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Ceramics II (110-352)

Course Content

Students will be involved in wheel throwing and/or handbuilding assignments that are technically more complex and challenging than those offered in Ceramics I. Approximately seven projects will be assigned and critiqued during the course of the semester.

Projects may include:

- Teapots with pulled or cane handles
- Plates/platters with turned feet
- Covered vessels
- Dinnerware sets
- Two and three piece combined forms
- Distortion/alteration of form
- Throwing off the hump

Students will also investigate the use of engobes and be required to do a series of glaze tests. Bisque loading and firing will be demonstrated at the beginning of the semester. Students will then be responsible for bisque firing class work thereafter. Loading and firing the various high-fire gas kilns will also be demonstrated. Firing the gas kilns is not mandatory at this level, but it is strongly encouraged. Students may be involved in one or more firing processes which include reduction firing, salt/vapor firing, raku firing, and possibly wood firing.

Prereq: 110-251

Tool Supplies

Students can purchase a set of pottery tools in class using lab fee cards. In addition to the tool kit, students will need a large synthetic clean-up sponge, a towel, a plastic bucket, a padlock and a notebook. Lost tools may be replaced by purchasing single ones. A variety of additional tools not found in the tool kits are also available.

Clay

All of the clay used in the studio is blended and mixed from scratch. Ceramics I and Ceramics II students will mix clay as a group. Advanced students have the option to mix their own personal batches. Clay prices are announced at the beginning of each semester. Clay is purchased with lab fee cards.

General Lab Fee

All students enrolled in any level of ceramics must pay a lab fee. This fee allows the studio to purchase glaze materials as well as expendable items such as roll plastic, plastic bags, pyrometric cones, masking tape etc. The lab fee amount for this course is \$40.00 which is paid for through lab fee cards.

How to Purchase a Lab Fee Card

1. Go to the university cashier (check for hours of operation) and buy as many \$5.00 increments as needed. Inform the cashier that the money is for art department material fee cards. A receipt will be issued.
2. Present the receipt to the art department secretary. Specify that the receipt is for ceramics. Lab fee cards will then be issued.
3. Present the lab fee card(s) to either ceramic professor in order to pay for the ceramic lab fee or to purchase clay and/or tools.

You must have a lab fee card to purchase materials. NO I.O.U.'s.

Textbook

A Potter's Workbook, by Clary Illian

This book is available at the textbook rental.

Library

There are many books and periodicals devoted to all phases of ceramics in the main campus library. The ceramics office also receives several magazines which can be checked out: Ceramics Monthly, Studio Potter, American Ceramics, ClayTimes, and Ceramics:Technical.

Grading

Final grades are established from the quality of work produced for each assignment. However effort,enthusiasm,willingness to help with various shop duties and attendance are also considered in determining final grades.

Handing in Assignments

All projects are expected to be completed on assigned due dates at which time a group critique of all student work will take place.Tentative grades will be entered for each project prior to the finished processes of glazing and firing. Final grades for each assignment will then be recorded upon the completion of firing.

Projects Handed in Late

Projects turned in late will drop one letter grade for every class period it is overdue.

Attendance

We follow the policy set by the Art Department. Classes meeting three times a week allows for three unexcused absences without penalty to the final grade. However every three unexcused absences thereafter will result in the lowering of the final grade by one letter grade. Classes meeting two times per week allows for two unexcused absences. However every two unexcused absences thereafter will result in the lowering of the final grade by one letter grade. Excused absences may include health relatedproblems, funerals, field trips, religious holidays, etc. Please call your professor if you anticipate an excused absence.

Finals

There is no final written exam. All work will be evaluated at the assigned exam period during finals week. Failure to show up for the exam time will result in an F for the final grade.