

ABBY FRANQUEMONT

<http://abbysyarns.com>

abby@abbysyarns.com

513-292-2857

CLASS LIST HANDSPINNING

About Abby

Abby Franquemont, author of [Respect The Spindle](#), is steeped in the fiber arts since birth. The daughter of field anthropologists studying textile production, she was raised largely in the rural Andes of Peru, where she learned to spin, weave and more starting at the age of five. In 2006, she left a successful career in information technology in order to write and teach full-time about the fiber arts, particularly spinning. Why spinning? Abby says it's the most fundamental of the fiber arts – the one upon which the most others depend – as well as the most at risk of being lost and the hardest to pass down in any way other than hand to hand. Abby is technical, passionate, inquisitive, and informed; she has taught individuals and groups of all ages, skill levels, and combinations thereof. Her classes sell out wherever she goes, her book, instructional DVDs, magazine articles, and blog are widely recommended, and her down-to-earth approach is empowering for students of all levels.

Abby has taught and lectured at large events including The National Needlearts Association (TNNA), Golden Gate Fiber Institute, the Spin-Off Autumn Retreat (SOAR), Sock Summit, the Taos Wool Festival, and New York State Sheep & Wool (Rhinebeck), not to mention many of the finest fiber, knitting, and crafting shops in the USA, along with weaving, spinning and knitting guilds nationwide and a select group of private retreats, seminars and workshops. Her writing has appeared in Spin-Off, Spindlicity, Interweave Knits, Twist Collective, Entangled, SpinKnit, Knitty, and more.

What Abby's students, readers and colleagues say about her and her work:

“I came back from that workshop newly inspired to make better yarn. I won't be making the same default yarn over and over again.” -Diana from Vancouver, BC, Canada

“I learned so much, way more than I ever thought I could learn in a one day class.” -Michelle, CT

“Not only did I walk out of that class with a solid foundation in drumcarding, but the business angle definitely gave me some ideas on how to improve what I've already been doing.” Elizabeth, NY

“I was the almost brand new spinner in your all spindles, all day class. It was a lot for me to take in and so I thank you so much for your patience and humor and support. As I practice, I realize how much I learned and I continue to think about and process the many things that you said. Your sense of humor and perspective really helped me and I hope that I will get to take a class with you again as I become a more experienced spinner!” -Suzie, NY

“I am STILL having “aha” moments (one month later) from all that I learned. I LOVED the teaching style, it sure did encourage me to internalize so much.” -Gretchen, CO

“Abby had just come off of 6 days straight of teaching and we were impressed with the vigor and enthusiasm pouring forth from one mighty lady.” -Jane Patrick, Schacht Spindle Company, CO

"I have a decent assortment of spinning books, including some excellent ones that focus on spindles, but this book blows them away." — *KnittingScholar.com*

About Classes

Abby offers the following range of classes:

- One Hour Lecture / Slideshow (ideal for larger groups)
- One Hour Lecture with Hands-On Exercise
- One Hour Hands-On
- Half-Day Hands-On
- Half-Day Lecture / Hands-On Combo
- Full Day Hands-On
- Full Day Hands-On with Lecture / Slideshow
- Multi-Day Workshop

Lectures and slideshows are ideal for larger groups (more than 20-25 participants).

Hands-on classes are priced to include up to 18 students by default; for groups larger than 18, advance discussion is needed and a per-student additional cost applies.

Complete pricing consists of a class or lecture fee, materials fee, transportation costs, meals, and lodging. For a travel distance of greater than 50 miles each direction, a half-day class is the minimum. Per-session pricing may also be adjustable when booking multiple sessions or custom group sizes.

Default facility needs are generally a space large enough to accommodate the group size expected, with seating for expected participants + instructor + one extra seat. Tables are nice but not required by default; seating in a circle is usually preferred. Each seat should give someone sitting in it enough room to stretch arms out to both sides comfortably. Strong lighting is preferred. Lectures with slideshow will require a USB-capable projector that can be plugged into a laptop (Abby will bring the laptop with her presentation), and electricity. Unless otherwise specified, students should bring their own equipment.

Children are welcome in class provided they are able to participate; for children 12 and under, a parent should be present unless this is in their school setting, in which case a regular teacher should be present. For groups of children only, please request a custom class. Participants may bring infants so long as there is no disruption; please use common sense. No pets, but service animals are allowed. Most special needs (allergies, physical limitations) can be accommodated with advance notice. Please take cell phones outside, and photos and videos are allowed only with prior permission.

