

INTRODUCTION TO TEXTILE MEDIA

WEAVING PROJECT

SAMPLE in progress DUE (6 inches): *Tuesday, September 13*

COMPLETED SAMPLE DUE (20 inches): *Tuesday, September 20*

FINAL WEAVING DUE: *Thursday, October 6*

Weaving is one of the most ancient and enduring techniques for constructing cloth, or a planar textile surface. The basic principle of weaving is to interlace two sets of threads - the warp and the weft - at right angles to each other. The weft, sometimes called the 'fill', is drawn under and over the parallel warps. In tapestry, the weft covers the warp threads, creating a weft-faced fabric (meaning that you cannot see the warp threads). For this project, you will create a weaving sampler and weaving exploring several tapestry weaving techniques. Refer to the uploaded 'Visual Glossary' or other books and resources on weaving for guidance, ideas and inspiration.

1. You will need to weave the full warp on your loom to complete the project. For at least the first 20 inches of your weaving experiment with techniques and materials. Utilize the techniques below and make up your own. This first section will be your Weaving Sampler.
2. Weave several rows of one color for practice covering the warp and keeping even selvage. Then weave several rows of another color. Arc or bubble the filling across the warp to allow for take-up of weft as it interlaces over and under the warp ends. Pack the weft well using your rigid heddle reed or fork. Repeat. This will create horizontal lines.
3. Weave two contrasting colors to produce vertical lines. Do this by weaving a row of dark and a row of light for several inches. This will create vertical lines on your weaving. Then weave two contrasting colors to produce horizontal lines. Do this by weaving two or more rows of dark, then two or more of light, etc.
4. Weave any shapes that utilize interlocking, dovetail and slit techniques. Try a shape that involves diagonal lines.
5. Experiment with a weaving technique that creates pile, such as soumak or rya knots.
6. Incorporate some of your homespun yarn or alternative materials into the weaving. Experiment with yarns/threads/filaments of differing textures and weights.
7. Remove your sample weaving from the loom and finish the ends (see handout). **Your sample weaving will be critiqued in class on September 20th .**
8. Retie your warp and create a Final Weaving. Continue experimenting with techniques/materials as well as build upon what you learned in your sample weaving. The Final Weaving must be at least 36" in length. Remove the weaving from the loom and finish the ends (see handout). **The Final Weaving will be critiqued on October 6.**

*** Weave at least 6-8 inches by September 13 and bring it to class. Record approximately how long it took you to complete this (record it in your journal/notebook). As you proceed with your weaving, reflect on whether you enjoy the process, or not, what aspects you find pleasing, or challenging. You may wish to record your thoughts in your journal. Enjoy!