

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S4D08312: CREATIVE BLACKSMITHING PROJECTS

Tutor: ANDREW SMITH

Dates: 4 DAYS THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER – MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

The course is aimed at a mixed ability group. It is intended to introduce the skills of the smith to those new to the craft and to expand awareness of the design implications of these skills for all participants. The emphasis of the course is on individual development and, as such, is just as relevant to students with previous experience as it is to those with none. Absolute beginners should be aware that blacksmithing is an active and energetic craft demanding a practical aptitude. If they wish, students may bring ideas with them in draft form and tuition will be given on a one-to-one basis according to the ideas presented, bearing in mind the suitability of the design and the time available. In the final session there is an evaluation of each student's progress and the tutor will advise on further development.

Tools are provided for the course, and advice can be given by the tutor if students wish to purchase tools following the course. It is not necessary to buy tools for the course other than the items listed below.

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 practise.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Andrew Smith, an experienced artist, craftsman and tutor, trained at the Royal College of Art. He has a large portfolio of architectural commissions, from sculpture to functional metalwork.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Thursday 8 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 – attendance is an essential part of the course.

Other days: Friday 9 to Sunday 11 November

9.15am Morning classes start

10.30am Coffee

11.00am Morning classes continue until 12.30pm

12.45pm Lunch (main house) 2.00pm Afternoon classes

3.30pm Tea

4.00pm Afternoon classes continue

5.00pm Classes finish From 6.30pm Dinner

8.00pm Evening working – the forge is not open in the evening.

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Departure day: Monday 12 November

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am Morning classes start

10.30am Coffee

11.00am Morning classes continue until 12.30pm

12.45pm Lunch (main house) 2.00pm Afternoon classes

3.00pm Classes finish, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm

3.30pm Tea then departure

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:

All fuel costs and mild steel stocked by the college. If a student makes an unusually large item, an additional supplement may be payable to the College Shop before the end of the course.

Available from the Shop:

Drawing equipment (ie sketchbook, pencil, pencil sharpener, rubber)

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

You will need clothing suitable for workshop use, together with steel toe capped boots.

Please note that cotton or wool clothing is preferable to nylon or other synthetics. A pair of cotton jeans is far more protective than a pair of nylon trousers.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Please note that tutor supervision is required at all times when students work in the forge. The tutor's instruction on health and safety will include access to and use of the power hammer. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

For your safety it is mandatory to wear steel toe capped safety boots when undertaking a course in the Forge. Students must provide their own footwear and bring them with them to wear on the course. If you fail to bring suitable footwear, you will not be able to take part in the course.

Safety boots can be purchased from most tool hire shops and builders merchants as well as online. www.cromwell.co.uk www.bhinone.com

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING SUPPLIED:

Leather aprons, work gloves, safety spectacles and ear defenders are provided in the Forge, and suitable protective clothing must be worn. Students must wear clothing with long sleeves.

You may wish to bring any of the above, if you have them. If for example you have particularly large or small hands, your own work gloves are likely to be a better fit.

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