Materials fees may be collected in advance by class organizers, or paid to the instructor at start of class. In some cases, discounted materials fees may be available.

Abby's classes are available in a variety of formats, and can be heavily customized to suit your specific needs. Her goal is to work with you, as an event organizer, shop owner, group representative, or private individual to set up the exact scenario you need. Abby offers two basic models for structuring workshop events.

First, the Hosted Model, in which an organizer completely hosts the class, collects all fees, handles logistics including travel, lodging, and promotion, and pays Abby a set fee by the end of the workshop event. This tends to work well for festivals, guilds, and shops, and will generally tie in readily with most workshop models already in use by these types of groups. Pricing in this model generally allows for an event organizer to break even at 8 students in a class charging each participant somewhere between \$75-150 a day (or \$40-90 a half-day); if the full complement of (usually) 18 students is reached, most organizers turn a comfortable profit. In some cases, special pricing may be available upon request.

Transportation: Driving is reimburseable at the standard IRS rate of 55 cents a mile. Air travel where required is to be arranged on a case by case basis, consisting of a coach airfare plus baggage fees as checked baggage is usually necessary to transport materials and/or equipment. If equipment and materials can be shipped in advance at a savings, they will be. Transportation from the destination airport to the event also needs to be worked out if air travel is necessary.

Second, the Grassroots Model, in which an organizer finds a location, does local promotion, partners with Abby on local logistics (getting to and from the airport, suggesting hotel, that sort of thing), while Abby collects fees directly, handles her own transportation and lodging, and may provide additional promotional support as well. 1-2 local organizers attend the workshop event at no charge in exchange for on-the-ground logistics as agreed. This model tends to work well for an informal group who would like to have a workshop on their own terms – at the location of their choice, with a group size of their choice, and so on. Default pricing for this model starts as low as \$75/day per student and can run as high as \$200/day per student for class sizes of 4 or fewer.

Abby will drive to locations within 500 miles of Lebanon, Ohio; 750 miles or up, air travel must be arranged. Between 500 and 750 miles, air travel will be arranged only if it offers a significant savings over driving. Transportation details usually must be worked out individually depending on the workshop model chosen, schedule, and distance.

Lodging: Any class further than 100 miles from Lebanon, Ohio needs overnight lodging – specifics will generally need to be worked out on a case by case basis.

Materials Fees: Always separate from instructor fees, per-student, may be collected by organizer or paid directly to Abby at or before start of class.

ONE HOUR LECTURES AND SLIDESHOWS

Lectures can usually be customized to some extent for your specific audience. They feature a lecture presentation, accompanied by slides where specified, and a question-and-answer segment. They can be accompanied by book and DVD sales and signing.

HANDSPINNING THROUGH HISTORY

Well-suited for audiences who may not spin yet, but are interested in the hows, whys, whens, and wheres. From ancient times through the dawn of industrialization up to the present day, who spins and why? What do they spin, with what tools? What do they make with yarn? What role do textiles play in the development of civilization? What would life be like without yarn? Includes spinning demonstrations with spindle and wheel.

Hands-On addition: up to 18 participants by default, basics of making yarn with wool and a stick.

Lecture only:	\$300 for standalone lecture, \$100 if booked with half-day or full day class
Hands-On:	\$100 for first 18; more by quote

WHEEL VS. SPINDLE

What's better? What gets more done? Why? Would you ever choose to use one over the other? Is there a difference? Which one should I start with? Includes demonstrations with spindle and wheel. No hands-on add-on available; recommend pairing with half-day or whole-day class if hands-on activities are desired.

Lecture only:	\$300 for standalone lecture, \$100 if booked with half-day or full day class
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WHY SPIN YARN?

Should you try spinning? What benefit does learning to spin bring to a knitter, weaver, crocheter, or even a person who doesn't do other fiber things? Does spinning matter? Does it save money? Why not just buy yarn, or finished textiles? Who can learn to spin? What do you need to learn?

Lecture only:	\$300 standalone, \$100 with other class booking
Hands-On:	\$100 for first 18; more by quote

CONTEMPORARY ANDEAN TEXTILES

Slideshow. A walk-through of textiles presently being produced in the Cusco area of Peru – how they are made, who makes them, what they are used for, and what they mean.

