

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S4D08072 LIFE MODELLING FROM THE FIGURE

Tutor: GILBERT WHYMAN

Dates: 4 DAYS SUNDAY 19 AUGUST – THURSDAY 23 AUGUST

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

On this course you will learn how to:

- create a sculpture of the human figure;
- use tools confidently to form interesting marks on clay;
- look for the structure of the anatomy and the proportion, and to establish in the sculpture where the bones and muscles show;
- confidently draw the curve of the backbone and angle of the shoulders waist and hips on the clay;
- look for character and what you want the work to say;
- stand back from the work and assess the effect, moving clay round to try various relationships, and decide on the most meaningful.

The course will start with a short demonstration of a way, (one of many), to achieve a likeness of the human form.

Skills of looking and observing will be encouraged. Sketching with pencil and paper is often useful. As the course proceeds, appropriate aspects of anatomy, and what to look for, will be explained. Also form and structure, use of plumb line, and negative space and use of tools and marks they make.

Different techniques and unusual and recycled tools that create interesting marks and surface and textures will be shown.

Finishing off – hollowing out the work to allow it to dry evenly for firing.

By the end of the course you will have:

- Achieved an understanding and confidence in how to begin a sculpture, what to look for, how to plan the base support and how to handle clay and its structure, with various moisture contents so that it stays in position.
- Strengthened your observational skills and learned to make decisions from the model so as to be able to create an interesting sculptural form, from a basic slab of clay.
- Learned to look, to see, to wonder, to sculpt, to suggest.

LEVEL: BEGINNERS/INTERMEDIATE

For those with little or no experience and for those who have taken a related course. Suited to those who would like a structured introduction to a subject, with further building of skills to work towards independent practice.

Is there anything a potential student needs to be able to do to succeed on this course?

Enjoy making interesting marks on clay.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Gilbert Whyman MRBS qualified in Architecture at Manchester University and studied sculpture at Kensington & Chelsea, Morley College and South Thames College, and PGCE in teacher training run by Canterbury Christ Church University.

As the passion for sculpture took over, Gilbert retired as an architect and is now a well-established sculptor with regular commissions for both work in metal and portrait heads in clay. He has exhibited at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, The Society of Portrait Sculptors Exhibition in Cork Street, and has work in private collections in UK, Australia, Sweden and New York.

Gilbert is a Member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors, Surrey Sculpture Society, Art Workers Guild and Chelsea Art Society.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Sunday 19 August

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: Monday 20 to Wednesday 22 August

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: Thursday 23 August

(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:

Not necessary to prepare but helpful to look at illustrations of work by any sculptors eg. Michelangelo, Rodin, Epstein, Frink, etc and examples of any sculpted human figures that interest you.

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:

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

Available from the Shop:

Sketchbook/paper and drawing media

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

An apron

Any sculpture tools you may have (don't worry if you haven't as there will be tools available to borrow)

If leaving your work, PLEASE BRING A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED POSTCARD WITH YOU (or a card with your name and email address) so that we can let you know when your work is 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 the date of the email).

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 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 additional cover charge for practical glazing days.)
3. Students are free to take away their unfired work for glazing and firing 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.