

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SLW07714 HAND BUILDING LARGE SCALE SCULPTURAL CERAMICS

Tutor: CLAIRE IRELAND

Dates: LONG WEEKEND THURSDAY 15 MARCH – SUNDAY 18 MARCH

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course will introduce you to a sculptural approach to hand-building techniques, incorporating your ideas and developing your skills as you go. You will create a series of large hand-built structures that can feature a range of different methods of making. You will learn how to manipulate clay in various ways, using formers, moulds and extruded shapes - building with different types of coils, slabs and fragments of clay.

You will also have the opportunity to experiment with different textures, incorporating embossed and printed decoration and embedding other materials into the clay surface. Oxides and body stains can then be used to enhance the surface of your finished forms. This will give you the option to fire the pieces once, directly to stoneware if you wish. We will work to the dimensions of the kilns available but also look at the options of how to make work in components or sections to achieve larger pieces and tackle the solutions to joining the pieces post firing.

By the end of the course you will have a repertoire of different approaches at your fingertips so that you can develop and build large forms with confidence.

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:

Claire Ireland produces hand built sculptural ceramics and uses a variety of experimental firing techniques. She creates work from small creatures to large-scale pieces for courtyard gardens, outdoor locations and contemporary living spaces. She is a professional member of the CPA and the Society of Designer Craftsmen.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Thursday 15 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.

Other days: Friday 16 and Saturday 17 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: workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

Departure day: Sunday 18 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

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Bring along ideas and images of forms and structures that inspire you, this can include artists who work in very different mediums – painters, architects and sculptors for example. Collect textures and found objects, which can be manmade or natural. These can be used to create stamps and directly emboss the clay surface. If you plan to take your unfired work away with you, bring plenty of boxes and packaging – bubble wrap – to ensure they are protected for the journey home. *Please bring along your sketchbook and camera to document your progress and record your experiments.*

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 course fee includes the cost of all clay, glazing and firing costs – extra large work in size and quantity may be charged extra.

Available from the tutor:

An assortment of textures and materials to experiment with and incorporate into the clay. Images and reference of different approaches by different makers. Additional moulds and formers to use when constructing the work. Printed sheets and information of all the processes covered.

Available from the Shop:

Notebooks and Sketchbooks

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

Please see Required Preparation above

Camera

Apron

Pottery tools if you own them

Plenty of boxes and packaging (eg bubble wrap) if you plan to take your unfired work away with you

Please bring a stamped self-addressed postcard with you (or leave 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. Work must be collected within one year of the date you are notified it is ready.

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 pots for firing and glazing elsewhere.

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.