

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

### SLW08095 PORCELAIN FOR BEGINNERS – THROWING AND TURNING

Tutor: LOUISA TAYLOR

Dates: LONG WEEKEND THURSDAY 30 AUGUST – SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

#### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Often referred to as “white gold”, porcelain is sumptuous white clay that has a beautiful translucent quality when fired to a high temperature. This course provides an excellent opportunity for you to experience working (throwing) on the potter’s wheel using porcelain clay.

The focus of this course is to work in the spirit of Louisa’s practice, which is influenced by historical dining vessels. Thursday evening will start with an introductory talk about Louisa’s practice, followed by a brief overview of porcelain and the throwing technique.

On the first full day we start with clay preparation (kneading and wedging) and a throwing demonstration. You will be shown a number of techniques throughout the day and given one to one tuition and encouragement to build confidence.

On the second day we cover the finishing processes of turning, as well as how to make handles and surface embellishments.

The final day offers time for further throwing practice for those who wish it and/or completion of pieces. The session will end with a group discussion and review of the work.

The course is limited to eight students with each having the use of a wheel for the whole weekend. You are likely to finish the course with 6-8 pieces.

#### LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

Skills development. For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills. The focus is on further developing and building of skills working towards independent practice.

**Due to the challenging nature of the material, this course is better suited to students who have previously completed a beginners’ throwing course or have experience of the throwing technique.**

#### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Louisa Taylor studied a BA(Hons) degree in Ceramics, at Bath Spa University followed by a Masters degree in Ceramics and Glass at the Royal College of Art, London. Louisa’s ceramic practice is based in south-east London where she produces her tableware range for shops, galleries and collectors in the UK and internationally. Alongside making her work, Louisa is a Lecturer on the BA(Hons)/MDes Design and Craft course at the University of Brighton and she is a professional member of the Crafts Potters Association and Contemporary Applied Arts, London. In 2012, Louisa undertook a six month post as artist in residence at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Louisa is also the author of Ceramics: Tools and Techniques for the Contemporary Maker, published by Jacqui Small Publishing in 2011.

#### TIMETABLE:

##### Arrival day: Thursday 30 August

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner

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**Arrival day continued: Thursday 30 August**

7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm – 9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. An introductory talk about Louisa's practice, followed by a brief overview of porcelain and the throwing technique.

**Other days: Friday 31 August and Saturday 1 September**

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 until 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

**Departure day: Sunday 2 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	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish
3.30pm	Tea then departure

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

Please email the tutor at [info@louisataylorceramics.com](mailto:info@louisataylorceramics.com) to let her know that you are attending this course and to give her an idea of your level of experience.

**Course reading list:**

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

*Advanced Pottery* by Linda Bloomfield (Robert Hale Ltd)  
*Ceramics: Tools and Techniques for the Contemporary Maker* by Louisa Taylor (Jacqui Small publishing)  
*Ceramics for Beginners: Wheel Throwing* by Emily Reason (Lark Books)  
*Contemporary Porcelain: Materials, Techniques & Expressions* by Peter Lane (A&C Black)  
*Porcelain* by Jack Dogerhty (University of Pennsylvania Press)  
*The Complete Potters Companion* by Tony Birks (Conran Octopus)  
*The Techniques of Throwing* by John Colbeck (Batsford Watson-Guptill)  
*Throwing* by Richard Phethean (Blandford)  
*Throwing pots* by Phil Rogers (A&C Black)

**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:

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

**Available from the Shop:**

Pottery tools, pottery knife  
Rough paper or sketch pad and pencil  
Natural Sponge

Basic tool kits are provided in the pottery for use during the course.

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

Overall/Apron (preferably cotton or laminated fabric)  
Old towel  
Books of interest  
10 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 six months from the postmark date on your returned postcard or email.

**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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