

Course Title	Techniques of Figure Sculpture
Tutor	Laura Postle
Time	10am - 5pm (4.45 - 5pm to clean-up)
Dates	Thursdays, 21 Sept. - 30 Nov.
Half Term	Monday 23 Oct. - Saturday 28 Oct.
Course Code	D1701S20
Level	Optional/Certificate
Cost	£495



What is this course about?

This course offers students an opportunity to work in clay whilst studying directly from the life model; combining modelling skills and creativity with anatomical knowledge. Suitable for both beginners and more experienced sculptors, this 10 week course will enable students to sculpt the full figure on a half-life scale.

Through learning various techniques in observation, measurement and plumbing, students will understand the essentials of construction as well as the importance of capturing gesture and proportion. More advanced students will have the opportunity to push in a more personal direction; with the potential to produce larger scaled and more specific work, such as a torso.

By the end of this course you will:

Have completed at least one figurative piece in clay and gained skills in the following:

- Armature building**
- capturing gesture and proportion**
- Anatomy**
- Measurement, scaling & plumbing**
- Observation**
- Modelling**
- Texture and clay application**
- Creative development**

About your tutor

Laura Postle is a classically trained figurative sculptor who is a graduate of the Florence academy of art, Italy. Based on observation of the human figure her work pushes to explore the true character of her model whilst accentuating gesture and capturing the emotion of her subject.

Below are some aspects of what topics will be covered in the course. If a student wishes to follow their own approach, the tutor will respond to their needs and work with them individually.

Armature making: Students will be taught how to build strong and flexible armatures on a half life scale.

Capturing gesture and proportion: From the outset students will be encouraged to capture the model's individuality and character in pose.

Anatomy: Key points and planes will be explained to ensure structural credibility as well as develop anatomical knowledge.

Measurement, scaling and plumbing: Measuring techniques such as the 'scale of proportions' and 'comparative measurements' will be taught to assist students in capturing a true likeness.

Observation: Practical methods and tricks to train the eye will be given to gain a fresh perspective and enable confidence without relying too heavily on external critique.

Modelling skills: Light and shadow will be used as an aid to capture 3-dimensional form and create subtle transitions and half tones.

Texture and Clay application: Becoming familiar with clay through experimentation and using various tools, students will develop individual styles and surfaces to their work.

Creative development: Creative support will be given to enable students to portray the figure in their chosen way. Focal points within the piece will be encouraged.

Course Times

10 - 5pm: The final 15 minutes of each class will be a group clean up after your day's work, ensuring the studio is left tidy for the evening classes that follow.

Weekly breakdown

Courses at the Art Academy offer a structured approach to ensure specific subjects, skills and methods are covered. Below is a weekly breakdown of what will be covered. Bear in mind that these classes will move with the pace of the class so a degree of flexibility of what will be covered on which day will be employed. It is useful to bring all tools to each class, even though some classes will use more specific tools than others. If anyone wishes to draw there will be equipment available to do so.

Week	Date	Topic/skills covered	Location	What to bring	Model
------	------	----------------------	----------	---------------	-------

			and Tutor		
1	21 Sep	Introduction to the course. Discussion of individual intentions and goals for the term. Discussion about tools. Advanced students choose objectives. Set the pose. Make armatures.	Studio 1	Wire cutters Hammer Pliers Flathead screwdriver Gloves Tape measure Ruler Pens Note paper Sketchbook Clay tools Cheese wire Plumbline Calipers Spray bottle	Model A 10 weeks
2	28 Sep	Continue making armatures if necessary. Begin clay application, starting with pelvis and ribcage. Look at the skeleton and establish key structural points. Main measurements taken and established and 'scale of proportion drawn'. (advanced students follow their individualised program)	Studio 1	Cocktail sticks or Small screws Anatomical reference Knife-life clay toolsuch as tiranti H series	Yes
3	5 Oct	Begin building up the figure in clay continuing to think of underlying structure. Look at muscle mass and major muscle groups. Focus on plumbing to track pose and how the model is moving. Individual choices of gesture should be decided.	Studio 1		Yes
4	12 Oct	Build up the figure. Concentrating on high points and planes. Width and depth measurements can start to	Studio 1		Yes

		be realised. 'Comparative measurement' methods can be used.			
5	19 Oct	Look deeper into anatomy and begin to understand more subtle turning points, focus on major masses and overall likeness. Continue to push gesture.	Studio 1		Yes
	26 Oct	HALF TERM			
6	2 Nov	Start the day drawing high points on the clay with a fresh eye, ensure correct positioning and confidence of form. Look at more anatomy to start realising fullnesses.	Studio 1		Yes
7	9 Nov	Focus on looking from above and below the model, to get a new perspective and check form. Use mirrors and other techniques to establish a fresh eye	Studio 1	Mirror Box or steps	Yes
8	16 Nov	With confidence of overall form and likeness, focus can now be on modelling forms in more detail, creating shadows and half-tones within the piece. Isolate shapes and start to think of chosen focal point.	Studio 1	Small modelling tool such as tiranti C series	Yes
9	23 Nov	Push the nuances of the figure, creating differences between flesh and bone. Considerations to moulding and casting should be thought of.	Studio 1		Yes
10	30 Nov	Aim at finishing the figure, looking at surface texture and paying to attention to focal point of piece. Final decisions to be made about	Studio 1	Camera	Yes

Preparation Requirements

Diploma and Certificate Students you must bring your own sculpture tools and equipment. Part Timers can use The Art Academy's tools if necessary. You need all the basic modeling equipment laid out in the student handbook

Drawing equipment - (pencils, charcoal, rubber, board clips) and a sketchbook.

