Thomas von Nordheim

TAILORING MASTERCLASS

6 day Haute Couture workshop

This 6 day masterclass is ideal for intermediate level sewers familiar with couture tailoring techniques who wish to up their level of expertise and skill. Each participant will work on their own project under the close guidance of master tailor Thomas von Nordheim.



Schedule:

This sequence of work can only be taken as a guide, as designs will vary and participants will work at their own speed.

Day 1

You need to arrive with a prepared toile of your jacket or coat made up in calico (muslin). Instructions for making this will be given in good time. The toiles are fitted and each participant is welcome to watch their peers' fittings. It is a vital source of understanding the process on how and where alterations are carried out. These are then marked on the toile and transferred to the paper pattern.



Day 2/3

We will progress on to prep your material and cut out the garment with the appropriate seam allowances. The jacket will then be tailor tacked.

You will be advised which interlining for the fronts and underlining if any will be most suitable for your project. The atelier carries and enormous choice of different hair, linen, cotton and silk fabrics for this purpose. Once chosen you will be guided to cut and make your canvas construction. After this is made and the front panels are stitched together, you will be basting the two layers together using the professional techniques and tools of the trade. Your back will be stitched together and the side and shoulder seam temporarily joined to prepare the jacket for a first fitting in your cloth.

We will then fit the shell of the jacket to make sure the balance, size, length, pocket position and button placement needs adjusting. Once this is done we will pin in a sleeve and the collar canvas to the neckline.

Again, you will be shown how to mark the alterations on your garment and then transfer the finalised or new sewing lines and balance marks to your pattern. This is vital for future reference and cutting your lining.



Day 4/5/6

Over the next three days you will be getting the necessary guidance and attention to advance with your project in the appropriate sequence tailored to your individual jacket or coat design with the aim to finishing it or at least getting it to lining stage.

After a final check fit with the sleeves basted in and the collar basted on has been carried out, you can make pockets, pad stitch the revers, stay the break line and front edges, make buttonholes (if bound), apply the revers facings and top collar, interline and finish the hem, stitch the sleeves permanently and insert padding, cut and prepare lining ready to be fitted in. Make tailored (hand-stitched) buttonholes.

At each stage you will be assisted in using the most appropriate tailoring technique suitable for your individual fabric and jacket cut.



COURSE PRICE: £1400

50% deposit to secure the booking, 50% balance due at least 90 days before start date

DATES AVAILABLE:

18.-23. May 2026

7.-12. September 2026

TUITION TIMES: 9.00 am-5pm including tea/coffee breaks and an hour for lunch, a total of 42 hours tuition

VENUE: Thomas von Nordheim's atelier at The Grand, Folkestone, UK

MAXIMUM NUMBER: to guarantee a high level of learning experience the participant number is capped at 9

WHAT TO BRING:

Your made-up toile and paper pattern, your fabric and lining, any interfacings you may want to use, matching thread (silk preferred), basic sewing kit (scissors, needles, basting thread, pins, thimble, hand gauge, tape measure, chalk etc.)

The atelier is fully equipped with sewing machines, professional irons to include a heavy tailors iron, pressing tools, hams and a large range of professional dress forms in different sizes to include male ones.

HOW TO BOOK:

Email Thomas at: vonnordheim@protonmail.com stating which class and dates you would like to book.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

By booking any class you explicitly accept the following T&C's:

SUITABILITY:

We accept bookings without an interview, and it is assumed the prospective participant has the required level of skills and experience as set out in the course description.

The age of the participant is at least 18 years old on the date of the course start.

You are required to bring the tools and materials as requested.

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You are required to pay a 50% deposit to secure your booking. You are likewise welcome to pay the full amount. The balance is due at least 90 days before the date of the class start. You will receive a payment reminder about 14 days before your balance is due. Non-payment in time will be treated as a cancellation.

Once we receive your booking, we will send you an acknowledgment by email and our UK bank details to make a BACS, SEPA or Wire Transfer.

For domestic bookings we need to receive your deposit within 3 days, within the EU 5 days and 7 days for international payments unless otherwise agreed. We may ask you to send a copy of your bank's payment confirmation.

Please note we are unable to reserve places, and your booking is not confirmed until the deposit has been received.

If we do not receive your payment within the times stated your place will automatically become vacant and you might lose your booking.

If making payment from a foreign bank to the UK you must instruct your bank to cover all associated bank fees. The amount to arrive in our account must not be less than the advertised class fee.

Places on the advertised classes are subject to availability and are taken on a first come first serve basis.

Once we have received your payment, we will send you an acknowledgment and booking confirmation by email.

CANCELLATIONS

If a booking needs to be cancelled by a participant due to unforeseen circumstances the following applies:

The participant can transfer the place to someone else i.e. friend or family member. No fee applies.

If a participant cancels the class and it is more than 90 days to the class start, 30% of the course fee is retained.

If the notice of cancellation is received within 89 and 31 days before the course start, 60% of the course fee is retained.

At less than 30 days notice no refund can be offered.

The time of your cancellation notice email is of the essence.

Any cancellation attracts a £100 administration fee plus refund transfer fees if applicable.

In the unlikely event that we need to cancel the course we will refund your course fee in full. Unfortunately, we cannot take responsibility for consequential losses such as airfares or accommodation and it is recommended to take out adequate insurance.

Excluded from the above are extraordinary circumstances beyond our control, force majeure and acts of God to include, but not limited to strikes, terrorism, lockdowns and war.

HEALTH & SAFETY

The participant must make sure to always adhere to a safe working practise whilst in the atelier with regards to using machines and tools.

INSURANCE

Whilst on our class the participant is not covered for accidents and illness and any losses and damages arising from such beyond our standard public liability insurance. By booking a class you explicitly waive your rights for making a claim against the organiser Thomas von Nordheim. It is recommended that the participant takes out adequate insurance.

We do not take responsibility for any loss or damage to the participants property during our classes.

COPYRIGHT

The participant may record images of their own work during the class times and images of other participants and their work with prior permission.

Recording voice or film footage during the class is prohibited.

The copyright for any hand-outs or literature supplied to the participant remains with the author.