INTRODUCTORY CERAMICS I: POTTERY SECTION, ART 400 CERAMICS I - FALL 2021

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Office Hours: Physical and virtual office are available, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Department: Art
Class meeting time and place: M/W 2:00 pm - 4:40 pm. Upper Art Building
Credits: 3

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to creating ceramic forms utilizing the potter’s wheel. A range of techniques will be demonstrated as starting points to using the wheel as a tool for creating forms. The design, function, decoration, and presentation of the thrown forms will be emphasized through course assignments. In addition to using the potter’s wheel, students will learn about a number of different finishing surfaces that can be applied to ceramics. An accurate study and understanding of the tools and techniques to create and design well-crafted and functional ceramic pieces. Therefore, the class’s focus will be on making functional pottery. Furthermore, application of slips, underglazes, glazes for its final state so that you can implement and use this knowledge in your own work.

Most importantly, using the potter’s wheel is a skill that must be learned through practice, so patience, perseverance, and the ability to make mistakes and move on are all necessary to get the most out of the course. The class is designed for the student with no ceramics background.

2. 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.

3. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will be able to identify the steps involved in wheel throwing
2. Students will reproduce concepts of team work, patience, commitment, engagement and caring of their workplace.
3. Students will develop technical competency in working with clay by demonstrating the ability to construct functional and sculptural work.
4. Students will explore personal aesthetic expression
5. Students recognize “quality” as a result of constant work in the workshop.

4. TEXT AND MATERIALS:

THERE IS NO SPECIFIC TEXT NEEDED FOR THIS CLASS. ALL BOOKS SUGGESTED ARE NOT REQUIRED. YOU ARE FREE TO ASK FOR THEM AND IT WILL PROVIDED FOR YOUR INSTRUCTOR.
This is a list of the basic things you will need:

- Pottery Tool Kit
- Sketchbook
- Plastic Bucket
- Big Sponge (for cleanup)
- Spray Bottle
- Towel(s)
- Work Clothes (including close toed shoes)
- Lock for locker

5. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Undergraduate students will complete a series of assignments during the semester as part of the course requirements.


( Note: the projects may shift gears a bit to accommodate the individual personality of the class )

6. GRADING POLICY:
Your final grade will be a reflection of your professional attitude, attendance, research, assignments, participation in class interactions, and completed work graded during critiques, and post them in Brightspace.

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 structure of the project and presented professionally.

- Sketchbooks
will be kept for specific assignments, preliminary work, and thumbnail sketches. Outside of class, sketching is encouraged. Think of your sketchbook as a creative journal for experimentation and discovery.

- Work Days

come to class prepared and ready to work. Be present and focused on your work during class time (your behavior is also considered part of your grade.

- Critiques

will occur at the beginning of the class as marked on the studio calendar. It is your responsibility to show on time and prepared

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 **CLEANUP**. The tools should be cleaned and cared for professionally.

( Cell phones must be turned off during class. Headphones are not allowed 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

Projects Grades:

**Project 1 = 20% Project 2 = 20% Project 3 = 30% Participation = 10% Cleanup = 20%**

**Total = 100%**

7. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

The school of Art policy states that attendance is required. If a justifiable absence should occur, it is the student’s responsibility to make up all the work missed. More than two unexcused absences will cost the student a letter grade. Four absences, and your grade will drop two letter grades. Three late arrivals (20 minutes) or leaving 20 minutes early will count as one unexcused absence. A student with 5 or more absences will fail the class.

If a student misses a critique, it is equivalent to failing an exam and won’t recover those points.

Studio Hours:

The studio is open 24/7 so take advantage of this open schedule. Students are required to work outside of class time to complete the assigned projects. A minimum of SIX HOURS of outside work is expected. The Art Department has an open studio policy where you can enter the studio at any hour, day or night, work, and fire kilns. After the 12th class day, your school ID passes will work on the door locks at the front, and the studio’s back doors. The one caveat is not to
work in the classroom when another class is in session. If you come into the studio at night, for instance, when there is no class in session, you cannot bring a friend or a family member. You must be clean and sober and treat the area with the utmost respect.

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 your daily practice training.

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, you need to take all precautions concerning your own personal safety. While reasonable measures have been taken to ensure you’re 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.

Wash hands often, especially before and after you touch any equipment, clean wheels, tools, and work stations after you’re done

No working while another class is in session

Dress ready to work and get dirty, and no open-toed shoes such as sandals

( Advanced class mask policy for clay mixing and glaze preparation – if you have a fitted mask from last semester, use it. Otherwise, buy a particle filter mask that fits you properly. )

Students must not touch any equipment – wheels, extruders, clay mixers, slab rollers, and kilns – without having been thoroughly checked out on that equipment by me or a graduate assistant.

If you are using a clay mixer you must be accompanied by another student so you’re not alone, and there must be a graduate student in the studio to make sure you are doing the job safely.

USE MASK REQUIRED:

Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class, and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.

9. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (4.1):

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. http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

10. DEFINITION OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

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 falsifica-
tion 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.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

11. WITHHELD GRADES SEMESTER GRADES POLICY (5.5):

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 the purpose of computing the grade point average.

12. 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/.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4

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 or call the office at 936-468-2703.

Course Calendar (tentative):

**8.24: FIRST DAY OF CLASS:**

We are meeting in the studio with all students at 2 pm.

Check the roaster list

- Studio Tour

Introduction to all our disposable equipment, tools and materials.

- Address Lockers, Shelves Spaces, and Table spaces
Give them tools
- Lecture about do’s and don’ts in the studio space

safety rules

**8.26:** Introduction to Clay, Potters Wheel, and Throwing:

( Every student is going to try on both wheels (kick wheel and electrical wheel), switching places. In the end, they are going to choose one and work on that one.

First assignment: 15 cylindrical shapes: 5 designed to hold flowers, 5 to hold tools, 5 shorter.

**8.31:** workday (centering clay demo)

**9.02:** workday (Knuckling clay demo)

**9.07:** workday (stage of Clay after the cylinder is made)

**9.09:** workday (Trimming demo)

**9.14:** workday (Decoration and engoves)

**9.16:** workday

**9.21:** Critique day (project 1 due)

Second assignment: Make 6 bowls and 6 platters.

**9.23:** workday (bowl demo and plate demo)

**9.28:** workday (Knuckling clay demo)

**9.30:** workday (stage of Clay after the cylinder is made)

**10.05:** workday (Trimming demo)

**10.07:** workday (Decoration and engoves)

**10.12:** workday

**10.14:** workday

**10.19:** Critique day (project 2 due)

Third assignment: 3 lidded jars and handle

**10.21:** workday (throwing Demo and altering the basic cylinder)

**10.26:** workday (lid and knobs demo)

**10.28:** workday (handle demo)

**11.02:** workday (Trimming demo)

**11.04:** workday (Decoration and engoves)

**11.09:** workday

**11.11:** workday
11.16: workday (Final Days for bisque Firing and Glazing Work)
11.18: workday (Final Days for bisque Firing and Glazing Work)
11.23: THANKSGIVING BREAK
11.25: THANKSGIVING BREAK
11.30: workday (collecting finished work)
12.02: workday (collecting finished work)
12.07: Critique day (project 3 due)
12.09: FINAL DAY OF CLASS, Critique day (project 3 due)

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

You will be informed in advance about exact calendar dates and deadlines. Remember, the clay studio is a communal workspace. The last fifteen minutes of every class will be reserved for clean-up. We will also have a mandatory clean up before each critique and a final clean up at the end of the semester. The instructor reserves the rights to change, delete, or add to the course requirements and schedule at any time.