

## **The History of Human Adornment...since Cavemen!**

An intriguing and hands-on overview of the origin of humans' desire to wear jewelry. As beads were the first material object not necessary for survival, they have been considered an indicator of when early hominids developed the ability to symbolize and thus become "modern man". This course will examine the use of beads in adornment, trade, spirituality and religion, symbology and ethnic identity from prehistory to the present.

**Goal:** To examine the nature and significance of the Bead through scientific, historical and cultural perspectives.

**The course consists of ten (+) (10) 2-3 hour seminars:**

- I. **BEAD LINGO: Introduction; Definitions and Bead Nomenclature which includes bead anatomy, shape, decorative and color descriptive terminology.**
- II. **Bead Family Tree: Organic Sources**
  - i. **Plants and Animals**
- III. **Bead Family Tree: Inorganic Sources**
  - i. **Minerals, Rocks, Metals (World of a String – Part 4 (2 hrs.)-The Treasured Bead)**
- IV. **Stone and Metal History**
- V. **Bead Family Tree: Inorganic Sources (continued)**
  - i. **Glass**
  - ii. **Glass Manufacture/Technique (World on a String - Part 2 (1.55 hr)-The Tiny Mighty Bead)**
- VI. **Nomenclature: Fashion Show of Beads**
- VII. **Glass History - BC**
- VIII. **Glass History – AD to Present**
- IX. **Trade Networks**
  - i. **Treatments/Alterations**
  - ii. **Reproductions/Imitations**
- X **Purpose/Uses of Beads (World of a String – Part 3 (1.55 hr)-The Sacred Bead)**
- XI. **Symbolism (World on a String - Part 1 (1.55 hr)-The Eternal Bead)**
  - i. **Bead Bios (World on a String – Part 5 (1.55 hr)-A Passion for Beads)**

Weekly take-home quizzes help with information retention and are reviewed at the beginning of the next class.

**Tools:** Loupe (10X), optical visor or magnifier (glasses), penlight (Lumiloupe)

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