

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SWE08526 THROWING AND TURNING FOR BEGINNERS

Tutor: JO DAVIES

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY – SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course provides an excellent opportunity for beginners to experience working (throwing) on the potter's wheel.

The first evening will start with an introductory talk, a brief overview of the throwing technique and a discussion on what forms and shapes can inspire your making.

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, but allowing time for further throwing practice for those who wish it. The session will end with a group discussion and review of the work.

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

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:

Jo is a ceramicist specialising in wheel-thrown, functional and non-functional objects in porcelain. She has taught at all levels, including undergraduates, for 15 years and is a respected practitioner, a member of the Craft Potters' Association and regular contributor to Ceramic Review Magazine. She has shown her work UK wide and internationally, including Heals in London, at the National Portrait Gallery, at the Cheongju International Craft Competition in South Korea and the Centre of Ceramic Art in York to name a few.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 15 February

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| 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. There will be an introductory talk about Jo's practice, followed by a brief overview of the throwing technique. |

Other days: Saturday 16 February

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

Other days continued: Saturday 16 February

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| 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 17 February

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

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| 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:

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)

The Complete Potters Companion by Tony Birks (Conran Octopus)

The Techniques of Throwing by John Colbeck (Batsford Watson-Guption)

Throwing by Richard Phethean (Blandford)

Throwing pots by Phil Rogers (A&C Black)

10,000 Years of Pottery by Emmanuel Cooper (British Museum Press)

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: 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:

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.

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.