

COURSE DETAILS – 3 DAYS 3D 421

COURSE TITLE: CARVING THERMOBLOCK – AN INTRODUCTION TO SHAPE AND FORM

NAME OF TUTOR: ROGER POLLEY

LEVEL OF ABILITY: A/B

AIMS OF COURSE:

The aim of this workshop is to introduce students to a range of processes, materials and the basic equipment needed to undertake thermoblock carving. This, together with the tutor's guidance and encouragement, allows creative interaction between materials, processes and ideas – and encourages you to have fun!

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD ACHIEVE:

Be able to produce a series of designs with ease, and able to transcribe a 2D design to 3D form.
To undertake carving processes to produce a finished piece of work.
Extend creativity and build confidence when working in 3D.

MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES COVERED:

Using thermoblock to carve enables you to obtain results quickly. Through exploration of shape and form, this material can be sawn, chipped, filed and drilled with ease. Thermoblock weathers well in its natural state, but a variety of colour and finishes can also be applied.

TEACHING METHOD:

Bring forward the possibilities of exploring simple shape.
A short basic design workshop to produce designs.
Demonstration of working with thermolite and a safety talk.
Continual supervision and encouragement.
Ongoing assessment

EVENING SESSIONS:

First evening session – attendance is an essential part of the course:

The evening's introduction to this course consists of slides/video to look at the work of various artists working methods and various interpretations used in the language of sculpture. This links to methods of producing designs through simple techniques and research using the library.

Other optional evening activities:

Continued studio practise.

GENERAL TIMETABLE:

The first full day starts with some simple demonstrations before getting down to the nitty gritty of designing and making. You progress at your own pace working towards a final conclusion and then make a decision on an appropriate finish.

At the end of the course you participate in a display of sculpture/drawings/sketches etc with tutor and fellow students engaging in some form of critical discourse.

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.

MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE:

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ON PRACTICAL COURSES YOU MAY WELL NEED TO PURCHASE MATERIALS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE TO COMPLETE PROJECTS

Included in the non-residential fee for this course: ONE THERMOBLOCK PER STUDENT

These items will be available for purchase in the College Shop:

General art materials for design work

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

If you have a camera, it is a good idea to make a record of progress as the work changes/develops.

This can also be done with the use of a sketchbook.

Apron and gloves if you have them

Warm clothes for the morning:

This course is held in the purpose built carving studio in the Sculpture courtyard, part of the Sussex Barn complex. The studio is open fronted allowing excellent ventilation for this dusty activity.

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COURSE TIMETABLE

Course timetable for 2–9 day courses – each course starts with a welcome session on the first evening of the start date of the course and is followed by 2–9 days depending on the length of the course.

Arrival Day	From 4.00pm 7.00 8.15–9.15	Arrival for residential students. Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner. Dinner. First teaching session.
Daily Timetable	9.15am 10.30 12.30pm 2.00pm 3.30 5.00 7.00 8.15	Morning classes. Coffee. Lunch. Afternoon classes. Tea. Classes finish. Dinner. Evening working – students may have evening access to certain workshops in the absence of their tutor, but only with their tutor's permission and provided it is safe to do so.
Departure – last day	10.00am 3.00pm 3.30	Residential students are asked to vacate rooms. Classes finish. Tea then departure.