

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SLW08609: NATURAL STRUCTURES – IN MIXED-MEDIA TEXTILES

Tutor: ALICE FOX

Dates: LONG WEEKEND THURSDAY 21 MARCH – SUNDAY 24 MARCH

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course offers an exploration of three-dimensional natural structures, initially through a series of looking and drawing exercises, then experiments with paper and collage, finally transforming ideas into textile-based samples.

Taking a series of natural three-dimensional forms, e.g. seed pods, shells and nests, as our starting point we will explore the structures through various drawing, collage and construction techniques, building up a collection of experimental samples in paper and fabric. A deeper understanding of the objects and structures you start with will be gained through the processes we use and as flat surfaces go through changes, resulting in small scale sculptural forms. These forms can then be further developed as we take our investigations into textile-based techniques. The steps we will go through and the samples we produce could be used to develop future work or might result in more resolved 3-D pieces during the workshop itself.

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 practice.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Alice's practice has sustainability at its heart. Working with natural fibres and gathered materials, she employs natural dye techniques, print, stitch and weave in different combinations to create surfaces and structures, forming personal records of her experience of 'place'. Alice is a member of the Textile Study Group and The Society of Designer Craftsmen.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Thursday 21 March

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. Alice will give an introduction to the course, setting the context for the techniques covered.

Other days: Friday 22 and Saturday 23 March

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

Other days continued: Friday 22 and Saturday 23 March

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 24 March

(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:

BRING any natural objects you have collected which inspire 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.

Materials included in the course fee:

5 sheets of cartridge paper, PVA glue, a stick of graphite and charcoal and masking tape.

Additional charge:

On this course the tutor provides some other materials. This charge of not more than £10 should be paid to the tutor before the end of the course, by cash or cheque.

Available from the Shop:

Range of papers of different weights
Range of natural fabrics
Craft knife and metal ruler

Available from the tutor:

Range of papers, fabrics, threads, glue, tape, drawing media.

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

Basic hand sewing kit: range of needles, fabric scissors, paper scissors, any favourite threads
Notebook and camera or phone for recording process
Apron or protective clothing for messy work
Cutting mat (can also be borrowed at the college)

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.