

# Field Guide to the Genus and Species of Bead Class Teachers

To make the guide to Bead Classes complete, I felt the need to write a guide to the various types of Bead Class teachers. This will level the playing field so that all participants have an equal chance to win the challenging game of participating in a bead class.

As discussed in the Field Guide to the Genus and Species of Bead Class Students, the sport of participating in a bead class is rather competitive with the teacher pitted against the students to see which side has the ultimate strength to maintain their composure and sanity. Each genus/species has unique strengths and capabilities making the game challenging and fun for all those involved.

The teachers, much like the students also have their unique qualities. The participating students must understand these qualities so that they can use the strengths and weaknesses to their advantage.

## **Perfectous Noexistous**

This genus/species of teacher is what every teacher believes she belongs to. But no matter how much they profess to belong to this classification, do not for one moment let the teacher fool you. This class of teacher became extinct around the time of the extinction of the dinosaur, or even perhaps with the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden.



I believe that they did, in fact, exist at one time. The fables handed down about their amazing patience, organization, and teaching ability are legendary. The tales are too many, and too similar to cast doubt upon their one time existence. It is said that no matter how large the class, how well skilled the students were at their particular talent of being annoying

opponents, this class of teacher never lost her cool, and everyone learned the project or skill being taught. In fact, the students enjoyed losing the game! Sadly, the Perfectous Noexistous no longer exists on our planet. Attempts at cloning the genes from what are believed to be fossilized specimens by leading scientists were in vain. The illustration of her likeness is an artist's rendition of what she may have looked like.

## **Fartus Nonstinkus**

This classification differs from Perfectous Noexistous in an obvious manner. Like the Perfectous, this teacher is “perfect” in every way. That is, in HER mind. Well, perhaps she is, and *if* she is, then the main difference between Fartus and Perfectous is Fartus’ complete lack of modesty. She is just shy of being “too good” to waste her time on a classroom of imbeciles (which includes *everyone* in her class). She feels that the students should be eternally thankful that she has graced them with her presence not to mention her artistry and skill. She also feels that just her mere presence is enough to compensate for her outrageous fees, and lack of organization.



Fartus Nonstinkus will begrudgingly autograph her books or patterns, and will even strain a fake smile for a photo-op with you. It is said that she has many manufactured parts and is just short of being mechanical. Play up to her ego; watch her carefully to find her obvious faults. Once you discover them, point them out repeatedly, especially in comparison to other teacher’s strengths in the same area, and you will have her on a melt down of insecurity.

This melt down will continue when she discovers that it is not roses that she deposits in her porcelain throne.

## **Dominatrixicus Controlicus**

Dominatrixicus makes the more widely known (and often fantasized about) vixen of a dominatrix seem like a pussycat! Don’t you dare question or even suggest another way to reach the same end. It simply does not exist. If you do come



up with a different method that by some remote chance works, and you dare to tell her or your classmate about it, you will certainly be expelled after you have received a flogging. You will be threatened to be black-listed not only from her classes but from all other teachers' classes as well. You will be branded as a trouble maker!

Class participants will be required to follow and repeat her every move as a class unit (think synchronized swimming). Don't you dare to get ahead, or fall behind. Don't you dare to use a different color of bead, or brand of thread from what she uses. There is one and ONLY one way to create what she teaches. No other ideas will be entertained. She will swoop down upon you like a hungry vulture about to devour carrion should you even think about trying something different. She is just waiting to take a chunk out of your tasty hide.

Find out the potty schedule, get your hall passes and be sure NOT to drink anything remotely having diuretic qualities because even if you raise your hand and ask permission to go pee, she will lash out at you for making everyone else have to wait for you.

On your scheduled potty break and lunch break, get together with your fellow classmates, discuss how to do your project in alternative means. Vote for the most bizarre method, and have everyone agree to this method. Quietly work on this method when returning to class instead of her required method. Let her discover, one by one that none of you are following her (or need her) and you will make her lose all her power and make her cry like a helpless baby!

## **Greeditious Allmineous**

Easily recognizable by the never-ending mantra she sings of "ALL-MINE-ALL-MINE". You begin to wonder why she teaches her project at all.

Greeditious has no class notes, no illustrations (because there exists a chance that you might let someone else see it or even



give it away!). She also does not allow you to take notes in the class for fear that you may make another project at home.

She makes it very clear that under no circumstances may you be allowed to make another project to give away, let alone sell it at a craft bazaar. She might even wrestle you for what you completed in class so that you won't go home with the project you made in class.

