

## Halloween Costumes Course Outline

| Week | Topic   | Activities  | Tools needed/what to bring to class   |
|------|---|---|---|
| 1    | How to copy a design from a photo; identifying elements; what needs to be sewn, thinking about safety, warmth, and comfort<br><br>Sizing, cutting, and in general getting started | Presentation on how to ID elements<br>Fabrics, patterns, and other resources: How to choose, where to find<br>Safety, warmth, and comfort<br><br>Making a plan                  | Measurements of wearer<br>Final design of costume<br>Pattern<br>Tape measure, pencil<br>Notebook<br>Pins and shears   |
| 2    | Continuing work on the body   | Sewing time   | Sewing machine<br>Cut out (and maybe partially sewn) costume<br>Pattern and instructions<br>Other sewing tools as needed: thread snips, shears, tape measure, pins, etc |
| 3    | Adding surface design<br>Other costume elements   | Presentation: Techniques for surface design<br>Sparkly stuff<br>Lights and reflective elements<br>Other elements: Footwear, headpieces, handheld accessories<br><br>Sewing time | Same as week 2  |
| 4    |   | Sewing time   | Same as week 2  |

Resources:

### **Local Fabric Stores**

SR Harris Fabrics

Local small shops – Treadle, Lakes Makerie, Sewing Lounge, etc

Hobby Lobby

Walmart

JoAnn Fabrics

### **Online Fabric Stores, a sampling**

Spandex House and Spandex World – tons of knits with spandex (aka Lycra), solids and prints, many with glitter, mirror, foils, lace, faux leather, mesh, too many to list

TheFabricFairy.com – excellent resource for knits, printed knits, and swimwear

Wholesalefabricdirect.com – lightweight “china silk” linings (stiff, floaty, many colors), charmeuse satin (drapey, soft, many colors), chiffon, organza, some stretch fabrics

Tutu.com – spandex, stretch fabrics of many varieties, stiff net and tulle

Wawak.com – apparel industry wholesale shop supplies, such as zippers, pressing equipment, tools of all kinds, threads, needles .... More toys than you ever thought you needed, and vastly cheaper than retail even with their flat rate shipping

### **Other fabric resources**

Thrift stores – look for sheets, blankets, curtains, tablecloths

Bedding stores – clearance sheets, tablecloths, curtains

Craigslist – as above

eBay – fabric by the yard, trims, patterns, almost anything you can think up

Etsy – trims, laces, beads, interfacing, buckles, buttons, reflective tape

### **Other resources**

Hardware stores: Zip ties, colored tapes, plumbing and refrigerator tubing, aluminum flashing, spray paint

Party stores: Balloons, décor items that can be re-purposed: plastic tablecloths, cake decorations, art supplies

Rhinestones: Michaels and Hobby Lobby have glue-on and iron-on (“hotfix”) stones as well as sequins, craft stones, trims, etc.

Therhinestoneguy.com – house brand stones are fine for this kind of costume

Old medical equipment like canes, crutches, ankle/wrist braces, can provide ways of “extending the body”

Ax-Man surplus in Midway is a real treasure hunt!