

**Art 271: Ceramics 1****Fall 2023**

Instructor: Craig Clifford

8-10:00 M/W

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Door Code 28583#

Office Hours: M 12:30-1:30

Office phone: 424-0129

Prerequisites: Art 111, 112, and 114

**Course Description**

Creative experience in the ceramic field; conditioning and handling of clay and glazes; the construction of ware by various methods including glazing and firing. Prerequisite: 111, 112 and 114 or consent of instructor. Special fees may apply.

**Objectives:**

To develop basic technical skills and knowledge regarding ceramics

To introduce the metaphorical possibilities of form and surface in creating a visual language

To explore the ceramics medium in a creative and personal way

To broaden the understanding of ceramic history and contemporary ceramic art

To work within a community responsibly and effectively

To develop critical thinking skills through problem solving

**Requirements:**

Complete all assignments on the due date.

Vocabulary quiz on ceramic terms and safety

**Sketches to accompany each assignment.**

Attendance, cleaning your messes, and participation in all critiques.

**Lab Fee:** \$50 for consumable materials

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance in this class is required and will be taken at the beginning and end of each class. You are allowed three unexcused absences without penalty. **If you miss more than three classes your final grade is lowered by one-half letter grade. More than six absences excused or not lowers your final grade. NO EXEPTIONS! IF YOU ARE MORE THEN 45 MINUTES LATE TO CLASS YOU ARE ABSESENT. For each subsequent unexcused absence your grade will be lowered one half grade. Three tardies or leaving early three times equal one absence. Sleeping in class or being unprepared (brining all of your materials) equals one absence.** If you miss a class, you will still be held responsible for concepts studied and assignments given in the classes you miss.

Demonstrations will not be repeated be on time and ready to work.

**Class critiques are the same as exams, attendance is mandatory. Missing a critique will lower your project grade by one full letter. If you need to quarantine, I can set-up a video link.**

An excused absence is a documented absence: a doctor's note, a letter from the Dean of Students, other school related activities (You are on a sports team, class field trip.)

### **Projects:**

Projects will be completed on time and following the requirements of the assignments. There will be no incompletes or extensions given due to lack of time management.

### **Grading of projects will be based on:**

Sketches/research & effective use of class time, sketches are due with each assignment.

at the start of class.

Originality of ideas

Technical skill

Craftsmanship (are the bottoms cleaned, glazing, ect.)

Ability to speak about your work and ideas.

Work ethic and individual progress

Assignment completion

Visual and conceptual strength

Class participation, speaking during critiques, and cleaning the studio are parts of your grade.

You will be given four to six class periods to complete the projects. (Class time will also be taken up with demonstrations; discussions, clean up, and kiln work.) Four class periods will not be enough time to complete an A project. **You should expect to work from 1 to 4 hours a week outside of class. Just like homework from your other classes.**

### **Studio Use and Behavior:**

Be respectful of studio equipment, your classmates, their work, and me. **Do not touch your classmate's artwork.** The studio is a communal area used by many people. Everyone is responsible for keeping the studio clean. A clean studio is important for health! Many ceramic materials are a health hazard and dust must be kept to a minimum. Use the exhaust, ventilation, and wear your dust mask- keep it in a Ziploc bag with your name on it.

All currently enrolled ceramic students have access to the studio. If another class is in session, you must ask permission a head of time. You may come in during posted open studio times. Only currently enrolled students are allowed in the studio no friends, family or kids. Only ceramic students are allowed to use the materials and equipment.

Two students will be assigned every week to make sure that the studio is clean at the end of the period. If you do not want to clean up other's messes, make sure your classmates are cleaning up after themselves.

### **Tools:**

Optional: Plastic bucket (at least 1 quart), spray bottle, sure form, ruler, fork, towel, dust mask, apron, small yogurt container, sketch book, folder (ceramic notebook).

**Required: Tool kit from bookstore, thin blade knife, brushes, large sponge for cleaning, and a hand towel.**

### **Assignments:**

I will provide you with a written description, source material (normally images), and a hands-on demonstration at the beginning of every assignment. You will have four to six class periods as well as out of class time to finish each project. The class will have four or five projects total.

### **Grades:**

You will receive a breakdown of your project grade within a week of the critique. An individual meeting about in-progress grades will occur around the mid-term if you request one. If you are absent for this, it is your responsibility to make an appointment with me to discuss your grade. If at any point you need to talk about your grade come to my office hours.

