CALLIGRAPHY 6-Week Course

Fridays: 9 December to 13 January

Benefits of doing Calligraphy:

Aside from being a beautiful form of art and writing, Calligraphy is an excellent way to improve your fine motor skills. As we age our motor skills decrease, unless we keep our muscles toned. Fine motor skills are essential for all tasks that we use our hands for, and by learning a craft such as calligraphy we engage and exercise our hand muscles.

In this 6-week Course:

You will be introduced to the skill of Calligraphy – what it entails, how to do it, and what tools you will need to be able to create beautiful manuscripts in lettering of your choice.

What you will need for these classes:

- A **Calligraphy pen with a broad flexible nib**. A photo of suitable pens is included in the resources on the next page.
- Smooth paper that is lightweight and non-absorbent (ordinary photocopy paper is fine for practicing)
- Writing guides (included in the resources on the next page) to be printed out so that you can place these guides underneath your sheets of writing paper
- For classes 5 & 6, a calligraphy pen, dip pen or fountain pen with a flexible, pointed nib
- Indian or permanent ink if using a dip-pen. Information about ink can be found on the Jackson's Art website here: https://www.jacksonsart.com/blog/2021/11/22/a-guide-to-inks/

Resources (following pages):

- 1. Recommended Calligraphy Pens (Fig. 1) & Nibs (Fig. 2)
- 2. Glossary of Terms
- 3. Writing Guides (2 pages)

What we will be covering during the 6-week programme:

Week 1 – Fri. 9 Dec:	Introduction to Calligraphy; Using Different Types of Calligraphy Pens; Understanding Different Kinds of Ink; Paper/Surface Options; Pen Strokes and Pressure; Foundational Hand
Week 2 – Fri. 16 Dec:	Practising Pen Strokes and Pressure; Foundational Italic Hand & Swash Variations
Week 3 – Fri. 23 Dec:	Caroline and Free Caroline Hand
Week 4 – Fri. 30 Dec:	Secretary Hand and Flourishes
Week 5 – Fri. 6 Jan:	Copperplate Hand; Using a Dip Pen or a Fountain Pen
Week 6 – Fri. 13 Jan:	Eastern and Gothic Hand; Introduction to Brush Techniques and Eastern Brushstrokes



Resources:

1. Recommended Calligraphy Pens and Nibs: *Fig. 1: Suitable Calligraphy Pens*



Fig. 2: Suitable Nibs (close-up)



2. Glossary of Terms:

Calligraphy:The art of fine writingFlourish:Decoration of letters, usually by the addition of sweeping strokesIllumination:Decoration of text of a manuscript (or letters or words) with gold, silver or coloured inkManuscript:A book or document in any kind of hand writing, as opposed to printVersal:A word drawn with an illuminated first letter or paragraph initial

Parts of the letters:

