that is covered in Module 4
  - Optional - Swapping your accords with other students

#### **Module 5**

1. Beginning Perfume Blending - The Perfume Model
2. The Definition of Perfume Modifications and How to Work with Them
3. Introduction to the Modifications Recording Form
4. Record Keeping of Your Perfume Modifications

5. Beginning the Data Collection and Recording
6. Modifications System - Storing the Modifications
7. Protecting Your Modification Data
  - Supplied - Modifications Recordkeeping Form
  - Lectures - One lecture for each subject covered in Module 5
  - Assignment due - One modification submitted to the instructor, and a brief essay on one subject that is covered in Module 5
  - Optional - Swapping your initial blend with other students

## **Module 6**

1. Creating Your Perfume
2. Modifying Notes
3. Accessory Notes
4. Bouquetting
5. Becoming an Active Level Perfumer
6. Ongoing Modifications of Perfume Compound
  - Supplied - Perfume Brief Form, Perfume Review Form
  - Lectures - One lecture for each subject covered in Module 6
  - Assignment due - One complete Perfume Brief Form, a short essay on the perfume that you are submitting for certification, and the formula for the perfume, along with 2mls of the finished perfume in order to qualify for certification (Certification is optional)
  - Optional - Swapping your final perfume with other students

## **Bonus Module**

A sophisticated evaluation system that will prepare online students for the Intermediate level of perfumery study will be made available to students who complete the six basic modules.

### **Materials Provided for Study**

- A natural perfumery textbook that is the primary study resource for the course and can be used independent of the website.
- The student will be able to download dozens of books and articles on perfumery consisting mostly of historic materials.
- Online website with modules, links, lectures and more
- Two private Yahoo! groups:
  - One group for daily interaction and live chats
  - One group for Q&A (question and answer) sessions with industry professionals
- Lots of support, hands-on experience, networking, and worldwide friends

### **Materials to be Purchased Separately for Study**

- Aromatics kit from Anya's Garden \$225. Includes scent strips and mini pipettes
- Lab glassware, bottles, scale, scent strips and other itemized supplies. List provided upon registration and payment of tuition. Approximate cost \$150.

### **Curriculum Goals and Objectives:**

#### **Goals**

After completing the six modules of study, the student will be able to:

- Discuss natural perfumery and the evolution of the art in all contexts, including how it compares with mainstream perfumery and aromatherapy perfumery.
- Proficiently maintain a professional workspace for perfume creation.
- Discuss, identify, and work with a wide array of natural aromatics.
- Use their comprehensive Scent Memory™ and know how to build upon it.
- Create a library of their own written, detailed notes on organoleptic evaluation.
- Communicate using aromatics terminology and techniques that will allow them to work in a perfumery company.

- Adeptly perform basic blending.
- Realize the need for peer review and critique of their blends and listen to suggestions on how to refine or revise the blends.
- Discuss with certainty the safety and regulatory aspects of perfumery.
- Conceptualize and plan for further development as a natural perfumer.

## **Objectives**

To successfully complete the course, the student is required to:

- Read and review the course materials in the textbook and the online website.
- Frequently consult the textbook and any corresponding online materials.
- Complete one discussion assignment per module, and more as desired.
- Take part in the online discussion forum, if this is a requirement of the specific course.
- Swap their basic blends with other students and the instructor in order to obtain feedback.
- Submit a final perfume and essay to the instructor in order to receive a passing grade.

## **Curriculum**

Together, the online modules, natural perfumery textbook, class, Yahoo! group, and the monthly online discussion chat with the instructor form the core of the course. The textbook is the key to approaching all of these with a basic idea of the areas of study that they cover.

Every component of the study materials is crucial to the student's development as a natural perfumer. The discipline demands that students be experimenters; real scientists of the aromatic arts, and that they use both sides of their brain at all times. Students are encouraged to engage in reverie when evaluating the aromatics, while simultaneously applying mathematical and scientific rigor to their findings.

During the "live classes" that are held in the Yahoo! group, students are able to compare their observations with other students. Evaluation forms are provided for recording the student's findings, as well as charts and supplemental sheets that will aid in the studies.

