

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

4D6769 MODELLING FROM LIFE IN PLASTER

Tutor: JOHN BLAKELEY

Dates: 4 DAYS MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY – FRIDAY 3 MARCH

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Experience the unique immediacy of working direct in plaster, with a variety of different processes, building a basic armature, adding on and carving away plaster.

You will have the opportunity to work for a day from a life-model, deciding on a chosen pose, then with the use of sketches, quick clay maquettes, notes etc, you learn to translate source materials to then produce a plaster sculpture. There will be individual tuition and guidance throughout the course.

During the course you will discover the important role drawing and gathering information have in relationship to producing a life-study. You will also learn techniques including building an armature specifically for plasterwork that can be adapted during the development of a piece; combining plaster with other materials; using tools or hands to apply the plaster.

On the last day the tutor will demonstrate finishing techniques which you can carry out at a later stage once the plaster has fully dried.

LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit any level of experience from beginner to advanced practitioner. A structured start is followed by guided independent practice.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

John Blakeley is a classically trained sculptor and has worked in the film industry for 25 years, alongside private and public commissions, including work for Madame Tussauds.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Monday 27 February

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm – 9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. An informal introduction to basic aims and practical aspects of the course. Health & Safety. The tutor demonstrates how to get started.

Other days: Tuesday 28 February – Thursday 2 March

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working: the workshop is open until 10pm – students may work untutored if they wish. Please note evenings may be chilly.

Departure day: Friday 3 March

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish
3.30pm	Tea then departure

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

Included in the course fee:

Life model and materials used amongst the group, including the plaster, baseboards.

Available from the Shop:

Wet and dry paper

Surform blades – curved, flat and ½ round

Metal spatula

Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Small water spray

Apron or paper overalls, old shoes

An old kitchen knife

Screwdriver and pliers – to make the armature and any tools you already have – chisels, rasps etc though these are also available to use in the College

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College. **Please note** plaster is an irritant, you may need to wear a mask if you suffer from asthma, or rubber gloves if you have a skin condition.