Tiranti modeling tools Modeling tools - b5 / 6/ 7/ 8/10 – SF stainless steel-BM11 – No 46 (available generally also from our shop)

Plumb-line

2 x G clamps 8"

Snub-nosed pliers (i.e. the normal ones) Snips, Tape measure, Hammer

Sketchpad and pencil (for note-taking)

Long matchsticks/ or cocktail sticks

Calipers (ideally medium-sized Tiranti aluminium calipers. Well worth the £29.30 investment for anyone serious about modeling, will last a lifetime. Can be bought in AA shop)

Dividers (like compasses but with two points)

Untextured rags for wrapping (bedsheets are really good)

Thin plastic sheeting for wrapping, Clothes pegs or masking tape for wrapping

Aluminium [ali] wire

Jubilee clips, screw and staple selection, mixed drill bit set

Copper wire - (available generally also from our shop)

Plastilene - (available generally also from our shop)

Additional Costs

Larger pieces such as a torso may require further clay at an additional cost. One bag per student is provided.

Generally wire armatures will be used inside the sculptures; therefore pieces can not be fired. If students want to keep their work, it generally needs to be moulded and cast, please see the moulding document, which gives all the different options for achieving this.

If pieces are made in clay and do not have armatures in them, It is possible to fire them This is optional and additional firing costs will apply.

Firing Fees are: <http://www.artacademy/student-area-documents>

- £15 for a small figure
- £20 for a portrait head
- £20 for a large figure

Hollowing is necessary before pieces can be fired. Should students prefer to maximise their modelling experience, they can arrange with the tutor to have their piece hollowed for an additional fee. The cost for hollowing is £20 for a head or large figure, £15 for a small figure.

Resources & Further Reading

'Modelling and Sculpting the Figure' by Tanya Russell, founder and principal of The Art Academy. We have some available to buy in the shop and it is available on Amazon. Tanya

Russell details the whole creative process for sculpting the figure, from the fundamental conceptual and practical considerations through to the finished and presented work. It is highly recommended to have read this book and suggested to have your own copy.

'*Modeling the figure in clay*' (a sculptor's guide to anatomy) by Bruno Lucchesi. We have some available to buy in our shop or they are available on Amazon. This is a very useful anatomy book.

'Modelling and Sculpting the Human Figure' - Edouard Lanteri.
Available on Amazon. This book is like the handbook to figurative sculpture.

'Artistic Anatomy' - Paul Richer.
Available on Amazon. Contains some of the most reliable anatomy drawings.

'*Sculpture From the Renaissance to the Present Day*' – Taschen. Reference copy in The Art Academy library.

'*The Language of Sculpture*' by William Tucker - available on Amazon also try <http://www.abebooks.co.uk/> for used and new sculpture books.

Look at the Royal British Society of Sculptors website www.rbs.org.uk as well as the Society of Portrait Sculptors <http://www.portrait-sculpture.org/> for members' sculpture, its Annual Open exhibition entry with the Tiranti prize for young sculptors (under 30's) and a free to public Annual Lecture.

Possible sculptors to research:

Historical: Benini, Donatello, Marino Marini, Auguste Rodin, Camille Claudel, Henry Moore, Brancusi, Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore, Michaelangelo, William Turnbull, Louise Bourgeois, Jean Fautrier, Ossip Zadkine, Eduardo Paolozzi, Hans Arp, Kenneth Armitage, Antoine Bourdelle, Germaine Richier, Henri Gaudier-Brzeska, Malvina Hoffman, Lynn Chadwick, Julio Gonzalez, Medardo Rosso, George Segal, Niki de Saint Phalle.

Contemporary sculptors like Juan Munoz, Brian Taylor, Mark Quinn, Philip Jackson, Thomas Houseago, Ron Mueck, Zadok Ben David, Sabin Howard, Rebecca Warren, Yinka Shonibare, Laurence Edwards, Ed Smith, Antony Gormley, Grayson Perry

Moulding & Casting Overview 2016 - 2017

There are two main types of mould:

- Waste mould: plaster, only one cast can be taken as the mould is destroyed in process.
- Reusable mould: silicon rubber, can be used to take multiple sculpture casts out up to approx. 20 times.

There are two main types of cast.

- Plaster / cement cast.
- Resin with stone or metal filler cast.