## **Class Structure**

The six modules will be available on the class Web site. The students who choose the interactive option will be in class for six months starting in February of each year. If an interactive student falls behind in their studies for any reason, they will be able to switch to the self-paced option and will have a year to complete the course.

The self-paced student will have access to all of the resources that the interactive student does, with the exception of the monthly chats and feedback from the instructor. The self-paced students will have a Yahoo! group that they can use to chat with other students. The distance learning students will not have access to the Web or to the Yahoo! groups, and will complete the course offline.

The interactive "live chats" with the instructor that will serve to answer any questions students have about the assignments will be held on the 14th of each month. In order to best accommodate students in vastly different time zones, the live chats will take place within a few hours of 5 PM EST USA. Those who miss the chat can ask questions later that week in the Yahoo! group, and the instructor will respond.

The final four modules of the course will enable the students to swap their accords, modifications, and final blend with each other through the mail if they choose to do so. The student will supply the formula and a minimum of 1ml of the accord, modification or blend. The students will receive verbal feedback on their perfumes from the instructor, because the nuances of conversational exchange are best when finalizing the perfume evaluation.

For students taking the Interactive Course, it is strongly encouraged that they adhere to the calendar schedule for each module in order to best aid in the learning process and to foster camaraderie with the other students. Students who are unable to do this, will be reassigned to the Self-paced Course, where they can work at their own pace and in a manner that best fits their own schedule.

## **The Virtual Classroom**

This virtual classroom is designed to be interactive and fun, and to provide a powerful learning experience, for both interactive and self-paced students. The self-paced student will have the ability to optimize their experience by participating in the Yahoo! group. After logging into the virtual classroom, students can listen to lectures, chat in real time, view the modules, take part in the discussion study forum, click on links, use the virtual library, upload pictures, and download books, articles, evaluation forms, charts, and study forms.

During the course of the class, new features may be added to the curriculum or the Web site, either as the instructor becomes aware of them, or as a student suggests them.

## **The Yahoo! Class Group**

Daily interactions can occur in the Yahoo! class. Enrollment is mandatory, but participation is not. The instructor realizes that some students are shy, and yet are still eager to learn - all students in the interactive course must enroll in the Yahoo! group. This group is where the instructor will make announcements, and where students can ask questions, conduct group buys, and partake in other collaborative activities. The instructor will add the students to the Yahoo! group before class commences.

## **The Study Schedule**

It is recommended that students in the interactive course spend 10-12 hours per week on the study materials, which include the textbook, the study modules, the discussion group, and independent study from the course's reading list.

The Yahoo! group will prove invaluable in many ways, including helping students to bond and network with other students. The group will allow students to encourage each other, help answer questions, and move everyone in the class forward in the study of natural perfumery.

## **Grading Policy**

There is no grading policy in this course other than pass/fail.

- Passing requires that the students submit the assignments to the instructor on time. Most assignments are submitted through e-mail, but toward the end of the course, physical material must be mailed to the instructor. It is optional, but encouraged, that students post the completed assignments on the class Web site for the other students to see.
- A failing grade will be issued if the student did not complete at least one assignment per module during the course. Because of the need to maintain the class schedule for the benefit of all students, if a student is unable to submit a required assignment within three days of the due date, they will be re-assigned to the self-paced online course option.

For both the interactive online option and the self-paced online option, students must submit their final assignment within the required time frame in order to receive their certificate.

## **Course Completion**

Upon completion of all of the assignments, the student will be given a passing grade. Any student who wishes to obtain a Certificate of Completion for the course must submit the following items within one month of their completing the course:

- 2mls of the student's final perfume blend, complete with labeling and formula
- A short essay about the aromatics and creative process that the student used to create the perfume
- A \$75 fee for the instructor's evaluation and feedback on the submitted perfume

If the two products submitted show that the student has understood and implemented the techniques taught in the course, the certificate will be issued.

If students wish to take the Intermediate Natural Perfumery Course, they must have successfully completed the Basic Natural Perfumery Course.