

Ceramics, Art 3080
Fall 2006, TH 6-9 PM

Instructor: Nolan Baumgartner
Class Location: Sculpture 190
Email address: claybully@hotmail.com

Course Description: This is an advanced course in ceramics. Throughout this course you will be experimenting with different processes and materials associated with clay. This is an art course and you will be asked to reconsider stereotypes about ceramics. Emphasis will be placed on aesthetic evaluation; technical knowledge and development of ideas in order to help you better understand the creative process.

Course Goals: Student will expand and refine their wheelthrown skills and their knowledge of the history of ceramic art. The course will emphasize ideas of functionality, aesthetic awareness, critical thinking, and the awareness of oneself as a creative individual.

Materials Needed:

- Ceramic tool kit and sketch book (8 1/2 x 11 or larger)—can be found in the bookstore
- Fork (not plastic)
- Bucket (up to 1 gal.)
- Large sponge
- slip trailer
- Plastic sheet (a painting drop cloth under 1 mil will work) or dry cleaner bags
- Rubber ribs – hard black and soft blue
- Various size wooden ribs
- Variety of brushes (they don't need to be good ones—from fairly fine to 3 or so inches)
- Small containers with lids (small to large yogurt cups are fine)
- Spray bottle
- Combination lock

Textbook (suggested reading)

- Peterson, Susan. *The Craft and art of Clay*. 4th ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall Inc. 2000. *

The University of Utah Department of Art and Art History seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disabilities Services, <http://disability.utah.edu> 162 Olpin Union Bldg, 581-5020 (VTDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. This information is available in alternative format with prior notification.

Grading System: A (Excellent), A-, B+, B (Good), B-, C+, C (Average), C-, D+, D (Below average), D-, F (Failure)

I- Incomplete. This mark will be used sparingly and only when an emergency prevents a student from completing course work during the Regular College session. This grade may be granted only when the student has completed 75% of the class work with a passing grade.

Evaluation: Grading will be assessed by the following criteria: attendance, attitude, test grade and assignments.

Attendance: After two absences (use them wisely!!!!), your attendance grade will be lowered by one grade per absence. Four consecutive absences during a semester will be given a non-passing grade for the course. Five or more non-consecutive absences during the semester will not receive a passing grade for the course (10%)

Attitude: This portion of the grade will be assessed by my observation of how well you are focused in class, care shown for your assignments, and how open you are to criticism and new ideas. You will also be expected to be involved outside of class, i.e. helping with the loading and unloading of kilns (15%).

Sketch book: I will expect you to be keeping a sketch book of drawings or writings that relate to your work. You can cut out pictures from magazines and paste them in your sketch book. If they relate directly, write a small paragraph why you put them in there. Also feel free to “doodle” on them (5%).

Assignments: Completion dates for all projects will be the date of the critique of the project. Group critiques will happen at this time. For the assignments given when you are absent, you may call or email me for the information. It is always your responsibility to make sure that you know and understand your assignment before you leave. There are a total of 4 projects, totaling 9(?) actual project pieces. All works must be completed and glaze fired at the end of the semester for the final critique. You will be graded on your assignments according to growth exhibited in total assignments, complexity of projects chosen according to your level, number of actual pieces, and degree of completion (60%).

Final Critique: We will discuss your entire body of work from the course of the semester (10%).

Rubric's

A Grade

- Less than three absences
- Completion of all four projects with a significant amount more pieces than assigned
- Project completion showing care, effort, and quality. Note that quantity is a factor for some of the assignments, and completing more pieces than required will be considered exceptional. However, the quality of the pieces should not be sacrificed for quantity.
- Focused during class time
- Help loading kilns or any outside class studio help
- Ability to articulate process, design, and content of their assignments
- Extensive growth exhibited

B Grade

- Two or less absences
- Completing all assignments with a small amount more than specified
- Missing more than one research assignment

C Grade

- More than three absences
- Completing the assignments with the specified amount of pieces

D Grade

- More than three absences
- Less than the specified amount of project pieces

F Grade

- More than four absences*
 - Four consecutive absences*
 - Missing 6 or more project pieces
- * These criteria alone will earn a failing grade

Schedule*:

Class 1: Introduction.

Class 2-12: Assignment 1: Larger Bowls

Class 12-20: Assignment 2: Lidded Forms

Class 21-29: Assignment 3: Plates and Platters

Class 30: final critique

Assignment #4: Ceramic studio/household material exploration.

*This schedule may change due to uncontrollable circumstances, or maybe just because. So be flexible.