

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

WE6795 PATTERN, COLOUR, TEXTURE AND LINE – DECORATIVE CERAMICS

Tutor: JOANNA VEEVERS

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 10 MARCH – SUNDAY 12 MARCH

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Explore an unusual technique, developed by the tutor, which has strong associations with intaglio printmaking. Drawings and designs are created using an 'engraved' line and coloured slips which are transferred from a plaster surface to a ceramic body by slip casting. The techniques allow for an unexpected amount of detail for ceramic work and would engage those interested in textiles, embroidery, printmaking, surface pattern and drawing as well as ceramics.

The wall pieces you make will explore the process through colour, texture, pattern and line and will relate to visual material gathered from and inspired by the gardens and grounds at West Dean.

While mastering the above technique and process, you will design and make a number of test pieces and tiles which will be fired at the end of the course.

You will be provided with two pre-prepared smooth plaster slabs on which to work and stained slips to work with (the tutor will make a charge if any further materials are used). By combining scratching and carving into the plaster surface and painting and drawing with the slips, you will build up designs in a layered and sedimentary way. Using clay to retain semi-porcelain casting slip over the finished drawings the images and designs will be transferred from the plaster to the tile prior to drying and firing.

Teaching will involve demonstrations, showing examples of finished pieces and by practical workshops. Working on plaster and clay will be preceded by some observational mark making and drawing on paper. There will be some discussion about placement and arrangement of elements on a two-dimensional surface. You will be clearly guided in primary sources and subject matter will be suggested.

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 practise.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Joanna Veevers studied ceramics and textiles at Manchester and the Royal College of Art and both disciplines are expertly represented in her decorative work. She works on public commissions and teaches and exhibits nationally.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 10 March

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. In this introduction to the course, the tutor will show examples of pieces produced using this technique, along with a short slide presentation. We will also explore mark making and drawing on paper with graphite, ink and wax in preparation for the next day and look at possible source material. Also carving a small plaster block and printing on paper. (This may be done at the end of Sunday's session if not now.)

Other days: Saturday 11 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 available until 10pm for those wishing to work on, provided work is discussed and agreed with the tutor. An optional session with the tutor will focus on mark making – rubbings of textures.

Departure day: Sunday 12 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.

Materials included in the course fee:

The cost of all clay, glazing and firing costs (large work in size and quantity may be charged extra).

Available from the Shop:

- Scalpel or similar craft knife
- Soft pencils and graphite crayons
- China graph pencil or Stabilo no 8008 pencils for paper, glass, plastic or metal
- Paint brushes (size 4 upwards)
- Etching needle/dry point tool or similar for drawing into plaster

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

- Digital camera
- Apron
- Your own paintbrushes
- Etching needles (or similar tools) if you have them
- Photographs and images of gardens and landscape with a strong sense of pattern, rhythm and repetition
- Any ongoing or complete sketchbooks and design notebooks you might like to refer to or work in during the course
- A small flat box, bubble wrap – packing materials – if you decide to take away your unfired work

PLEASE BRING A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED POSTCARD WITH YOU (or a card with your name and email address) if you wish to leave your work at the College, so that we can let you know when your pieces are ready to collect.

Firing and glazing of completed pieces: Students normally have three options at the end of the course.

1. Students may leave any raw, finished pieces that they wish to keep, for biscuit firing, basic glazing and re-firing by the College, for collection at a later date.
2. Students may leave raw, finished pieces for biscuit firing at the College. They may then book a place on a Glazing Day – the details and course fee are advertised in the short course programme – and learn how to glaze their work themselves. This work will be re-fired and available for collection at a later date. (There is no further charge for the glazing materials if you choose to book a glazing day.)
3. Students are free to take away their unfired pieces for firing and glazing elsewhere.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

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