

Community Education – Spring Quarter 2026

Course Title: Calligraphy for Beginners

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Course Description

This introductory calligraphy class aims to equip students with essential skills for creating beautiful handwriting. The course will cover foundational techniques which includes basic letter strokes, letter construction, and an introduction to various calligraphic styles.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Be able to write the alphabet in Upper and Lower Case, address an envelope and create a personal quote or poem.
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Course Schedule

Week 1

- Vocabulary: branching point, twisted ribbon, rounded, stroke beginning and ending, parallelogram, pen nib
- Setting up practice pages with guidelines (baseline, ascender, descender lines)
- Letters introduced: i, a, u, c
- Determining letter height and width; 7-degree slant
- Vocabulary: branching point, twisted ribbon, rounded, stroke beginning and ending, parallelogram, pen nib
- Setting up practice pages with guidelines (baseline, ascender, descender lines)

Week 2

- Letters introduced: l, d, b, h, n, m, r
- Step-by-step practice for each letter
- Producing ascenders with a twisted ribbon; accuracy checks for spacing and slant
- Practice words: lid, lad, dab, bad, man, nim, cad, rad, ram, rim, drill, mill, hill, hid, had, din, dun, hum, hun, rah, mah, ham, all, ball

Week 3

- Letters introduced: j, p, f, g, y, q
- Creating descenders with the twisted ribbon technique; accuracy checks for spacing and slant
- Practice words: jam, pam, fam, gam, yam, quad, map, fan, fig, pig, gig, yip, yap, rap, rip, jump, jig, jag, honey, funny, bunny

Week 4

- Letters introduced: o, e, k, s, t, v, w, x, z
- Step-by-step practice with multiple repetitions for each letter; accuracy checks for spacing and slant
- Practice words: go, bled, blood, kat, cake, snake, snack, taper, tape, vote, vow, tax, pax, zebra, zip, zoo, jazz, ooze, flabbergasted, gobsmacked, people, goggles, eagle, the, quick.
- Working in sentences: The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.
- Ten twisted tomcats tickled ten turtles.
- Amazingly few discotheques provide jukeboxes.
- No rain, no flowers.
- I am very grateful.
- I am very thankful.

Week 5

- Introduction to Capital Letters; practicing capitals with lowercase letters in words
- Introduction to Brause nib, dipping pen, and pen maintenance
- Comprehensive letter review and extra support for challenging forms
- Spacing guidelines for formal writing and decorative linking letters
- Practice connecting words and sentences
- Choosing a short poem or saying to compose as a finished piece

Week 6

- Numbers and punctuation: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0 ? !, ;
- Envelope addressing techniques
- Arranging layouts for sayings or poems—including margins, guidelines, and preparation
- Preparing the setup for a final calligraphy piece

Resources

Recommended references for further study:

Class Evaluation

- Class evaluations are sent by email.
 - If you don't see it right away, check your **junk/spam folder**.
 - Evaluations are **anonymous** and come directly from Clark College.
 - If you don't receive one, contact:
 - Email: continuingeducation@clark.edu
 - Phone: 360-992-2939
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Inclement Weather

- If the college closes due to weather, updates will appear at www.clark.edu
 - Community Education may also cancel classes independently if travel is unsafe.
 - If canceled, you will be notified by both phone and email.
 - Please check that your contact information is correct on the class roster.
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More Classes

Looking for more Community Education courses? Visit: www.clark.edu/cce/