

**College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** ART 400.1 **TITLE:** Low Fire Ceramics I
Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 32.0-36.0 Lecture hours; 48.0-54.0 Lab hours; and 64.0-72.0 Homework hours
Method of Grading: Grade Option (Letter Grade or P/NP)
2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**
Degree Credit
Transfer credit: CSU; UC
3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**
Catalog Description:
Introduction to the art and crafts of ceramics. During this course the student will learn elementary hand-building clay construction. Methods of ornamentation, glazing, firing will be demonstrated and utilized, including low fire. A materials fee as shown in the Schedule of Classes is payable upon registration. Extra supplies may be required.
4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
 1. Demonstrate ability to manipulate material to form cohesive clay objects.
 2. Apply glazes in an effective and (or) aesthetic manner.
 3. Generate clay forms using slab roller.
5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
 1. Demonstrate the ability to manipulate material to form cohesive clay objects.
 2. Generate clay forms using a slab roller.
 3. Apply glazes in an effective and (or) aesthetic manner.
6. **COURSE CONTENT:**
Lecture Content:
 1. This course is an introduction to ceramics; basic ceramic techniques such as coils, slab, pinch are demonstrated and then practiced by the students. Students are required to submit works using these techniques throughout the semester. The works that will be graded at the final critique will be 6 projects:
 - A. 2 slab projects, 2 coil projects, 3 part pinch piece projects
 - B. complete a minimum of 6 pieces by the final using the above techniques.
Lab Content:
 1. Demonstration of basic ceramic techniques such as coils, slab, pinch. Supervised practice on techniques by the students, including work on:
 - A. 2 slab projects, 2 coil projects, 3 part pinch piece projects.
7. **REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**
Typical methods of instruction may include:
 - A. Lecture
 - B. Lab
 - C. Critique
 - D. Discussion
8. **REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**
Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:
Reading Assignments:
Weekly reading assignments from the assigned text or online resources.
9. **REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION**
Representative methods of evaluation may include:
 - A. Class Participation
 - B. Class Work

- C. Exams/Tests
- D. Final Performance
- E. Projects
- F. 1. Execution of assignments evaluates student's knowledge gleaned from lecture. 2. Vessel by the midterm to show basic slab-roller proficiency. 3. Final critique of projects. 6 required projects plus additional works will be considered. Evaluation measures the students ability to use the various techniques demonstrated in the class. 4. Oral exam: Students are asked to demonstrate their knowledge of ceramics and their individual works by answering a number of questions about their final projects. 5. Classroom Project Work Performance.

10. **REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):**

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Peters, Lynne. *Surface Decoration for Low-Fire Ceramics: Underglazes & Glazes, Maiolica, Slip Trailing, Graffitto, Terra-Sigillatta, Phot Decal, Overglaze Enamels*, ed. Lark books, 1999
- B. Shay, Amber. *Ceramic Studio: Hand Building*, ed. Lark Crafts, 2012
- C. Shay, Amber. *Ceramics for Beginners: Hand Building*, ed. Lark Books, 2008

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Course Originator: Kevin Henson