

B A C E S

KILN-FORMED GLASS

Level of ability:

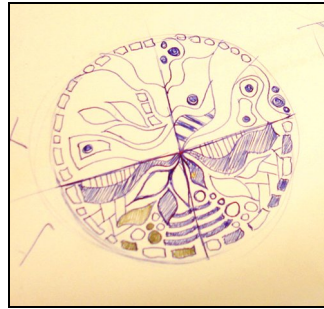
Beginner

Intermediate

Course duration:

10 week course per term, three terms per year

Wednesday evenings, 6–9pm



Aims of course:

This course is a good introduction to the basics of kiln formed glass for beginners, while intermediate and advanced students can use it as a weekly workshop to develop ideas or create a portfolio of work for application to degree courses. The basic course is the same each term but with a different emphasis. The first term will focus on fusing techniques, making use of decorative glass and metal elements. The emphasis of the second term is on slumping techniques, including making bowls, using specialist slumping moulds, and creating texture in loose plaster impressions. The final term of the year covers all the aforementioned areas and introduces a simple casting module into the programme.

What students should achieve:

By the end of the course, students will have completed a number of self-initiated projects. Examples of previous projects have ranged from a small piece of glass jewellery to a bowl to a sculptural glass wall panel. In producing this work, students will learn how to cut glass accurately and how to combine coloured glass by fusing. As the course progresses, students will learn more about kiln processes, understanding what happens to glass in the kiln during a firing cycle, learning about glass compatibility, and how to load and unload a kiln. The course also covers kiln maintenance and preparing shelves and moulds for firing.

Materials and techniques covered:

This course will cover all aspects of glass cutting including circle and strip cutters, using the grinder, and drilling holes. Students will learn how to fuse or slump at different levels inside the kiln to achieve different effects in glass, also using frits, noodles, stringers and metal inclusions such as wire, sheet, leaf and mesh. Teaching will include many demonstrations and will utilise a variety of sample pieces and images of glass. Handouts will cover cutting glass, kiln processes, chart the firing cycle and explain strain points, soaking and annealing.