Programme

Discovering Ceramics

Details

Mondays, 16 September – 21 October. Online.
Afternoon session: 2pm—4pm
Evening session: 6pm—8pm

Overview

Learn the basics of hand building in this online beginner’s ceramics course. Over six weeks, former V&A Artist in Residence and Ceramicist Florence Dwyer will provide expert tuition in the fundamentals of hand-built ceramics. Using only your hands, some basic tools and air-drying clay, Florence will show you how to create forms inspired by the V&A South Kensington and V&A Wedgwood Collection.

Your course leader

Florence Dwyer is an artist who currently lives and works in Glasgow, Scotland where she graduated from The Glasgow School of Art in 2014. Florence was V&A x Design Lab Nation Artist in Residence in 2022 – 2023, researching across the collections at V&A South Kensington and V&A Wedgwood Collection.

Essential Information

This course will be delivered via Microsoft Teams.

Florence will deliver one 2 hour live session per week. There will be additional live weekly Spotlight Sessions with invited speakers on Friday lunchtimes.

Materials are not included, please see the list of materials below for further information. We expect these to cost between £40 - £60 depending on the materials and equipment you choose.

There will be a maximum of 24 participants per class.

Suitable for ages 18+
Week 1: 16 September

Coiling

Learn the fundamentals of coiling: rolling coils, making slip, forming a pot.

Spotlight Session
20 September, 12.00 – 13.00
Introduction to V&A Wedgwood Collection, Gemma Burns, Assistant Curator, V&A
Wedgwood

Week 2: 23 September

Slab Building

Learn the fundamentals of slab building: rolling flat slabs, making a template, scratching, scoring, joining and neatening.

Spotlight Session
27 September, 12.00 – 13.00
Introduction to V&A Ceramics Collection, Florence Tylor, Curator Ceramics and Glass, V&A
South Kensington

Week 3: 30 September

Sculpting, Relief Work and Sprig Moulds

Modelling low relief sculptures out of clay and taking moulds of them to use for sprigging.

Spotlight Session
04 October, 12.00 – 13.00
Introduction to World of Wedgwood, Olivia Thackstone, Sales and Marketing Manager, World of Wedgwood

Week 4: 07 October

Relief Decorating

Learn how to use our sprig moulds to make a set of repeat pattern relief tiles.
Spotlight Session
10 October, 12.00 – 13.00
Artist talk with Louisa Taylor

Week 5: 14 October

Mould Making

Making one-part moulds of found objects to use for slip casting. Taking a cast from a plate to make a plaster hump mould.

Spotlight Session
18 October, 12.00 – 13.00
Artist Talk with Richard Heeley

Week 6: 21 October

Using Moulds

Using our moulds, learn about the process of slip casting and press moulding.

Spotlight Session
25 October, 12.00 – 13.00
Artist Talk with Amy Jayne Hughes