SFA School of Art

ART 250 (CERAMICS I)
Fall 2018

Instructor: Jack Shanklin
Course Time & Location:
T/Th 2:00 – 4:40 pm, Upper Art Building

Office: Ceramics Studio
Email: shanklinjr@jacks.sfasu.edu

Hours: T/Th 12 – 2

Course Description
3 semester hours, 6 hours studio, 6 hours assigned independent study per week. Introductory study of clay as an artistic medium. No Prerequisites

Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives:
The goal of this class is to teach you the fundamentals of how to work with clay as an artistic medium. The emphasis will be on the potter’s wheel, although off-the wheel methods such as slab building will be used in combination with wheel thrown forms. you will use both on and off-the wheel methods to create and design vessels that are well crafted, thoughtful, and poetic.

You will not only learn how to manipulate clay, but you will gain an understanding of clay body formulation, slip and glaze chemistry, glazing and kiln firing so that you can apply and use this knowledge in your own work.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Undergraduate students will exhibit proficiency in the application of technical and problem-solving skills appropriate to their designated concentration, as well as developing individual creativity.

Program Learning Outcomes
1. Undergraduate students will demonstrate proficiency in studio foundation skills as they relate to the elements and principles of design.
2. Undergraduate students will exhibit a high level of proficiency in the use of materials, techniques and media.
3. Undergraduate students will demonstrate understanding of contemporary art issues through exploration of synthesis of content, problem solving and creativity.
4. Undergraduate students will define and state knowledge of Art Historical precedents.

Attendance
Students should show up on time and be ready with the proper materials for the day at the beginning of each class period. You get 3 absences before you grade is dropped one complete letter grade. Doctors note or not you get a grand total of 3. Late is showing up to class more than 15 minutes passed the scheduled hour. 3 late equals 1 absence

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be
provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Student Code of Conduct**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This policy applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at [https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp](https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp) or call the office at 936-468-2703.

**Academic Integrity**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism. Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

**Withheld Grades**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for computing the grade point average.

**Health and Safety**
The use of raw materials such as clay and glazes can be hazardous to your health. Proper use of the materials will be taught, but it will be up to you to follow the training in your daily practice. If you are pregnant or should become pregnant while taking this course, or have a medical condition that could increase your sensitivity to chemical exposure, it is important for you to take all precautions concerning your own personal safety. While reasonable measures have been taken to insure your good health, there is a risk in the class of exposure to material that could prove harmful to persons at risk. Please contact the professor should you have questions or concerns.

- The equipment can be dangerous, and extreme caution must be exercised at all times. Before using any equipment you absolutely must be checked out by me or a graduate assistant. You must follow the rules, no exceptions.
• Closed toed shoes must be worn in the studio at all times.
• Wear a respirator when mixing glazes and when scraping kiln shelves.

Materials
• Pottery Tool Kit
• Large Sponge
• Fork
• Sketchbook
• Brushes
• Towel
• Plastic Bucket
• Spray Bottle
• Lock for Locker

Suggested Text/Websites
Clay and Glazes for the Potter by Daniel Rhodes
The Complete Guide to High-fire Glazes by John Britt (he also has a book on midrange firings)
500 Art books
Artaxis.com
Acessceramics.com

Course Assignments/Grading
Your grade will be a reflection of your professional attitude in the studio, attendance, sketchbook, research, homework assignments, participation in class discussions, and finished work graded during the critiques.

Criteria
• Participation: You are responsible for your success and you will play a pivotal role in the group dynamic of the class. Therefore, attendance, a strong work ethic, and active participation in all aspects of this course are essential.
• Assignments. All work must be completed on time and ready for critique. Preparatory work will be taken into account when evaluating your comprehension and effort. The assignments should be completed according to the strictures of the project and presented in a professional manner.
• Sketchbooks will not be required for this class; HOWEVER preliminary sketches of assignments are highly encouraged. Think of your sketchbook as a creative journal for experimentation and discovery.
• Critiques will occur the day the project is due.
• Plan on at least 6 hours of out of class work each week.
• Studio Habits. Good studio habits are necessary to maintain a clean, safe and healthy working environment. The last 15 minutes of class will be reserved for clean-up. The tools should be cleaned and cared for in a professional manner.
• Cell phones and pagers, must be turned off during class.

Grading
Grades will be given on a standard scale:
A 90-100 = Requirements met with excellent achievement, extra time and effort
B 80-89.9 = Requirements met with good achievement and clear understanding of objectives
C 70-79.9 = Requirements met with average effort and work
D 60-69.9 = Requirements met with minimum effort and careless work
F < 60 = Minimum requirements not met, inadequate understanding of course material

The following will be considered when assessing your performance:
• How well your assignments achieve their objective
• Your understanding of the visual elements and principles, concepts and techniques covered in class, as shown in the work you produce
• Creativity and conceptual innovation
• Craft and presentation
• Attendance and participation, including participation in critiques and discussions
• Effort, ambition and initiative
• Ability to work independently
• Progress and growth

Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #1: 10 Cylinders</th>
<th>100 pts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project #2: 5 mugs</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #3: 3 sets of bowls or plates</td>
<td>100 Pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halloween Project</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #4: Contemprary Artist Project/Teapot</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocab Tests</td>
<td>30 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean Up</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>680 pts</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Critique/Late work

Attendance on critique day is MANDATORY. Projects are due at the beginning of class on the day of critique. The work does not need to be fired; leather hard is preferred for critique day. It is vital that you turn in something on the day of the critique so that we can talk about it as a class.

IF your project is incomplete on the day it is due you may turn it in for partial credit. You may continue working on the project and turn it again before the date of the final for re-evaluation.

Calendar:

A “work day” is a period in which no official instruction may be given. I will however be present and moving around the classroom to help individuals or groups based on need. Work day does not mean free day to whatever you want. You should be present and working on your current project.

Week 1:
T - 8/28: Syllabus / Wedging and Throwing Demo

Th - 8/30: Project #1 Wheel Throwing Demo / Start Cylinders

Week 2:
T - 9/4: Work Day

Th - 9/6: Work Day

Week 3:
T - 9/11: Project #2 Mug / Handle Demo
Th - 9/13: Work Day

Week 4:
T - 9/18: Work Day

Th - 9/20: Vocab Test #1 / Work Day

Week 5:
T - 9/25: Project #3 Bowl / Plate Demo

Th - 9/27: Project #2 Mugs Due

Week 6:
T - 10/2: Work Day

Th - 10/4: Work Day

Week 7:
T - 10/9: Work Day

Th - 10/12: Work Day

Week 8:
T - 10/16: Vocab Test #2 / Work Day
Mid-Semester
Th - 10/18: Project #3 Sets of Bowls / Plates Due

Week 9:
T - 10/23: Halloween Project Demo

Th - 10/25: Work Day

Week 10:
T - 10/30: Halloween Project Firing Day

Th – 11/1: Project #4 Contemporary Artist / Teapot Demo

Week 11:
T - 11/6: Work Day

Th - 11/8: Work Day

Week 12:
T - 11/13: Work Day

Th - 11/15: Vocab Test #3 / Work Day

Week 13: Thanksgiving Break No Class
Week 14:
T - 11/27: Work Day

Th - 11/29: Project #4 Due / Last Day for Wet Work

Week 15:
T - 12/4: Glazing

Th - 12/6: Glazing

Week 16:
T - 12/11: Finals / Clean Up

Th - 12/13: Finals / Clean Up

The instructor reserves the right the change, delete, or add to the course requirements and schedule at any time.