

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S3D08343: DEVELOPING A SENSE OF FORM FOR WHEEL-MADE POTS

Tutor: ALISON SANDEMAN

Dates: 3 DAYS SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER – WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course will run in a similar way to the regular throwing and turning weekends, and is restricted to 8 students. The emphasis is on discovering and developing your own sense of form by looking at our own and other potters' work with group discussion. We will also make full use of the audio-visual world to examine contemporary and historical pieces.

A good proportion of the course will be devoted to throwing forms on the wheel; echoing the tutor's own practical approach to form. Here the emphasis will be on how to produce good forms rather than making finished pots.

The course is ideal for students who have attended throwing and turning weekends or general pottery weeks at West Dean, or for those who go to regular classes, or practice at home.

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills, and for more experienced practitioners who want to expand their skills. The focus is on working towards independent practice.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Alison Sandeman is a long-standing tutor at West Dean. She makes functional individual pieces in stoneware, porcelain and Raku, at her well established pottery studio on a farm, near Chichester. She has a special interest in outdoor firing techniques and has worked with University College London on a research project on ancient making techniques.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Sunday 18 November

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. On the first evening there will be an introduction to the course, the pottery and equipment, and you start to look at form in relation to examples that belong to the tutor. We will finish with a short video.

Other days: Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 November

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

Other days continued: Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 November

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: Wednesday 21 November

(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:

Course Reading List: For those interested in reading any books before the course, the following may be in your public library:

Ceramic Form by Peter Lane (Collins)
Ten Thousand Years of Pottery by Emmanuel Cooper (British Museum Press)
The Unknown Craftsman by Soetsu Yanagi (George Allen & Unwin Ltd)
Creation out of Clay – The Ceramic Art and Writings of Brother Thomas (Eerdmans & Pucker Art Publishing)

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:

Included in the course fee are all clay, glazing and firing costs (large work in size and quantity may be charged extra).

Available from the Shop:

Pottery tools, pottery knife (basic tools are available for use)
Rough paper or sketch pad, and pencil
Wood or plastic ruler and plastic set square
Natural sponge

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

Overall and old towel
Books of interest
Any pots you own that you feel work or do not work re the course title
A roll of bin liners, to keep pots from drying.

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.

Any stoneware unfired pots that need firing can be left for the following:

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.