

**Course:** The Torso in Clay (In-Person)

**Instructor:** Morgan Dummitt

**Days/Dates:** Fri, Sat & Sun, 9/19 - 9/21/2025

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Location:** Room 740, 7<sup>th</sup> floor / Samuel M.V. Hamilton Building

128 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102 (**Use Student Entrance on Lenfest Plaza / Cherry Street**)

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## Materials

Please have all supplies ready for the first class meeting. Pipes/fittings for armatures can be found at any good hardware store.

## Sculpture Supplies

- 50lbs water-based clay. Available at Blick Art Materials or Norristown Pottery Supply. I recommend red clay, often sold as “terracotta,” as it fires to an attractive color.
- Set of wooden modeling tools, available on amazon. I also recommend the following:
  - 11” modeling rake (<https://shop.sculpt.com/sculpture-house-11-wire-end-modeling-tool-210.html>)
  - 8” hardwood tool for general modeling (<https://shop.sculpt.com/copy-of-boxwood-clay-tool-16-8in.html>)
- Calipers (dick Blick)
- Spray bottle
- Metal dinner knife
- Plastic bag for keeping sculpture wet. Plastic bags for tall kitchen garbage cans are ideal.

## Armature Supplies

- 12” galvanized steel pipe ½” diameter
- Galvanized steel flange ½” diameter
- ¾” board with runners, supplied by Academy woodshop

## Policies

Students should arrive at class promptly and clean up before leaving.

Students should follow Continuing Education’s policies for academic credit, withdrawals, and classroom regulations. They can be found on its [Procedures and Policies](#) website

(<https://www.pafa.org/school/academics/continuing-education/policies>) and in the Policy Guide at the bottom of each course description, to be reviewed upon registration.

### **Grading**

Students will be evaluated primarily on **attendance** (30%), **classroom comportment** (30%), and **artistic progress** (40%).

**Attendance** is defined as timely arrival as well as remaining in class for the majority of the meeting. There is much to learn in a very short time and students are expected to be in class every day. If unable to attend, please contact the professor in advance.

**Classroom Comportment** is defined as a student's attitude, respect, and commitment to study during class. Appropriate classroom conduct and seriousness of purpose are essential for the success and learning of students in the class.

**Artistic Progress** is defined as a student's commitment to learning throughout the course. Everyone comes to class with a different level of experience and personal learning goals, and no one's artistic output will be judged solely on its merits. This is to say that I am not concerned with the quality of student work so long as students demonstrate a consistent and earnest desire to improve and learn.

### **Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion**

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts is a pluralistic community, where PAFA community members, whatever their age, color, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, national origin, language, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or veteran status, should feel valued and respected. The collective sum of the individual differences, lived experiences, heritage, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities, and talent that our faculty, staff, and students invest in their work and learning represents a significant part of not only our culture but our reputation and PAFA's achievement.

To that end, we will cultivate an environment where all members of the PAFA community feel that they belong and are embraced in a community of artists, educators, intellectuals, thinkers, and achievers. If you have questions about PAFA's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB), please contact PAFA's Director of DEIB, Dr. Ronke Oke at [roke@pafa.org](mailto:roke@pafa.org).

### **Sensitive Materials Warning**

Academia is a space where we learn to challenge ourselves and our ideas in safe and productive ways. The topics covered in classes may be difficult, not just intellectually but emotionally. It is my intention that by exposing students to this content I will not trigger them or reproduce scenes of violence and subjection. While my intention is that my classroom serves as a safe space to engage these complexities, I acknowledge that this space is not safe for every student. I acknowledge that the classroom is a political space where the material objects -- from readings to supplies -- are not abstract matters but, oftentimes, debate the lived experiences of many students in this course and the communities they represent. I acknowledge that I am responsible for how I show and handle these materials. I acknowledge that I have read and/or watched the material in its entirety before assigning it to my students. I acknowledge that I have considered how to articulate the difficulties of these readings and images in safe and productive ways.

All students are encouraged to exercise their agency to disengage from potentially harmful material as a practice of self-care. If you anticipate any issues related to the format, materials, or requirements of this course, please reach out to either me or PAFA's Director of DEIB, Dr. Ronke Oke at [roke@pafa.org](mailto:roke@pafa.org) so that we can explore potential options.

### **Accessibility**

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) is committed to assuring equal educational opportunity and full participation for all students. If you anticipate or experience any barriers related to the format, materials, or requirements of this course, you are encouraged to email and/or meet with me outside of class to explore potential options. All discussions will remain private. If you have a physical, medical, learning, or psychological disability, or think you may have a disability, please contact Allison Syvertsen, Director of Continuing Education Programs, at [asyvertsen@pafa.edu](mailto:asyvertsen@pafa.edu) or 215-972-2029 to explore next steps in requesting official academic accommodations. Eligibility for reasonable accommodations is determined on a case-by-case basis after comprehensive documentation is reviewed. Information will be kept confidential. Please note PAFA is not able to provide retroactive accommodations.

### **Title IX**

All PAFA faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct, including harassment and sexual violence, to the PAFA's Title IX Coordinators so that the victim may be provided with appropriate resources and support options. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual misconduct that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware. For these reasons, all discussions you have with me, pertaining to sexual and gender-based misconduct, will remain private (not confidential).

If you have experienced any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. PAFA strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the School. You can find more information about PAFA's Title IX & VAWA policies and protections, including information on how to file a confidential report, on the [PAFA HR page](#) or by sending an email to [titleix@pafa.org](mailto:titleix@pafa.org) or contact PAFA's Title IX Coordinator, Lisa Biagas at [lbiagas@pafa.org](mailto:lbiagas@pafa.org).

### **Continuing Education Programs Information/Contact**

For more information about CE programs and to contact CE staff, please call 215-972-7632, email [continuinged@pafa.edu](mailto:continuinged@pafa.edu), or visit [www.pafa.org/ce](http://www.pafa.org/ce).