

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

WE6558 THROWING AND TURNING FOR BEGINNERS

Tutor: ALISON SANDEMAN

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER – SUNDAY 6 NOVEMBER

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

The course provides an excellent opportunity for beginners to experience working (throwing) on a potter's wheel.

On the first evening we will start with an introductory talk and demonstration. This is followed by an introduction to clay preparation (kneading and wedging) and we finish the evening with a video or slides relevant to throwing.

On the first full day we start with the clay preparation and you will then spend the rest of the day learning and practicing throwing on the wheel. In the evening the tutor may show slides or a video relevant to the course. (Non-resident students may wish to book in for dinner via the Bookings Office prior to the course.)

On the second day we cover the finishing processes of turning and if time allows, further throwing practice.

This course is limited to eight students with each having the use of a wheel for the whole weekend. You will be taught at your own individual level and encouraged to practice. The aim is for you to finish the course with 6-8 pots.

### LEVEL: BEGINNERS

For those with no experience who would like a structured introduction to the subject. This course is also ideal for those with a little experience who want to go back to basics.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Alison Sandeman is a long-standing tutor at West Dean. She makes thrown functional and individual pieces in stoneware, porcelain and Raku, at her well established pottery studio on a farm, near Chichester, where she also enjoys maintaining a core range of domestic stoneware. She is currently working with University College London on a research project on ancient making techniques.

### TIMETABLE:

#### Arrival day: Friday 4 November

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 – <b>attendance is an essential part of the course.</b> See above for information.

#### Other days: Saturday 5 November

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes

**Other days continued: Saturday 5 November**

3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working – you have the option of being able to use the Pottery workshop until 10pm each subsequent evening of the course.

**Departure day: Sunday 6 November**

(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

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

**Course reading list:**

For those interested in reading any books before the course, the following may be in your public library:

*The Craft of the Potter* by Michael Casson (BBC Publications)  
*The Complete Potter's Companion* by Tony Birks (Conan Octopus)  
*The Techniques of Throwing* by John Colbeck (Batsford Watson-Guptill)  
*Throwing* by Richard Phethean (Blandford)  
*Throwing Pots* by Phil Rogers (A & C Black)  
*Pottery in the Making* by Freestone and Gaimster (British Museum Press)  
*10,000 Years of Pottery* by Emmanuel Cooper (British Museum Press)

**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** for this course is the cost of all clay, glazing and firing costs (large work in size and quantity may be charged extra).

Basic tool kits are provided in the Pottery for use during the course

**Available from the Shop:**

Pottery tools, pottery knife  
Rough paper or sketch pad, and pencil  
Wood or plastic ruler and plastic set square  
Natural sponge

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

Overall and old towel  
Books of interest  
15 Clean plastic shopping bags

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 for glazing and firing, so that we can let you know when your pieces are ready for collection.

Please note that your work will be kept for collection for one year from the postmark date on your returned postcard or email.

**Firing and glazing of raw, finished 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 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.