Slideshow only:

\$300 standalone, \$150 with other class booking

PRESERVING TEXTILE TRADITIONS IN THE ANDES

Slideshow. A retrospective on more than three decades of change in the Cusco area of Peru, what change has meant for indigenous people, and how it's affected textile production. Brief history of textiles in the Inca world, followed by Peru's colonial years, the 20th century, and the present day. Learn how efforts to preserve traditional textile techniques have also revolutionized the lives of weavers in many communities.

Slideshow only:

\$300 standalone, \$150 with other class booking

HALF DAY CLASSES

Half day classes are 3 hours long. For most, an hour is needed on either side for setup and takedown. Default pricing is for up to 18 participants; more may be possible by special advance arrangement. Some classes are limited in size and others are more expandable. Some classes are available in half-day form or full-day form (see below).

Grassroots Model Pricing for a half-day class (default):

- expects 8-15 students, at a default price of \$65/student + per-student materials fee.
- Fewer than 8 students, or more than 15: by quote.
- Some areas carry an unusually high, or unusually low, cost of transportation, lodging, or workshop space; these may require a custom quote.

BASIC SPINDLE SPINNING

For all skill levels including absolutely none; suitable for any age group. Even if you already spin, or already spin with spindles in particular, there's something for you in this class which covers multiple methods of starting out, pros and cons of various types of spindles, finger spinning, thigh spinning, plying your yarn, and directions for how to finish your yarn and get it ready to use in the project of your choice. A basic low whorl spindle and a sampling of fibers will be supplied.

Standalone Class:	\$400 \$300 if booked with another half-day or whole day class
Materials Fee:	\$ 20 / student includes 2 spindles, all fiber

BASIC WHEEL SPINNING

For all skill levels including absolutely none; just like Basic Spindle Spinning, except for those who own a spinning wheel and are looking to get going. Basic wheel mechanics, how to make your wheel work, troubleshooting common problems, how (and why) to ply your yarn (or not), how to get it ready to use in the project of your choice. **Class is limited to a maximum of 12 students unless otherwise agreed in advance.** Participants must bring their spinning wheels, which should be in good working order. Fiber will be supplied.

Standalone Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$ 20 per student includes all fiber, handout

GETTING MORE DONE WITH SPINDLES

For those who already spin with spindles a little or a lot, for wheel spinners who want to know how to make the spindle more productive, this class is just the ticket. Learn where your personal bottlenecks are, learn techniques to speed up various spindle tasks, learn to spin various kinds of yarn and different fibers. Students are encouraged to bring spindles they love and spindles they hate. Two basic spindles and fiber will be supplied. Not for the absolute beginner.

Standalone Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$25 per student includes 2 spindles, fiber

SPINDLE PLYING

Many spinners enjoy using their spindles to produce singles, but find themselves turning to their wheels when they want to ply. Learn techniques and tricks to make plying easier, faster and more portable with your spindles, and how to achieve several plying structures (as well as why you would want to). A basic low whorl spindle and fiber will be supplied, but students are encouraged to bring spindles they love and spindles they hate. Not suited for absolute beginners; you must be reasonably comfortable with spinning singles.

Standalone Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$20 per student includes spindle, fiber.

PLYING BASICS

Often overlooked, plying is actually its own whole skillset. There are many plying structures which bring different benefits to your yarn, and this class will help you decide which you'd like to use and make sure you can get that done. We'll cover the differences between singles, 2-ply, 3-ply, more than 3-ply, cabled yarn, and crepe yarn. Participants should bring a wheel in good working order and/or a spindle they like, and a lazy kate with at least four bobbins. Optional: niddy noddy or skeiner, ball winder or nostepinde. Fiber will be supplied. Not for the absolute beginner; you must already be able to produce singles.

Standalone Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$20 per student includes fiber, component yarn, class booklet

SPINNING FROM THE FOLD

When and why would you want to use this method, and how to do it using combed top (wool, silk, and blends) and locks of fiber. You'll spin with multiple drafting methods, which you don't have to know already to take this class. Wheel, spindle, both – your choice! Fiber will be supplied. Bring a flick carder if you have one; there will be some to borrow if you don't.

Standalone Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student includes all fiber

SPECTACULAR SILK SINGLES

Learn to produce delightful tussah silk singles strong enough for a variety of purposes – knitting, crochet, weaving – and how to handle and finish your silk singles and finished objects for a variety of different results. Fast to produce, fast to work up, beautiful and guaranteed to please, silk singles can be the answer to stunning handspun projects in a very short timeframe. Wheel or spindle.

