

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SLW08115 SILVERSMITHING FOR BEGINNERS

Tutor: ABIGAIL BROWN

Dates: LONG WEEKEND THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER – SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

During Silversmithing for beginners you will have the opportunity to make and complete two projects – forge a silver spoon and make a silver napkin ring.

Learn methods for creating and finishing forms in sheet metal using techniques such as forging, planishing, soldering and texturing.

You will gain experience of hand forging sterling silver using hammers. One piece of metal is transformed from a rectangle into a spoon with a handle that could be long and thin or short and fat, twisted or curled according to your own design. Take control of the metal and produce a silver spoon, a unique special gift, a family heirloom?

While making the Napkin Ring you will experience texturing and forming metal and silver soldering techniques.

You will receive instruction and support in a friendly and creative atmosphere and techniques are taught through practical demonstrations with the emphasis on encouraging students to have a go and to develop their skills.

LEVEL: BEGINNERS

Starting points. For those with little or no experience who want to go back to basics and would like a structured introduction to a subject. **Please note** that silversmithing is a physical activity and some projects will require a lot of hammering.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Abigail Brown studied Silversmithing and Jewellery at Loughborough, graduating in 2001. She is an internationally recognised artist silversmith and jeweller based in Cornwall and has had work exhibited at venues including the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Saatchi Gallery, Goldsmiths' Hall and the German Goldsmiths' House in Hanau. She specialises in raising, forming, planishing and deep relief chasing techniques. Abigail became a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths in 2014 and won the Bavarian State Prize in 2015.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Thursday 6 September

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. General induction to the workshop and techniques and then a discussion of possible projects.

Other days: Friday 7 and Saturday 8 September

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

Other days continued: Friday 7 and Saturday 8 September

2.00pm	Afternoon classes
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 9 September

(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	Display of work made and discussion looking at what has been achieved
3.00pm	Classes finish
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Abigail would like you to contact her before the start of the course to discuss any previous experience you may have and your material requirements.

Please email or phone her: info@abigailbrown.co.uk , 07752 011212

Practical clothing/apron/footwear for use in the workshop at all times. For example: no long loose sleeves or dangly jewellery and long hair must be tied back to avoid catching in machinery or gas flames; shoes should not have high heels or open toes.

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.

Available from the Shop:

The silver required for the two projects will cost approximately £50. This cost is dependent on the current price of silver. If you would like to make additional pieces, time permitting, the dimensions for the two projects are: Napkin ring: 1mm x 25x 125mm sterling silver; Spoon: 3mm x 60x12mm sterling silver.

A limited supply of silver in a variety of forms, sheet, wire and tubing

Pens, pencils and drawing materials

There are basic tool kits for hire from the College Shop, which also stock a range of tools and consumables such as saw blades, drills and abrasive materials. If you have any tools of your own, please bring them with you (and ensure they are marked with your name).

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

Sketchbook and/or technical notebook

A digital camera (if you have one) or phone to photograph demonstrations or ideas if required

Inspirational books, images and source materials to help with your ideas

Texturing materials for roll printing (lace, feathers, dry leaves, fabric) – optional

Sensible footwear

Apron } See Required Preparation above.

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.

Please Note: Please allow extra time to drive to West Dean as traffic may be heavier than usual, with some road diversions in the immediate vicinity, due to the Revival Meeting – the motor racing event taking place **September 7–9** at the nearby Goodwood Estate.

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