Options for having your sculpture moulded and cast:

- Go on one of our courses – dates listed below
- Pay someone to mould and cast your sculpture for you. Please contact the artist directly for prices and availability, you will need to give them an image and dimensions of your piece for pricing:

RUBBER MOULD AND RESIN CAST

- o Lorraine Grandi 07793 107 789 sculpturecasting@aol.com
<http://creativeartcasting.com/> - Profesional, High Quality, based in kent, will travel
Approx. price standing figure, depending on pose at 40cm high:
Silicon Rubber mould £280 Resin £280
- o Jim Guy (professional, high quality) – jguy13@tiscali.co.uk 07729 549466
- o Laura Robain (professional, high quality, Bucks, will travel) 01296 620099
<http://www.ridgewaymouldingandcasting.co.uk>
- o Jessica Wetherly jessica@jessicawetherly.co.uk 07523 553788
Prices for mould and cast:
1/3 lifesize Plaster £750 Resin £850
1/2 lifesize Plaster £850 Resin £975
- o Ed Murray edwardgeorgemurray@hotmail.com 07950 698868

FIGURE: 1/3rd life silicone mold £550, resin cast £400
1/2 life silicone mold £650, resin cast £550
Work is patched and made good. (patina and wax not included)

PLASTER WASTE MOULD AND PLASTER CAST

- Pippa Burley pippaburley@hotmail.co.uk 01273 474865
- Ed Murray edwardgeorgemurray@hotmail.com 07950 698868
PORTRAIT: life size waste mold and crystacal cast £550
FIGURE: 1/3rd life waste mold and crystacal cast £700 (£800 for resin cast)

Time required for a standing figure 750mm tall (approximately):

Plaster waste mould - 2 days

Reusable rubber mould - 3 days

Plaster cast - 2 days (one day for casting, one day for finishing)

Resin cast with metal or stone filler - 2 days (one day for casting, one day for finishing)

Moulding / Casting courses available at The Art Academy:

Full details on the individual course sheets.

Moulding and Casting Dates 2017

Waste Mould making INTERNAL ONLY Saturday & Sunday 2 - 3 December

Plaster Casting from a Waste Mould INTERNAL ONLY Saturday & Sunday 9 - 10 December

Welcome to The Art Academy

We are looking forward to welcoming you to The Art Academy and wish you the very best for your course. If at any time you would like to speak to a member of the team please feel free to contact us using the details below.

We value feedback on all of our courses so please keep us posted on your progress.

Who can I contact for further information?

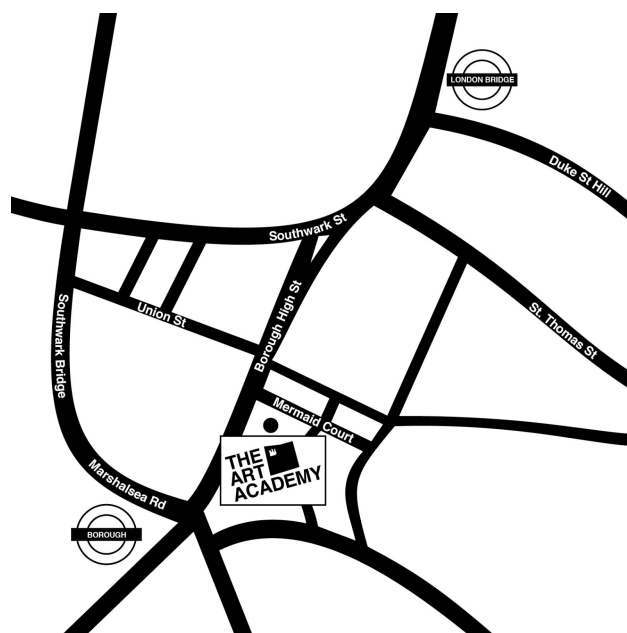
General information and advice on courses at The Art Academy is available from the main office, open Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:00 during term time.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7407 6969 or email our Administrator, Aimee Briginshaw:

aimee@artacademy.org.uk

Location

The Art Academy is conveniently located minutes away from London Bridge (Northern and Jubilee lines, National Rail services) and Borough (Northern line) underground stations - follow signs for Borough High Street to exit. Please [click here](#) for a map.



Just moments walk from the Thames, the Art Academy is also ideally located for access to:

White Cube
Tate Modern
Jerwood Gallery

If you would like to make the most of the area a member of the team will be happy to advise you on areas of interest locally.

Refreshments & Facilities

All students have access to the common room located in the Barn, on the ground floor of the Mermaid Court building. Here you will have use of a fridge, kettle, microwave and eating area.

There is a wealth of supermarkets, shops and cafes in the area as well as the world-famous Borough Food Market, five minutes walk away.

Disabled Access

We make every effort to accommodate students' access requirements, but if you have mobility issues, please speak to a member of the Academy team before your course starts.

Further Details

- You will need to have paid in full for your class before the first session of your class, your place is not guaranteed until we have received payment.
- If you purchased a materials pack online this will be given to you on the first session of your course upon your arrival.
- Ensure that you wear old clothing, as you may get messy!

- All artwork at the Academy MUST be taken home at the end of the course.
- Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off, or is on silent, during the class.
- Please read the Health and Safety Guidelines carefully, provided at the beginning of your course.
- If you wish to join any class for the next term please contact the office to re-book. Classes are becoming increasingly popular, so please book early in order to guarantee your place.
- If you have any further queries let us know and we will do our best to resolve them. Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to seeing you.