Things you will learn

- What is a gemstone?
- Where are they found?
- From what are they created?
- What gives them their colour?
- Why do they react to light?
- How are they cut?
- Can you identify a fake?
- Their place in history
- What determines their value?
- Do I want to be a gemmologist?

To register your interest in this course or any other conducted by the Gemmological Association of Australia

Or if you would like to become a member Please contact your local State Division

www.gem.org.au

Other Courses offered by the Gemmological Association of Australia

- Diploma in Gemmology
- Diploma in Diamond Technology
- Retail Diamond Consultancy
- Practical Diamond Grading
- Advanced Diamond Grading
- Advanced Gemstone Inclusions
- Synthetic Update
- Advanced Instruments
- Antique Jewellery
- Advanced Opal
- Advanced Pearl
- Jewellery Sketching
- Jewellery Design and Communication
- Coloured Gemstones
- Pearl Threading
- Retail Training Correspondence

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Introduction to Gems & Gemmology

Passionately educating the industry and consumers about gemstones

GAA
Gemmological Association of Australia

This popular and informative course comprises ten evening lectures which includes a laboratory session.

It is designed to teach the basic gemmology of gemstones, plus the most important simulants, synthetics, ornamentals and organics, as well as their properties.

This course is ideal for hobbyists, gem enthusiasts and those considering a career in the jewellery industry.

Gemmology Basics

Discover the fundamental theories and basic terminology of minerals and gemstones.
An introduction to the instruments used in the identification of gemstones. The gemmological instruments which you will be introduced to include: Gemmology microscopes, polariscope, refractometer, UV light, spectroscope and the Hydrostatic Balance.

Coloured Gemstones

Learn about the history and mythology of various coloured gemstones. What causes colour and why? Plenty of examples and various cuts to view.

Many of these are found in almost any colour and are often used to imitate other gemstones. For example, Spinel has been confused with Ruby for centuries. In fact the Black Prince's Ruby in the British Crown is actually a Spinel!

Gemstone Origins

A discussion of plate tectonics, the cycle of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic causation and formation which continues to influence both world and Australian gemstones.

Diamonds

An overview of both world and Australian diamond locations. Learn about the formation of diamond, what determines the colour, mining techniques, the 4 C's and both historic and notable gemstones.

Corundum

Sapphire and Ruby (corundum) are two of the world's most popular gemstones. Learn about the properties of corundum, the locations in which it may be found, the mining techniques and treatments associated with this mineral.

Cutting

A comprehensive presentation comprising the art of diamond cutting. This includes the history of cuts, the procedures and decisions which a diamond cutter will make before cutting, why and how this is accomplished and the tools used.

This lecture is given by one of the few remaining diamond cutters in Australia!

Opal

Australia's National Gemstone. Discover how and when Opal was formed, its varieties and properties, what gives it colour. Learn about doublets and triplets.

Organics

A by-product that has been formed from a living organism.

Enjoy an informative discussion on pearl, amber, jet, coral and ivory.

Synthetics

This lecture will discuss the manufacturing technique and the basic means of gemstone identification.

Many gemstones are synthesised in a factory and have the same properties as natural gemstones. Some gemstones are imitated by natural or manufactured materials which are similar in colour but nothing like the gems in which they appear to imitate.

Practical Laboratory Session

A demonstration of the instruments which are introduced in the gemmology basics lecture:

Polariscope
Refractometer
Spectroscope
Microscope
UV light and
Hydrostatic Balance

Students are encouraged to bring in specimens for identification and these can be tested in the laboratory.

The use of a constant sheet and laboratory test report are explained.

All students will receive a course manual and lecture notes to take home for future reference