Standalone Class: \$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee: \$25 per student includes all fiber

FIBER BASICS

What's wool, what's silk, what's cotton, and why does it matter? What's a protein fiber? How about a bast fiber? Is alpaca really hard to spin? Or was that cotton? What fibers are advanced and what's good for a beginner? What fibers are environmentally friendly? What's a natural fiber and what's a synthetic? Where do these things come from? What are they good for? Get an overview of the properties of a various types of fibers, how to work with them – and hands-on instruction in working with each one. Advanced beginner and beyond.

Standalone Class: \$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee: \$30 per student includes all fiber, handout

PREP MATTERS

What's the difference between top and roving? What the heck is sliver? Is cotton sliver different from silk sliver? Are there regional differences or debates about what things are called? What's a rolag? What's a puni? What does it mean if roving is pin-drafted? How can I tell if something was drum carded? What's a batt and how should I spin it? What's the difference between carded and combed? Do I have to do something to this fiber so I can spin it? Are there some fibers you can only prepare one way? Does it matter if it's machine prep or prep by hand? How can I tell if this fiber is good? Do I need to have hand cards and combs? In this class, you'll spin multiple kinds of roving, sliver, top, batts, rolags, punis, locks, and more, and you'll learn why preparation matters to both your process and your product. Advanced beginner and beyond.

Standalone Class: \$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee: \$30 per student includes all fiber, handout

CABLED YARN

What's a cabled yarn, and why would I use one? We'll spin and ply 4 different cabled yarns and answer questions you didn't even know you had about this versatile and powerful structure. Not for the brand-new spinner; must be comfortable with spinning and basic plying.

Standalone Class: \$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee: \$25 per student includes all fiber, booklet

HOW I STOPPED WORRYING AND LEARNED TO LOVE JOINS

Many spinners, even seasoned spinners, hate doing joins. Some will do anything to avoid them, and that itself can create problems you don't realize are there. Not a class goes by but what I hear people asking for help with joins, so here's a whole class about them. Woolen joins, worsted joins, joins when plying, joins from the fold, joins with wool, silk, cotton, synthetics, joins at the wheel, joins at the spindle, slow joins, fast joins, strong joins, weak joins, troubleshooting your joins, joins joins joins. So much amazing joining action you'll be left saying "I'm not even sure that's a real word anymore... join? It just looks funny, I've been thinking about it so much." And you'll know why that matters.

Standalone Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$25 per student includes all fiber, booklet

HALF DAY OR WHOLE DAY CLASSES

These classes can be either half day (less material is covered) or whole day. The full day classes are meatier and more intensive, but the half day classes pack a lot into a tight timeframe. Many event organizers choose to mix and match and create a custom lineup based on their expected attendance.

SPINNING SUPER FINE

Trying to spin ridiculously fine yarn? This is the class for you. We'll work with fine fibers to produce the finest yarn we possibly can with wheels and / or spindles – your choice of either or both! What do we mean by fine? We're talking thread; singles you can barely see and plied yarns you'd knit with needles you'll have to special order and worry about bending, that you'd crochet with hooks you can barely tell are actually hooks, or weave at upwards of 100 ends per inch. We're talking about yarn you don't want to measure in wraps per inch because it's too hard to count that many. Seriously, even if you aren't trying to go quite that fine, if you're just trying to spin finer, this is what you've been looking for. You should bring your favourite equipment for spinning fine – wheel, spindle, both, it's up to you. I'll supply the fiber.

Half Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee half day:	\$25 per student
Full Day Class:	\$600
Materials Fee full day:	\$40 per student

BOUCLE YARN

Boucle yarn is made by plying, and there are several approaches we'll cover in this class. You'll need a spinning wheel, a selection of already-spun singles, a spool of thread or floss, a lazy kate and as many bobbins as you can stand to bring (three is a minimum, four is better, the more the better). You'll make boucles with all handspun components that you'll spin in class, and boucles with some millspun elements. (Wheel Only)

Half Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee half day:	\$25 per student
Full Day Class:	\$600
Materials Fee full day:	\$40

SPINNING FASTER

Do you wish you could make more yarn faster? This is the class for you! You'll learn several drafting methods and get personalized feedback on how you spin and where your bottlenecks are. You'll learn to get the most out of your wheel, how to set up for efficiency, how to measure your productive rate, and exercises to practice to improve your spinning speed.

