

FIBERS

Wey Hall, Room 231 & Room 239
Appalachian State University

Fibers Studio Safety Requirements

You will be tested on studio safety with a quiz at the beginning of the semester. You must earn 100% on the quiz to maintain the privilege of working in the studio outside of class.

General Studio Safety Rules:

- NO food in ANY part of the studio.
- Beverages in lidded containers around clean front table ONLY.
- NO chemicals or “dirty” processes of any variety around communal front table. This includes (but is not limited to): paint, pigments, dyes, chemicals, adhesives, etc.
- NO food or drink in any studio refrigerator.
- ALWAYS wash your hands after studio work before eating, drinking, or smoking (or, better yet, just quit smoking altogether. Cigarette smoke is more hazardous to your health than any of the chemicals used in this space).
- Never work in the studio while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Do not work in the studio alone.
- Turn off and unplug any small appliances when not in use; be sure that the cord does not create a tripping hazard.
- No headphones are allowed when operating any kind of power equipment, including (but not limited to): hairdryers, irons, sewing machines, blenders, Hollander beater.
- No bare feet in the studio, regardless of what you are working on. (If you are seated at a loom bench, you may remove your shoes to operate the loom...but you must put your shoes back on before moving elsewhere in the studio).

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Requirements:

You are required to provide the following personal protection equipment (PPE) for your own use in this studio:

- Dust mask (with a plastic container to store it in
- Tall rubber gloves
- Short latex (or similar) gloves
- Chemical splash goggles
- Closed-toe shoes that will be left in studio
- Protective outerwear (lab coat, buttoned shirt, etc) that will be left in studio

When working with any dyes or photo emulsion you must wear:

- Gloves (tall or short, depending on specific activity)
- Long plastic apron (provided in studio)
- Chemical splash goggles
- Closed-toe shoes
- Protective outerwear

When working with powders, you must ADDITIONALLY wear:

- Dust mask

When working with pigments, it is recommended that you wear:

- Gloves (tall or short, depending on specific activity)
- Long plastic apron (provided in studio)
- Chemical splash goggles
- Closed-toe shoes
- Protective outerwear

Rules for Working with Chemicals:

- Provide material safety data sheet (MSDS) for any additional potentially hazardous supplies you bring into the studio.
- Label all secondary containers with description of contents, including WHAT the contents are, WHEN it was placed in the container, and WHO it belongs to.
- Clean up any and all dye, chemical and pigment spills immediately. Use a wet sponge and towels to clean up dyes right away. Rinse the sponges thoroughly afterwards, and put towels in the washing machine. Do NOT allow dye spills to dry—dye becomes much more hazardous when allowed to return to powdered form.
- Always use the ventilation when working with powders or cooking anything on the stove.

Rules for Paper Making:

- Squeegee the floor constantly when making paper.
- Wear appropriate non-slip footwear.
- When using the Hollander beater: never reach into ANY part of the beater unless both power sources are turned off, and the drum has come to a complete stop.
- When using the Hollander beater: remove all jewelry; tie back long hair; restrain anything that might possibly dangle or catch in a moving part.
- When using the Hollander beater: remember, NOTHING is irreplaceable, except any body part that gets caught inside it. If you accidentally drop something into the beater, LET IT GO.
- Never work with the Hollander alone; always have a partner.

Rules for Using the Gas Burners:

- Tie back long hair and restrain or remove any long, flowy, dangly or billowy clothing.
- Never lean over the burners; the heat extends very high.
- Always use the ventilation system when using the burners.
- NEVER leave the stove unattended when a burner is on.

In Case of Studio Emergencies:

In Case of Fire:

- Immediately notify the fire department and your classmates by pulling the fire alarm as you exit the building.
- Call 911 from a safe location and provide details of the situation.
- If you have been trained and it would not place you in any immediate danger, use a fire extinguisher to extinguish the fire.
- If you hear the fire alarm, immediately exit the building via the stairs. Do not use the elevator. Pull doors closed behind you. Congregate AWAY from the building. Our class Evacuation Assembly Area is in front of The Schaeffer Center for the Performing Arts.

In Case of Gas Leak:

- Do not turn on/off lights or other electrical equipment in the room (this includes cell phones).
- Open exterior doors and windows in the studio, then go outside and shut off the main gas valve on the side of the tank, located in front of the building toward The Schaeffer Center for the Performing Arts.
- Do NOT reenter the room.
- Immediately locate and notify faculty or staff of the situation. If they are not readily available, call the University Police at 262-8000 or use the emergency “blue light” phone located outside the building. (Emergency phones located at the edge of the Stadium parking lot at the rear of the building and between Wey and Schaeffer). Tell the dispatcher that you suspect a gas leak in Wey Hall 231.

In Case of Medical Emergency:

- Dial 911 and tell the dispatcher that you require medical assistance. Be prepared to provide the following: 1) Location of injured person, 2) Type of injury or problem, 3) The individual’s present condition, 4) The sequence of events leading to the emergency, 5) Medical history and name of injured person’s doctor, if known, 6) A phone number where you are.

First Aid

- There is a minimal first aid kit in the Fibers Studio, on top of the refrigerator.

- Additional first aid kits are located in Room 213 and the Art Office.
- A more substantial first aid kit is available in the Sculpture Studio.
- Rooms with first aid kits have the words “First Aid” on their exterior doors.
- Monitored Sculpture Studio hours are: Sunday, 1-11pm; Mon-Thurs, 7-midnight; Fri/Sat, 1-6pm.
- For accidental chemical exposure to the eyes, use the chemical eyewash station for 15 full minutes, then seek immediate medical attention afterwards. For minor irritation as would be caused by the chemicals currently provided in this studio, rinse until irritation subsides. Avoid chemical exposure to your eyes by wearing appropriate chemical splash goggles.

Consequences for failing to use designated PPE and/or other safety infractions:

- You will not be allowed to participate during class if you do not have ALL required personal protection equipment. This will result in an absence from class and/or will negatively impact your participation grade and/or will negatively impact your ability to complete work on time.
- If you are seen working without the required PPE and/or engaging in some other safety infraction during class or outside of class time, you will receive:
 - ❖ 1st Infraction: warning
 - ❖ 2nd Infraction: 1-point deduction from final grade
 - ❖ 3rd Infraction: additional 2-points deduction from final grade
 - ❖ 4th Infraction: additional 2-points deduction from final grade AND loss of unsupervised studio use for one week
 - ❖ 5th Infraction: additional 5-points deduction from final grade AND loss of unsupervised studio use for the duration of the semester