

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. COURSE ID: ART 412 **TITLE:** Ceramics II

Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 32.0-36.0 Lecture hours; 48.0-54.0 Lab hours; 64.0-72.0 Homework hours; 144.0-162.0 Total Student Learning hours

Method of Grading: Grade Option (Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass)

Prerequisite: ART 411

2. COURSE DESIGNATION:

Degree Credit

Transfer credit: CSU; UC

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Catalog Description:

Continued study of the ceramic process using the potter's wheel and hand-building techniques, with emphasis on technical and conceptual development. Further exploration of surface texture and glaze application. 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. Historically contextualize and stylistically analyze, orally and in writing, ceramic artworks in a manner that demonstrates an intermediate-level comprehension of the ceramic art medium.
2. Conceptualize and create ceramic artworks that express creative ideas, using more complex structures and methods.
3. Demonstrate intermediate skills and techniques necessary in the effective and safe use of tools and materials to produce works of art in ceramics.
4. Assess, discuss, and critique ceramics in group, individual, and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology.

5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Further develop an understanding of the possibilities of ceramics as an expressive tool.
2. Create ceramic forms utilizing intermediate level pinch, coil, soft slab, hard slab and wheel throwing techniques.
3. Demonstrate improved successful application of glazes using various surface techniques to create desired aesthetic styles, designs and content.
4. Differentiate among different types of kilns, firing temperatures and firing methods to affect the ceramic glaze results.
5. Assess and critique ceramics in group, individual, and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology.
6. Further examine and describe historical and contemporary developments, trends, materials, and approaches in ceramics.
7. Safely handle and use all studio equipment, tools, and materials.

6. COURSE CONTENT:

Lecture Content:

1. Using visual tools in artworks as a means of communication
 - A. Compositional elements used in art: shape, line, texture, pattern, and form
 - B. Compositional principles used in art: repetition, variety, harmony, movement, and emphasis
 - C. Concepts of abstraction and representational methods in the visual arts
 - D. Artwork presentation methods: on the wall, in the round, and installation
2. Methods for articulating artworks orally and in writing
 - A. Defining ceramics technical terms and their use
 - B. Tools for reflecting, discussing, and analyzing artworks: artist statements, research methods, and artist sketchbooks
 - C. Art criticism process: describe, analyze, interpret, and judge

3. Overview of ceramics as a major medium of artistic expression
 - A. History of clay and its role in historical and contemporary cultures as both artistic form and functional craft
 - B. Contemporary trends in the ceramic arts
 - C. New technology in the ceramic arts
4. Intermediate hand-building techniques
 - A. Combining methods: pinch, coil, and slab techniques to create more complex forms
 - B. Extruding forms: creating hollow forms and custom shapes
 - C. Working on large-scale ceramic artworks: support methods, scaling-up from models, and stacking forms
 - D. Combining different clays
 - E. Figurative techniques
5. Beginning/Intermediate wheel throwing techniques
 - A. Various approaches and reasons for wedging clay
 - B. Centering clay using various methods
 - C. Pulling and shaping methods: collaring, adding curves, and refining forms
 - D. Trimming various styles of feet for pottery finishing
 - E. Creating various styles of lidded forms: inset, cap lids, and closed form lids
 - F. Thrown and altered forms: combining parts, reshaping off the wheel, and adding sculptural elements
6. Intermediate surface design and texture
 - A. Resist methods: wax, paper, and stencils
 - B. Raised design methods: stamps, sprigs molds, and press molds
 - C. Ceramic tools for detailing
 - D. Pottery wheel surface techniques: faceting, crackle effects, and slip designs
7. Underglazing and glazing of pieces
 - A. Application methods: Brushing, dipping, and spraying
 - B. Special effects applications: sponging, trailing, and layering
8. Kiln firing and firing theory
 - A. Different types of kilns and the effects they produce
 - B. How to load and unload various types of ceramic work
 - C. Basic kiln firing procedures and safety
9. Studio Practice
 - A. Health safety practices in the studio
 - B. Safe use of equipment: slab roller, extruder, spray booth, pottery wheels, etc.
 - C. Consideration of others regarding sharing studio space
10. Development of skills and processes using a variety of surface and firing techniques appropriate to an intermediate study in ceramics, which may include but are not limited to slips, underglaze, glaze, burnishing, in various firing atmospheres and temperatures
11. Safe use of tools and specialized equipment

Lab Content:

Students will work on ceramic artworks in the lab using the studio equipment and supplies provided. There will be one-on-one feedback and guidance from the instructor.

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Lab
- C. Activity
- D. Critique
- E. Discussion
- F. Field Trips
- G. Individualized Instruction
- H. Other (Specify): Typical methods of instruction may also include: digital image presentations, clay and

glaze demonstrations, reading and writing assignments, laboratory exercises, class and individual critiques, internet research and discovery exercises.

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

Common written assignments would review technical processes and procedures, reports and reactions to exhibitions, students' self-reflective critiques and analytical reviews of artworks (especially their own), and other writing assignments which demonstrate the students' development of abilities to have meaningful and insightful discourse about art and artworks (2-3 pages, 4 times per semester).

Reading Assignments:

The readings would include textbook assignments, review of articles concerned with critiques and/or critical commentaries about art, technical educational materials, and instructional manuals. In addition, instructor generated reference materials, instructional handouts and project commentaries are provided to the students (10-20 pages per week).

Other Outside Assignments:

- A. Visual problem-solving exercises that further develop ceramic work and require exploration and manipulation of the materials used to create intermediate-level ceramic works.
- B. Sketchbook drawing and research assignments to develop concepts and plan artworks.
- C. Studio projects that explore the elements and organizing principles of ceramics, including but not limited to intermediate applications of pinch, coil, soft slab, hard slab, sgraffito, inlay, modeling, carving, and wheel work.
- D. Development of skills and processes using a variety of surface and firing techniques appropriate to an intermediate study in ceramics, which may include but are not limited to slips, underglazes, and glazing in various firing atmospheres and temperatures.
- E. Safe use of tools and specialized equipment.
- F. Critical evaluation and critique of class projects.
- G. Studio projects based on knowledge/research and of contemporary and historical ceramics.
- H. A field trip or exhibition attendance related to ceramics. Example of a representative field trip project assignment: as a class, take a tour of the de Young Museum ceramics collection in San Francisco. Participate in the docent- and instructor-led discussion. Complete the field trip assignment sheet requiring an analysis of 3 ceramics pieces in the museum's collection.

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Class Work
- C. Exams/Tests
- D. Group Projects
- E. Homework
- F. Lab Activities
- G. Oral Presentation
- H. Portfolios
- I. Projects
- J. Quizzes

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Cobb, Sunshine. *Mastering Hand Building: Tips and Tricks for Slabs, Coils, and More*, 1st ed. Minneapolis: Voyageur Press, 2018
- B. Carter, F. and Arbuckle, L.. *Mastering the Potter's Wheel*, 1st ed. Minneapolis: Voyageur Press, 2016

Origination Date: November 2023

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: January 2024

Effective Term: Fall 2024

Course Originator: Jeanne Ichimura