Unless prior arrangements have been made, if your project is incomplete by the assigned due date, your project will be dropped one full letter grade. For each day (not class period) the late project is not handed in, your grade will drop an additional grade step. If the assignment is not turned in within two class periods, your grade will be an F.

**A = Excellent-** The student's approach is consistently invested and innovative. All work has exceptional qualities in terms of concept, execution, and ambition. All projects are completed on time. Eagerness to participate in critiques and offers constructive feedback. Always willing to help. Outstanding development of critical thinking and craftsmanship. **Goes far beyond what is expected.**

**B = Very Good-** The student goes beyond basic expectations. Projects are completed on time, good participation.

**C= Average/Good-** The student meets basic expectations. Projects completed on time. Average participation and studio conduct. Run of the mill, just getting through the class.

**D= Deficient/Weak-** The student is not invested, has several absences and is consistently tardy. Low participation. Projects are incomplete, late and or poorly executed.

**F= Failing-** Zero effort, rarely attending class. A waste of every one's time.

***Simply attending every class and turning in all assignments on time will not earn you an A grade.***

95-100% =A

90-94%=A-

87-89%=B+

84-86%=B

80-83%=B-

77-79%=C+

74-76%=C

70-73%=C-

67-69%=D+

64-66%=D

60-63%=D-

59% and below =F

### **Art Technology Fee**

A common COLS special course fee for technology hardware and software in department specific labs has been added to most Art courses **effective Fall 2022**.

The fee is \$10.00 flat fee per student per course. AC S201 computer lab will be accessible during times when courses are NOT scheduled in the lab (schedule will be posted on the door to the lab). Card access will begin shortly after the add period ends (September 13.)

**Disclosure Statement:** "Students are advised to see the following URL for disclosures about essential consumer protection items required by the Students Right to Know Act of 1990: <https://uwosh.edu/financialaid/consumer-information/>."

### **Academic Misconduct:**

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is committed to a standard of academic integrity for all students. Students are subject to disciplinary misconduct, which is defined in UWS 14.03, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

It is the individual's **student's responsibility** to familiarize themselves with the standards of academic honesty. The student discipline code can be viewed on the web at <http://www.uwosh.edu/dean/studentdisciplinecode.html>.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in failure and referral to the office of University Judiciaries, which can lead to suspension or dismissal from the University. As beginning students, you are encouraged to look at, be inspired and reference the styles of historical and contemporary art. However, it is important that you recognize and acknowledge your sources. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, forgery, furnishing false information to the University, alteration or misuse of University documents, records or identification.

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### **Disability Accommodation and Notification:**

Students seeking reasonable accommodations for disabilities, have a medical emergency information to share with me or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuate must self-identify with the appropriate Dean of Students so that arrangements can be made. Students should inform me of any special needs and present relevant documents within the first two weeks of classes.

### **Other Important Information:**

No cell phone use during class time, this also means text messages, turn off your ringer. No use of headphones during class. You must be able to hear me, your classmates and to be part of the class at all times.

Write your names on your tools. Keep your tools in your locker. Lock your locker.  
Don't take other people's tools.

You must make your projects in this studio not at home.  
I will help you as much as possible. I am willing to work with you outside of class time,  
but I expect the same effort from you.

Accidents happen in ceramics. Pieces can dry out, break, fall apart, explode in the kiln,  
or be dropped. Figure out why the mistake has happened, learn from it and make the  
project again, only better.

**Clean-up after yourself. Clay out of the sinks**

Hard work and diligence are expected in of it and does not mean you will get an A.

If your glaze runs off your piece on to the kiln shelf, you are responsible for cleaning the  
shelf. If the shelf is severely damaged, you are expected to replace the self with a new  
one.

Come to class with energy and be ready to work when class begins. Working with clay  
can be tricky; it takes patience, detail, and care. You must be aware of what is going on.  
If you wait until the last minute your project will not work.

If your project has trapped air, you must put a pinhole in the piece somewhere to let the  
air out. When attaching one piece of clay you must slip and score the two pieces of clay

If you are having any troubles with the class, please come and speak to me. I am happy  
to speak to you outside of class time. To ensure I will be here it is best to make an  
appointment. Right before class and after class are normally good times as well. It is my  
job to help you, take advantage of it.