*ART 10 BEGINNING CERAMICS Spring 2015*

ART-10-55561 *ROOM*: ART 160 *DAYS:* M & W *TIME:* 9:00 am – 11:50 am

ART-10-55562 *ROOM*: ART 160 *DAYS:* M & W *TIME:* 1:00 pm – 3:50 pm

**INSTRUCTOR:** Garrett Masterson **Office hours:** Monday noon – 1 pm

Office: ART 155 Tuesday 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Phone/Voice mail: 638 0333 Friday 10 am – 11 am

E-mail: [garrett.masterson@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:garrett.masterson@reedleycollege.edu) (or by appointment)

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:** Hands in Clay, (5th edition), Charlotte Speight and John Toki, ISBN: 0-07-251951-7

**REQUIRED TOOLS:** You will need one of each of the following (purchased separately or as a kit):

needle tool/pin tool, clay cutting wire/string, wire loop trimming tool, wooden rib, serrated scoring rib, modeling knife, sponge, paint brush (round, soft, long bristled/bamboo calig. brush), water bucket, *and* **notebook.**

**CLAY:** Clay may be purchased from the Reedley College bookstore for your convenience.

***Important:***All clay fired at Reedley College must be high fire, **cone 10** clay, capable of handling 2,381ºF without melting. To avoid any firing range problems it is recommended that students purchase all of their clay from the Reedley College bookstore. If a student buys clay from somewhere else, this clay must be accompanied by written documentation from the vendor to the instructor showing that it is high fire, cone 10 clay. **Any student bringing low fire clay into the studio and causing a melt down in one of the kilns at Reedley College may face disciplinary action ranging from suspension to expulsion and/or failing the class for destruction of school property.** All projects to be fired must be trimmed and have a dry foot (free of all glaze). The student’s **name must be clearly marked** on the project to be fired.

**ATTENDENCE/PARTICIPATION AND ABSENCES:** Student participation (which is factored in your grade) is defined as being present in class, listening/note taking during lectures or demos, and working on the studio activities needed to complete the required assignments. Consistent attendance is required. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class session. It is very important that you are in class on time. If you are late and not counted on the roll sheet, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor before leaving class. If you leave class early, you will be marked absent. Students who miss more than **4 class sessions** prior to the 9th week or any other excessive absences may be dropped.

**CLEAN UP:** It is each student’s responsibility to clean all areas (floor, tables, wheels, bats, tools, equipment, etc.) with which he/she has had contact. Also, everyone in the class must work together to keep the studio/classroom in a clean, healthy, safe condition. Failure to do your part will be considered lack of class participation and therefore, will be a factor in determining your grade. If clean up is not thorough or not everyone participates, other action will be taken.

**SAFETY ISSUES:** Shoes/sandals and shirts must be worn at all times. You are not allowed to work in the Ceramics classroom (ART 160) or the kiln area alone. There must be at least 1 other ceramics student, ceramics student worker, or an instructor present. Anytime you are working with dry clay and/or glaze materials (mixing clays, slips, stains or glazes) you and all others present in the area are required to wear a dust mask. ***You may NOT*** operate any mechanical and/or electrical equipment found in the classroom until you have had (documented) safety training on said equipment. You are required to inform the instructor of all health or safety hazards you might observe.

**CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!**  If you are caught copying from someone’s test, assignment, or in any other way cheating, you will be dropped from the class or failed. This includes claiming someone’s project as your own.

**DEADLINE FOR DROPPING CLASS:** Students may withdraw from this course without a letter grade through the *ninth week of the semester* *(Mar.13th)*. After that a letter grade will be assigned. The instructor may drop you at any time for excessive absence or for disruptive or destructive behavior. Consult the student handbook for campus policies.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILLITIES:** If you have special needs as addressed by Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including alternate media requests, please notify the instructor immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

**OPEN STUDIO:** There are times each week when the studio will be available for you to continue work on class projects. Take advantage of these times in order to complete the assignments and to gain more experience/practice. Open studio hours for this semester are Fridays 9 am to 2:30pm.

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This class will be an introduction to the art and techniques of ceramics. Instruction will include lectures, demonstrations, discussions, tests, and critiques. Direct instruction represents only part of what is required for success with this medium. It is through personal experience with the medium, practice, and a willingness to creative explore ideas that you will find both success and satisfaction in this class.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** The learning outcomes for this class include the following:

1. Create a portfolio of artwork demonstrating a beginning level of proficiency in course medium, addressing issues of form and content. In other words, you will demonstrate a beginning level proficiency in ceramics with regard to form and content in projects assigned and completed using hand construction and the potter’s wheel.
2. Demonstrate a comprehension of the visual vocabulary through the creation of artwork. That means you will demonstrate through your clay work and class discussions, a technical and aesthetic vocabulary.
3. Critique works of art. You will learn to critique your work and the works of others.

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:** You must keep a **notebook** to track every assignment you make in each stage of the process until completion. The overall course grade depends on the components outlined below:

WORK FROM THE POTTERS WHEEL: (total pts possible)

1. Development of wheel throwing technique (3 checked, practice cylinders from 2 lbs. of clay) 50 pts.

2. Four well trimmed, WHEEL THROWN CUPS, 5” to 6” tall from 2 lbs. of Clay 100 pts.

HAND BUILDING TECHNIQUES: (total pts possible)

3. 8” COIL VASE (practice) 100 pts.

4. 12” COIL VASE with decorative patterning (final coil) 200 pts.

5. SLAB (lidded) CONTAINER 100 pts.

6. 10” SLAB VASE/SCULPTURE (final slab) 100 pts.

8. TESTS: from required reading, vocabulary, and lectures/media presentations 100 pts.

9. CLASS PARTICIPATION (attendance, class work, studio clean up, etc.) 200 pts.

10. COMPLETED NOTEBOOK and cumulative evaluation of all assignments, including effort in class 50 pts.

\*Additional work will be considered for extra credit ***if*** primary projects have been completed (max) 25 pts.

**All assignments** will be given final points at the critique for each assignment series and you MUST be presented at the ***FINAL CRITIQUE*** (Mon. 5/18/15 at 9 am / Mon. 5/18/15 at 1 pm) for the final comprehensive grade.

**GRADING:** There are a total of 1000 points possible from course assignments and tests (your points for each assignment will be totaled and averaged). Participation and improvement is factored into your grade.

Grading Scale: 100% to 90% =A; 89% to 80% =B; 79% to 70% =C; 69% to 60% =D; 59% or lower =F

PROPOSED SCHEDULE:

Week 1- intro/syllabus/role procedures/ media presentation; throwing demo focused on centering/begin assign. #1

Week 2 – 5- continue wheel throwing (demos and practice) for assign. #1 and 2

Week 6- glazing demo; glaze test cups; finish all wheel assignments

Week 7- media presentation & coil demo; work on coil assign. #3

Week 8- complete coil assign. #3

Week 9- MID-TERM evaluation; media presentation & begin work on coil assign. #4

Week 10- complete assign. #4 with decorative surface design

Week 11- media presentation & slab demo; work on slab assign. #5

Week 12- complete assign. #5

Week 13- media presentation & slab demo; work on slab assign. #6

Week 14- complete assign. #6; catch-up and glaze all work

Week 15- Wheel throwing review; **last week to work in clay!!!**

Week 16- glaze, decorating and firings/test review

Week 17- glaze, decorating and firings/written test

Week 18- Finals week (attend your scheduled final day/time for final projects critique)

***\*\*\* Friday, May 1st is the last day to work with raw clay (leaving 2 weeks to dry, bisque, glaze & fire).***