

**College of San Mateo  
Official Course Outline**

**1. COURSE ID:** ART 400.3    **TITLE:** Low Fire Ceramics III

**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)

**Recommended Preparation:**  
ART 400.2

**2. COURSE DESIGNATION:**

**Degree Credit**

**Transfer credit:** CSU; UC

**3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

**Catalog Description:**

Continued study of the art and crafts of ceramics. During this course the student will learn intermediate hand-building clay construction. Methods of ornamentation, glazing, firing will be demonstrated and utilized, including low fire. Extra supplies may be required. A materials fee as shown in the Schedule of Classes is payable upon registration.

**4. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. At an intermediate level, demonstrate ability to manipulate material to form cohesive and aesthetically pleasing clay objects.
2. At an intermediate level, apply glazes in an effective, inventive and (or) aesthetic manner.
3. At an intermediate level, generate a clay figure with 4 or more structurally sound appendages

**5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

**At an advanced level**

1. Demonstrate ability to manipulate material to form cohesive and aesthetically pleasing clay objects.
2. Apply glazes in an effective, inventive and (or) aesthetic manner.
3. Generate a clay figure with 4 or more structurally sound appendages

**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:

**Writing Assignments:**

Students must write a brief description of their work for exhibition. For example, How best to communicate in writing to a gallery visitor the artist's name, title, medium, size, and intent of the piece of

work.

**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, Graffiti, 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

**Origination Date:** October 2013

**Curriculum Committee Approval Date:** March 2015

**Effective Term:** Fall 2015

**Course Originator:** Kevin Henson