

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SWE08431: THROWING AND TURNING FOR BEGINNERS

Tutor: JON BARRETT-DANES

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 4 JANUARY – SUNDAY 6 JANUARY

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This is a practice-based throwing course aimed at beginners who would like to learn basic throwing skills.

On Friday evening we will get stuck in and go through some of the basics.

Over the weekend we will cover wedging techniques, centering clay on the wheel, throwing basic cylinders then moving on to different forms – jugs, vases, plates and bowls. We will go through throwing to specific measurements and repeat throwing and, of course, turning and finishing also pulling and extruding handles.

You will be able to work at your own pace and although you may not cover all that is on offer you will see the potential of what is possible with practise.

After the course the pots will need to be dried out, biscuit fired, glazed and fired again. You can either enroll on a glazing day if you would like to glaze your own pots, or your pots can be glazed for you at the College. In both cases you will be contacted when your pots have been glaze fired and are ready for collection (see details on page 3). As the course numbers are limited to the number of wheels available you will have your own wheel throughout the weekend.

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.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Jon is best known for his characterful animals and already runs courses here at West Dean. Jon originally trained as a thrower and made pots for many years after leaving college. He studied at Bristol University in the early 80s and was tutored by Walter Keeler and Mick Casson amongst many other visiting lecturers who came to the college at that time. He continued his training at Dartington Pottery for a while as a production thrower. Jon does his work full time and exhibits his work in many galleries and attends a wide variety of shows around the country.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 4 January

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
5.30pm	Workshops available for dropping off equipment and materials
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: Saturday 5 January

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue

Other days continued: Saturday 5 January

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 6 January

(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, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Essential: Work apron – preferably cotton or laminated fabric. Bring a note of your email address or an SAE if you intend to leave work at the College for firing.

Optional: Students may wish to bring a sketch book, notebook and/or camera to record the session. A hair band (to tie long hair back).

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 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 above, if you have them, and in addition:

Work apron – preferably cotton or laminated fabric

A hair band (to tie long hair back)

Optional: a sketch book, notebook and/or camera to record the session

PLEASE BRING A CARD WITH YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS (or stamped, self-addressed postcard with you) 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.

Firing and glazing of raw, finished 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 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. 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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