Half Day Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee half day:	\$30 per student
Full Day Class:	\$600
Materials Fee full day	\$45

WHEEL MECHANICS

Learn about drive systems, tensioning mechanisms, ratios, treadle systems, flyer design, and how all these things affect your wheel's performance and the yarn you produce. How, when, and why would you choose one system over another, or make setup changes? How can you troubleshoot mechanical problems? How can you change settings on your wheel to change the yarn you're spinning? Fiber will be supplied, and wheels with multiple drive systems will be present but you should bring your own, double drive if you have one, but whatever you've got is fine.

Half Day Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee half day:	\$30 per student
Full Day Class	\$600
Materials Fee full day:	\$45
Special Considerations:	if outside driving distance, teacher may need to ship specific wheels or arrange for them to be available; this can mean either extra advance planning / coordination or advance materials shipping costs.

THICK AND THIN YARN

Have you ever heard it said that new spinners should treasure their thick and thin beginner's yarns, because once you're good at spinning you won't be able to make those anymore? Would you like to prove that wrong, and learn to make good, stable, delightful thick and thin yarns? Singles and plied, with wheel or spindle -- this is the class for you. You should bring your own equipment (wheel or spindle or both), and I'll supply the fiber.

Half Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

SELF STRIPING YARN

Have you ever wanted to spin your own self-striping yarn from dyed fiber? We'll work with both fiber that's been handpainted in multiple colours, and multiple colours of solid-dyed fiber, to spin self-striping singles – and you'll learn planning and plying methods to achieve a variety of colour effects in plied yarns as well. You must be able to spin and ply a basic two-ply yarn, but we'll cover chain plying and three-ply yarns too. Wheel or spindle.

Half-Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

DRAFTING: THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT

What's the difference between long draw and short draw? Does it matter? Why should you choose one or the other? What difference does it make in your finished yarn? Are some fibers or preparations more suited to one or the other? We'll talk about those subjects, and learn to execute a range of drafting methods with a variety of fibers. Bring a wheel and/or spindle, and we'll supply the fiber.

Half-Day Class:	\$400; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

SPINNING FOR SOCKS

What makes an ideal sock yarn? From fiber selection to drafting method to plying structures and finishing, we'll cover it all. Learn to spin bouncy yarn, long-wearing yarn, and hybrid yarns that are ideally suited to being socks. Wheel or spindle – your choice. Fiber will be supplied.

Half-Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

SPINNING BLENDED FIBERS

We'll spin several blends of wool and silk, blends of wool and modern synthetics such as rayon including Tencel and bamboo-based rayon, nylon, and glittery fibers. Lastly, we'll spin a blend with luxury fibers. You'll learn methods for controlling your blends to get a variety of effects, how to judge what your blend may come out like, and talk about what blends can do that unblended fibers don't. Wheel or spindle, your choice!

Half-Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$35 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

SPINNING FOR WEAVING

How to spin yarn that's suited for warp, yarn that's suited for weft, how to select materials and how to measure your yarns for planning purposes. Does direction of twist matter? Can you use singles for warp? What properties does weaving yarn need? Wheel or spindle; bring small yarn management tools like wpi gauge, niddy-noddy, as desired. Fibers will be supplied.

Half-Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$25 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

SPINNING FOR LACE

How do yarns for lace projects differ from other yarns – other than just being thinner? What qualities make a great lace yarn? What are some great fiber selections? Is there a difference between spinning for knitted lace and crocheted lace? Do you need special equipment? How precise do you need to be? Does gauge matter? These questions and more will be answered in this hands-on session.

Half-Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$25 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

PROJECT PLANNING AND EXECUTION

Do you have a project for which you'd love to spin, but you don't even know where to start? How do you figure it out? Then once you think you know where to start, how do you make sure you actually hit the mark? How do you get it all done and stay on track? How much fiber do you need? How can you be sure you'll end up with enough yarn? What if you don't? If you're looking for answers to these questions, or just that kick in the right direction to take on a planned project, this is the class for you.

Half-Day Class:	\$400 ; \$300 if booked with another class
Materials Fee:	\$25 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials

THE RUT BUSTER

Are you stuck in a comfort zone you can't escape? No matter what you do, do you just keep ending up spinning the same yarn over and over again? Is it you, or the equipment, or the fiber that makes that happen? What else is out there? Is it overload when you even try to think about what to try next? Are you stuck with stash you don't dare spin because you're afraid you'll ruin it because you'll just do what you've always done? Did you hit a wall working towards a specific goal? Do you just want someone to make you try something new, that you never would have thought of, that you can't make yourself try, that might push you to a new level you didn't expect? Well, bring it to this class, and we'll take that on in an exciting and diverse hands-on seminar.

