

Beginning Ceramics – Art 10

Ceramic Room 160

M-W 5:30 pm- 8:20pm

www.centralcalclay.com

Description: Form as related to ceramic materials, tools, and processes. Kiln loading, firing, hand building, and wheel throwing. (9 hours laboratory) (CAN ART) Units: (3)

Instructor: **Pascual Arriaga**

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Course Objectives:

This is a beginning ceramics course. Students are expected to develop skills in various forming methods. Students will learn how to hand build, throw on the potter's wheel, and use different surface treatments. Students will also learn the fundamental technical vocabulary of ceramic materials and processes used in studio practices. Sensitivity to the materials, aesthetic design, and individual imaginative use of the materials is expected. Well executed pieces are a must.

Classes will begin with lecture, demonstration, direct studio time or field trip/ guest artist lecture. I will provide detailed demonstrations. After each demonstration, you will have enough time to develop techniques and personal aesthetics by practicing.

Health and Safety

Many art materials are potentially dangerous and some may be harmful or fatal with repeated and prolonged overexposure. Care must be taken to avoid misuse. For your fellow students' and your own good health, please read all labels and exercise good judgment. Spray adhesives are strongly discouraged and may not be used within the buildings or around the exterior spaces. Spray fixatives must be sprayed outdoors, at least 300 feet from all buildings and air intake systems, with care to protect walkways and furniture. All containers stored on campus—in lockers or classrooms—must be clearly labeled with contents. (OSHA fines deplete art department resources.) Please do not bring or store any paints, solvents, chemicals, etc. of any sort that are not currently available for purchase in the state of CA as of Jan. 1st, 2010. Expectant mothers: Some art materials are known to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm. Avoid use of any sprays, solvents, or hazardous materials. For more information on health and safety concerns, including the use and disposal of artist materials and ergonomics, please access Occupational Health/Safety

Academic Integrity

Integrity and academic honesty are essential components to a quality education. Cheating—obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for work by the use of any dishonest, deceptive, fraudulent, or unauthorized means—includes, but is not limited to: unacceptable examination behavior, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and documentary falsification. Assignments created outside of class will be evaluated to determine the originality of the work—comparisons within class, comparisons with previous classes, comparisons with other instructors' assignments, consultation with other instructors. It is the responsibility of each student to understand the academic integrity guidelines found in the current student handbook and in the

university catalogue. “Students who violate university standards of academic integrity are subject to disciplinary sanctions, including failure in the course and suspension from the university. Since dishonesty in any form harms the individual, other students and the university, policies on academic integrity are strictly enforced.”

Disability Support Services

“The University requires students with disabilities to register with the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), in order to receive prescribed accommodations appropriate to their disability. Students requesting accommodations should inform the instructor during the first week of classes about any disability or special needs that may require specific arrangements/accommodations related to attending class sessions, completing course assignments, writing papers or quizzes/tests/examinations.” See students' rights for documented special needs via the Disabled Student Service Department at: (559) 638-0332

Art Class Content Disclaimer

In the study of art, students can expect to encounter and critically appraise materials that may differ from and perhaps challenge familiar understandings, ideas, and beliefs. Art classes frequently include physical nudity, content, and imagery that may be considered controversial, offensive, or in conflict with some ethical or religious beliefs. Diverse ideas will be discussed with civility and cooperation. Students are encouraged to meet with a faculty member to express specific concerns. When not in conflict with the academic goals of the course, the faculty member will attempt to address these concerns and the applicable course requirements.

Advisement

All students are encouraged to meet with a full-time faculty member in the area of study (program or concentration) that they have chosen (or are inclined to choose) at least one-time each semester. Faculty names and office hours are available in the art office. When scheduling an appointment, ask the art office staff for your file to take to your faculty/advisor meeting. Graduate student advisors are also available regular hours in the Student Advising Center.

Workload and Activities:

Six (6) hours per week in-class plus an average of six (6) hours outside of class per week. Workload outside of class is greater towards the end of the semester due to unique demands of working with clay (i.e. drying and firing on a tight schedule)

Attendance Policy:

Punctual and regular attendance is required for understanding and mastering assignments. Poor attendance will have a negative impact on final grade. Working extra hours outside of the regular scheduled class will NOT substitute your absences. More than two unexcused absences will result in your final grade being lowered by one full letter grade. Two tardies equals one absences. A final grade of “F” will be given if you miss more than 5 classes or miss a scheduled critique.

