

Equipment

You will be provided with comprehensive course notes, laboratory manual and a cleaning cloth. Your State Education Convenor will advise what other equipment will be required.

Students also receive a quarterly issue of "The Australian Gemmologist" — the informative and prestigious gemmological journal of the association.

A comprehensive library with books, journals and videos is available for reference by members.

Assessment

Students of theory and practical classes require compulsory minimum attendance of 75%.

The course is divided between practical and theory lessons with a minimum requirement of specimens to be tested in practical lessons over each year.

Assessment is based on assignments, class work and examinations.

Course Locations

All state capital cities: Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Hobart, Perth, Adelaide, as well as Newcastle and Canberra (serviced by the New South Wales division).

Entry to this course may be subject to limited spaces and/or other terms and conditions.

Check with your local State Division for further information.

Course Code: **GAAGEM1 GAAGEM2**

New South Wales Division

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email: nsw@gem.org.au

Queensland Division

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Tel: (07) 3357 1088 Fax: (07) 3861 0499
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South Australian Division

GPO Box 191, Adelaide SA 5001
Tel: (08) 8227 1377 Fax: (08) 8227 1377
email: sa@gem.org.au

Tasmanian Division

PO Box 2138, Howrah TAS 7108
Tel: (03) 6261 4233
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Victorian Division

PO Box 14008, Melbourne VIC 8001
Tel: (03) 9326 6160 Fax: (03) 9326 6150
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Western Australian Division

PO Box 431, Claremont WA 6910
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Please phone for more details
or visit **www.gem.org.au**



GAA

Gemmological Association of Australia

Diploma in Gemmology



*Passionately educating the industry
and consumers about gemstones*



GAA

Gemmological Association of Australia

Confidence and Knowledge Sells

The Gemmological Association of Australia (GAA) provides the country's premier course in gemmology: the Diploma in Gemmology. This course is recognised as the industry benchmark to become qualified in the handling and identification of gems. It is specifically aimed at enhancing your employment opportunities or current workplace performance and career development.

On gaining a Diploma in Gemmology you will have the knowledge and the confidence to accurately identify gemstones whether they are real, synthetic, imitation or artificial. Ongoing technological advances mean that today's jewellery professionals must deal with a constant stream of new synthetics and simulated products, disclosed and undisclosed treatments of natural stones as well as new gemstone varieties.

You will discover the theoretical and practical aspects that gemmologists use to accurately identify gemstones in this comprehensive course, which is recognised not only locally but internationally as a 'world class' gemmological education.

Course details

The content you will cover in Gem 1 (1st year):

- Physical and optical properties of gemstones
- Methods of testing gemstones based on physical and optical properties
- Elementary chemistry, and optics
- Crystallography
- Introduction to gem testing techniques using microscope, hand lens, refractometer, polariscope, dichroscope, Chelsea filter, spectroscope, ultraviolet light and x-rays
- Geology and occurrences of gemstones
- Stones covered include: Silica gems (varieties of quartz and chalcedony), feldspars (such as moonstone), ornamentals (such as turquoise and lapis lazuli), organic gems (such as pearls, amber, jet, and coral)

The content you will cover in Gem 2 (2nd year):

- More advanced study of physical and optical properties
- Greater detail in the use of instruments with an emphasis on gem identification
- Imitations
- Synthetics - manufacture, properties & inclusions
- Gemstones covered include: corundum (ruby and sapphire), diamond, beryl (including emerald, aquamarine), tourmaline, garnets, spinel, jade, opal and all other mainstream gems.

Qualification

On completion graduates receive the GAA Diploma in Gemmology and are eligible to apply for Fellowship of the Association which entitles use of the post nominal FGAA. This post-nominal and the Diploma are well regarded and recognised in Australia and internationally.

Pre-requisites

A good understanding of written and spoken English is required.

Duration

Several pathways to complete the course are available. Check with your local state division regarding class schedules.

On-Site: The traditional way to complete the course is on-site, part-time over two years (38 weeks per year). Additional private study time is required outside class time to fully cover the theory component.

Correspondence: Practical and theory components are conducted by correspondence.

Flexible mode: Theory component is conducted by correspondence with block attendance a few times a year for the practical component.

Distance classes: Theory and practical components conducted in face-to-face blocks.

Intensive classes: QLD completed in 12months with one full week each month of lectures. NSW: theory component completed by correspondence and one full day a week of practical classes.

For more details please contact your nearest State Division.