

Sarah H. Natani
P.O. Box 4121
Shiprock, New Mexico 87420

Navajo Weaving Workshop
Weekly Syllabus

Day 1

"The Loom"

- The day will begin with the creation story of how Navajo Weaving came to the "Dine People". The creation story will include symbolism, weaving etiquettes and religious ties to weaving.
- Warping
- Dressing the loom with the warp, side string, heddle stick and shed stick
- Discussion of regional Navajo weaving patterns (Two Grey Hill, Storm Pattern, Crystal, etc.)

Day 2

"Weaving"

- Discussion of the "function" of the side string
- Begin weaving stripes and design using the vertical interlock method

Day 3

"Field trip and Working with the Fleece"

- Discussion of raw wool
- Carding the raw wool into "rolags" using the hand (optional)
- Spinning the rolags using the Navajo Lap spindle (optional)

- Demonstration of spinning Navajo 3 ply method
- Collect local dye plants
- Continue weaving

Day 4

"Weaving and Dyeing"

- Continue weaving
- Wool Dyeing from the plants collected on Wednesday

Day 5

"Finish your weavings"

- Weave
- Demonstration on the "finishing process" of weaving (tedious)
- Last minute questions, clarifications, etc.