Critiques:

Lectures, announcements (including description of assignments) and demonstrations will begin on time. Be prepared to work in the lab for the duration of the class period. Participation in class critique is mandatory. “Class participation” means that you are expected to ask questions to other

students and comment on their work, and that you respond to instructor and student questions in critiques and during technical demonstrations and reviews.

Grading:

The overall course grade/evaluation will be determined by the completion and success of the projects assigned. This course requires the full completion of your project in order to receive credit towards final grade. **Incomplete Projects will not count!!** Keep Up. Ceramic is a process. Work must be loaded, fired, then finished. If you fall behind, you won't catch up. Students will be graded (by points) based on attendance, completed works, effort, diligence, participation on important dates, and maintaining the studio.

Deductions: Failing vocabulary quiz/cheating (no make ups), tardy, absence, leaving early, stealing ceramic work, missing/incomplete gallery report and lack of effort.

Studio Work 60%

Participation/ Critique 20%

Writing Assignment 10%

Vocabulary Test 10%

Assignments:

- Hand Built Projects
- Thrown Projects
- Vocabulary Test
- Writing Assignment
- Final Sculpture

Final Sculpture

12 inches tall 8 inches wide minimum. Must be a concept driven piece. Can be built using the pinch, coil, slab, thrown techniques, or a combination of any methods. What is a concept? A concept is an abstract or general idea inferred or derived from specific instances. For example, if I saw two politicians from different parties making the same decisions, I might form the idea that they are the same person or good friends. I might make a sculpture with them holding hands or coming out of the same womb, trying to portray that they are really on the same side. Basically I want an original idea from your mind, which you convey through your sculpture. It can be literal or representational. It can be one piece or a combination of many pieces to explain your idea/concept.

Writing Assignment

Museum/Gallery Report

Visit designated museum and view ceramic exhibition. You must collect a receipt or documentation to attach to your paper as proof of your visit. Write a two page, 12 point font, double spaced, type written paper, discussing what you saw in the exhibition. The paper should be written using college level writing skills and should be carefully proof-read for errors in spelling and grammar.

Answer the following questions in your paper:

Name of exhibition.

Name of the gallery or museum and the date you saw the show.

Describe the work in the exhibit.

Include in your description the style, scale, historical references, building techniques, and surface

treatments.

Choose a piece that most appeals or appalls you, state the artists name and the title of the piece.

Give your opinion of the work. State both your positive or negative reactions to the work.

Describe what you think the artist intended when creating the piece. How successful or unsuccessful was the artist in conveying their idea.

What can you extract from the exhibition that may apply to your own development as a ceramic artist?

Clean-up:

Clean-up of the area is absolutely essential. **Clean all work spaces when done!** Please allow sufficient time (but not excessive) at the end of the class meeting to clean-up your area (wheels, floor, tables, sinks, etc.) 20 minutes should be sufficient. Use your sponge!!! Make sure you rinse it out regularly when you clean. The more efficiently you clean up the longer work time we will have.

There is a final clean-up day towards the end of the semester. This is MANDATORY, not showing up will be F in your final grade. Date will be announced later in the semester.

Visitors:

No visitors are allowed during class time

Cell phones:

Turn off all cell phones. If an emergency call is expected, notify instructor first and put phone on vibrate.

Clay: Only use what I say to use

Supplies: You will be required to purchase the necessary tools and materials needed to complete your projects. It is your responsibility to get the needed tools and supplies by the second class meeting. Your class materials must be with you in class during class meeting times. Students who do not come to class prepared for class work (with their tools) will be asked to leave and receive an absence on their class attendance record for that day.

Material List:

Sketch Book /Notebook, lock and clay.

Ceramic Tool Kit (the one available in the book store, not another kit)

Towel (to wipe your hands clean, do not use paper towels for clay clean up:

Spray bottle (small one, for use with hand building projects)

Plastic Trash Bags (small kitchen size perfect, dry cleaning plastic is better:

Clay (we will use a lot of clay, make sure you buy only the clay I tell you to use!

Additional tools may be needed depending on your choices and projects direction. I will provide resources to help you when possible. Provide your own tools. Your class mates are not there to leach from. They are there to learn and work, not to provide you with things you forget.

If you do not have your materials by the first week of class you will be advised to drop the class! This is a studio course and requires the use and purchase of your materials. If you come to class unprepared for class work, you will be asked to leave and receive an un excused absence.