

Art 471: Ceramics 3.4.5**Fall 2023**

Instructor: Craig Clifford

Mon. & Wed. 10:20-12:30

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Ceramic Lab Door Code 28583#

Office hour M 12:30-1:30

Office phone: 562-480-5736

Prerequisites: Art 111,112,114, 209, 210, 271,371

Course Description:

Fostering an individual approach to form and developing a personal philosophy of the total ceramic process, especially in the area of glaze chemistry. This course may be repeated for credit as needed. Prerequisite: Art 371. Must have passed the Post-Foundation Portfolio Review. 471/671. Special fees may apply.

Learning Outcomes:

- To further develop technical skills, equipment safety and knowledge regarding ceramics
- To introduce clay and glaze making information and practice
- To learn about and participate in oxidation and reduction firings
- To continue exploration of the ceramic medium in a personal way through utilitarian pottery
- To broaden the understanding of historical and contemporary ceramics
- To work with in a community responsibly and effectively

Requirements:

Complete all assignments on time

Help to prepare for the semester's visiting artist

Make your own clay

Load and start one electric kiln (if you have not done so already)

Expand knowledge and use of terms, safety procedures and techniques

Sketchbook of idea generation, personal investigation, research, notes, ceramic handouts, and technical information

Participation in critiques and classroom activities

Clean your clay out of the sink

I hope to have the ceramics sale is Friday December 8th. You must put at least 15 pieces in the sale. You keep 70% of all of your sales. Please consider signing up to help during set-up or sales.

Lab Fee \$85

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in this class is required and will be taken at the beginning of each class. You are allowed two 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-letter 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. Exchange phone numbers and e-mails addresses with your classmates so that you can get all assignments and notes. If anyone needs to self-isolate, including myself, you will check in online.

Demonstrations will be recorded and stored on Collaborate Ultra for you to watch at any point. **Class critiques are the same as exams, attendance is mandatory. Missing a critique will lower your project grade by one full letter. Speaking during the critique is part of your grade.**

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.)

Emailing me that you are sick is not an excused absence.

I will make a chart so that all students are always aware of your attendance.

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. You will come up with your own semester project. The semester project can be wheel thrown, hand built or a combination of the two techniques. Think about objects that you have enjoyed making in the past or you would like to get better at making. I'm happy to demonstrate any new techniques or shapes to you. The same rules about mask and social distancing apply during off hours. If you want to try other types of clay, such as porcelain let me know. I will take a trip to the clay supply store withing the first month of class and can purchase it for you.

Grading of projects will be based on:

Sketches/research & effective use of class time.

Originality

Technical skill

Craftsmanship

Ability to speak about your work and ideas

Work ethic and individual progress

Assignment completion

Visual and conceptual strength

Class participation

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/>."

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 after class. If you do not want to clean up other's messes make sure that your classmates clean up. Two different students will also be

assigned clay-mixing duties every week. Both along with glaze mixing are part of your participation grade.

Required Tools:

Plastic bucket (at least 1 gallon), large sponge, spray bottle, tool kit from book store, thin blade knife, plastic bags to cover your projects (trash bags are great), ruler, fork, brushes, towel, dust mask, apron, sketch book, folder (ceramic notebook). I recommend buying a plastic container with a lid, just in case you need to transport your projects back and forth from home.

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 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 out. 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, more or less. 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.)

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.

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

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.

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 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.

Recommended Text

Hands in Clay by Charlotte Speight and John Toki

Ceramics by Glenn Nelson and Richard Burkett

A Potter's Workbook by Claire Illian

The Potter's Dictionary of Materials and Techniques by Frank and Janet Hamer

Clay and Glazes for the Potter by Daniel Rhodes