Her project is so secretive that no by passers-by may enter the classroom to see her projects or observe any moment of the class. Beware, she may have spies out and about with orders to steal your beads on sight should you be caught discussing her class with outsiders in any form.

Have your (well hidden) recorder on during class to catch all the tidbits of wisdom on audiotape. Call her cell, and play back the recording. Or better yet, photograph what you can with your amazing cell phone, and send her the picture! She will self-destruct!

## **Forgeticus Scatterous**

This teacher is equally annoying and endearing. She (or he) gives the impression that this is her first class ever. She may never even have had the opportunity to have attended one herself. She may be a terrific artist, but she has no business trying to teach. She possesses absolutely no skill in this area.



Forgeticus has no idea of what to bring to class for her students. Or she simply forgot what she needs. She arrives late, disheveled, and might not even remember what she is there for. She is lucky if she is dressed for the occasion.

Forgeticus generally is endearing in that she does try, although unsuccessfully to hold a great class. She tends to be apologetic, and generous with what little she did by chance bring to class. Yet, you will be lucky if you learn much of anything from her, because more likely than not, she won't remember what to teach you.

Easily overwhelmed, Forgeticus is easy to defeat. Just be gentle, otherwise she will explode and you will have an unforgettable mess on your hands.

## Glamorous Struticus

Ok, admit it. You signed up for Glamorous Struticus's class because you are star struck by her. You have admired her work *forever!* You want to *be* her! In your opinion she is the cat's meow, the reason you bead, and all you could ever hope to become. You have even considered stalking her!



Problem is, you are not the only one.

The other problem is, *she knows it!*

She comes into class with an entrance, and often followed by groupies drooling over her, and hoping to carry her bags, and wipe the sweat off of her brow. She is the absolute darling of everyone in the know, everyone who is *someone* in the bead world. She is not as obnoxious as Fartus Nonstinkus since she still has some degree of modesty (even if it is a put on) and a good dose of graciousness. And perhaps in some cases, she too is in disbelief of her position in the unstable pecking order of the bead world.

Glamorous tends to wear her most extravagant piece which draws admirers close to her like moths to a flame, beating themselves silly trying to get close to touch her. She loves to have her admirers fondle her, er....I mean her beadwork. She dresses lavishly, if not elegantly to draw attention to her exalted station. She often teaches with a flair which is not unlike her appearance, but more likely than not relies on her "reputation" to carry her through. While she may be a fantastic artist, she tends to be weak in her teaching ability. That's ok, just being in her presence will create an atmosphere of inspiration for the beader who is nothing but thumbs. Glamorous may even inspire those who can't put 4 colors together well to become budding Picassos. Such is the aura of this teacher!

Treating Glamorous like "one of the girls" will certainly make you a winner in this game. The outcome will be either she becomes totally bewildered

why you are not fully enamored by her and will work all the harder to maintain her star status, or, she will happily come down a peg or two to become “one of the girls” at which point you have won the game!

## **Jesticus Entertainus**

As you might guess from the name, this teacher has perhaps missed her calling. She tries to entertain you. She has a great sense of humor, she doesn't mind poking fun at everyone in the class, and doesn't mind poking fun at herself. She works so hard at entertaining, or is it practicing her stand up comic routine, that teaching something is second or third on her list.



You did not pay for a bead class, but rather a night at the improv! Which might be ok, if she has true talent for this type of endeavor. You are an experiment, a proving ground for her to hone her comedic routine.

Even beads are funny to her! And your antics of “not getting it” prove to be even funnier (Look!! Suz can't get that needle threaded!! Too bad I gave her thread the size of a redwood branch!! You'd think she'd catch on!!).

Never show any sort of embarrassment when she picks on you. Don't laugh at anything she says or does. It will be so unsettling you will have the last laugh!

## **Oratus Nevershutupicus**

Boasting a straight lineage from both Julius Caesar and from Cicero, this teacher has a gift for gab. Nonstop that is. You just can't get a word in edgewise. No matter how you try.



All you want is for her to SHUT UP!! You would like her to take a breath of air, and allow you some quiet time so you can concentrate on your project. Unlike Jesticus Entertainus, she does not have the need to entertain, but

rather, only to hear her own voice. She fears silence like some of us fear being robbed of our beads.

Your survival tactic is to talk loudly to your neighbors. With no one paying attention, she will get so rattled that she will be rendered speechless. If that doesn't work, be sure to have your IPOD and sing loudly!

There are more classifications of teachers to be sure, but these should cover the most commonly found types of teachers. The key for a student to win the bead class game is to properly classify the teacher early during the class, and understand how the teacher operates. I hope this guide serves you well.