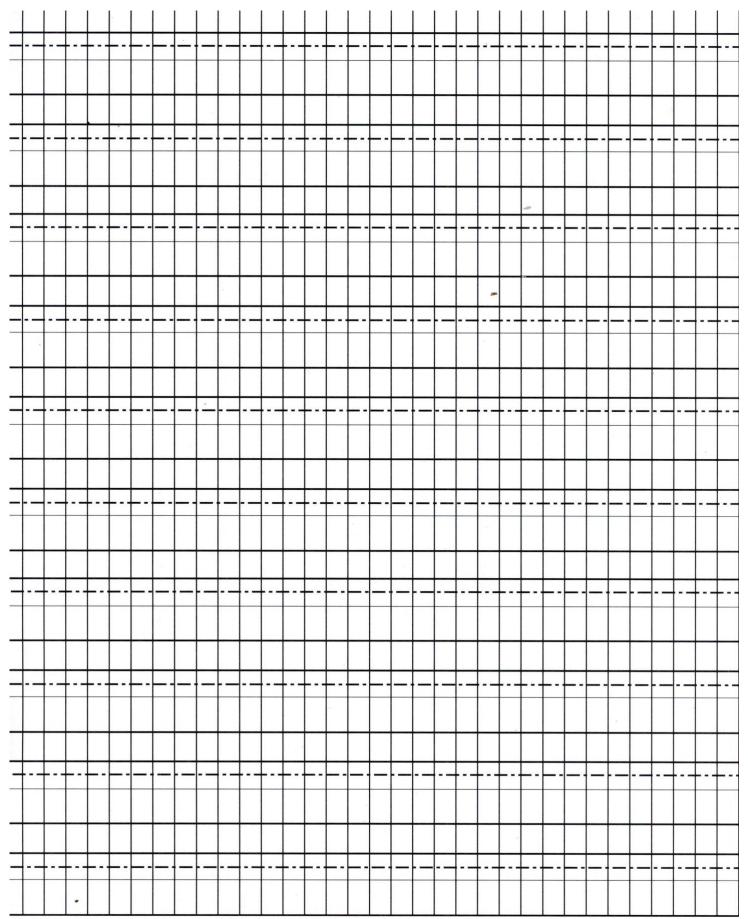
- Majuscules "capital" letters
- Minuscules "small" letters
- Ascenders parts of the letters above the main writing line: h, l, k, etc.
- Descenders parts of the letters below the main writing line: g, y, p, etc.
- Stroke any mark made with the pen
- Hairline the thinnest stroke made with the pen
- Serif small strokes added to the letters
- Counter the inside of a letter

Letter proportion and guide lines:

- Baseline the writing line
- X-height the height of the minuscules without ascenders or descenders
- Waist line the top of the x-height from the baseline
- Ascender line marks the top of the ascenders
- Descender line marks the bottom of the descenders



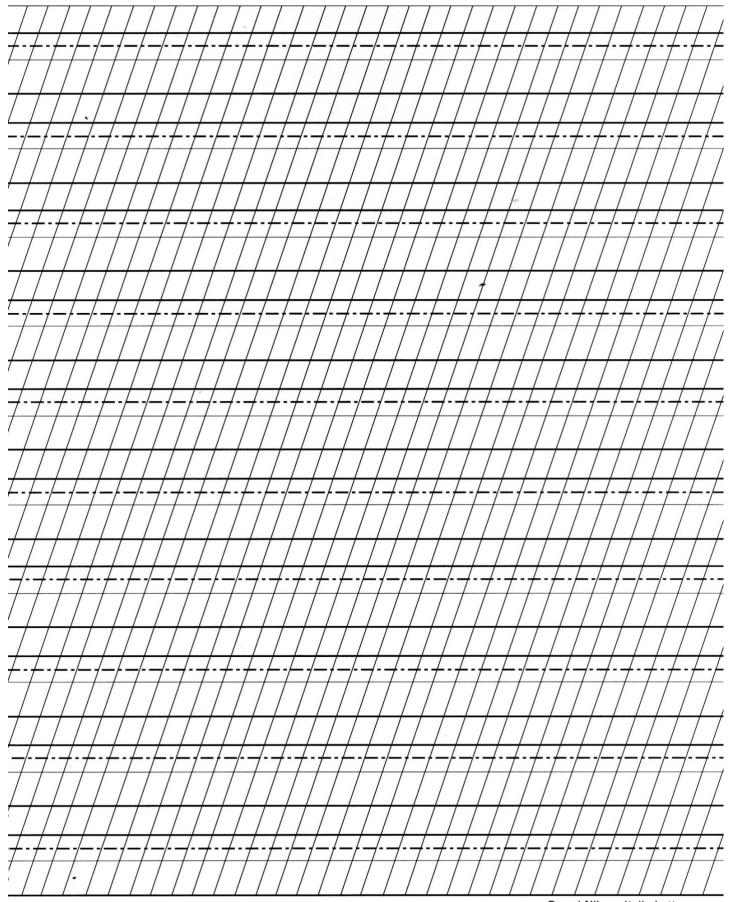
3. Writing Guide 1:



Broad Nibs • Vertical Letters



Writing Guide 2:



Broad Nibs • Italic Letters