Half-Day Class:	\$400; limited to 12 students.
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
Full Day:	\$600 class fee and \$45/student materials; limited to 16 students.

FULL DAY CLASSES

Full day classes are 3 hours in the morning, a break for lunch, and 3 hours in the afternoon. An hour at either end is required for teacher setup and takedown. Pricing is for a maximum of 18 students unless otherwise specified; in some cases, class sizes may be increased at an additional cost with prior agreement.

ALL SPINDLES ALL DAY

For all spinning skill levels including absolutely none. Even if you already spin, or spin with spindles, there's something here for you. We'll cover finger twisting, thigh spinning, stick spinning, multiple types of spindles, plying your yarn, how to finish your yarn and get it ready for use, and we'll spend in-depth time on a variety of exercises aimed at increasing your spindle skills. Spinning while walking, standing, sitting, talking, team spinning, spindle races, spinning blind, and a selection of tricks guaranteed to amaze your friends (well, maybe only if they spin) will be covered. A basic low whorl spindle and fiber will be provided, but please bring any spindles you love and any spindles you hate. You will also receive personalized feedback on your specific spindle goals.

Class Fee:	\$600
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
	\$15 for optional t-shirt (needs to be ordered 1 month in advance)

SPINNING BOOT CAMP

Are you interested in learning to spin? Do you have a wheel or a spindle, or are you thinking of buying one or both? What do you really need? How long does it take to learn this stuff? What's the RIGHT way to spin? What's plying, and do you have to do it? Can you only spin wool or is there other stuff too? How can you tell if fiber is good? What kinds of fiber are there? How much should it cost? Where can you get it? What kind do you want? Do you have questions, confusions, and need straight answers and a chance to try things out hands-on? Need the confidence to decide if this is for you, and the skills to take home and practice? Spend a day, and get what you need. This is ideal for the would-be spinner and the brand-new spinner alike, and it's the perfect class to take at the start of a festival to turn you into the informed consumer you want to be.

Class Fee:	\$600
Materials Fee:	\$30 per student
Special Considerations:	Class is limited to 15 students; need to know in advance if they've got wheels to bring and/or how many to arrange to borrow. At festivals, sometimes vendors will lend wheels for classes and/or provide class sponsorship.

TRUTH OR DARE

And a few other arguably juvenile party games – except with spinning. Do you have a secret spinning shame, and you want to admit it and find a way past that? Or maybe a pet peeve that nobody understands, and you want to work through it? Are you afraid to try spinning something totally unlike your personality? What spinning thing wouldn't you even try unless someone double-dog-dared you? I have a few ideas up my sleeve. This class grew out of informal things that happen before and after classes at retreats and festivals, combined with in-class exercises that people find themselves coming back to for years to come. For years, people have said “I wish there were a full-day class in doing this variety of stuff,” and so now, there is.

Class Fee:	\$600
Materials Fee:	\$45 per student includes fibers, 2 spindles \$15 for optional t-shirt (needs to be ordered 1 month in advance)

MYTHTWISTERS

You can't spin much yarn on a spindle; wheels are faster. You can't spin fine on a bobbin-led wheel. You can't spin thick with a spindle. You can't use handspun yarn for warp, especially not if it's singles. You have to spin the opposite direction to crochet instead of knit. Chain-plied yarns are inherently weaker than standard 3-ply yarns. You can't blend short and long staple fibers. Have you heard any of these? Do you have others? Well, I tell you what: let's put these to the test.

Class Fee:	\$600
Materials Fee:	\$45 per student includes fibers, 2 spindles \$15 for optional t-shirt (needs to be ordered 1 month in advance)

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

These subjects can be taught by special arrangement, but require a custom quote or a fair amount of advance planning or preparation or special equipment. Usually, they're multiple days at a minimum. Some have special considerations (such as classes about how to do stuff for sale).

- Andean Backstrap Weaving (3 days minimum, intensive prep beforehand)
- Drum Carded Blends (requires drum carders, tables, often electricity)
- Spinning, Carding, Dyeing for Sale (by special arrangement only)
- Spinning For A Purpose (3 days minimum)
- Advanced Spindle Spinning (2.5 days minimum)
- Open Seminar in Advanced Topics (by special arrangement only)
- How To Teach Spinning
- How To Add Spinning Products To Your Shop

Don't see what you're looking for? Just ask! Abby develops new classes and custom programs all the time.