

2015

ARTS 409-02 Ceramics IV Handbuilding IV

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- **ARTS 409: Ceramics IV – 4th Semester Handbuilding** - is offered to students who have completed one semester of beginning handbuilding, (ARTS 109) and two semesters of advanced handbuilding (ARTS 209 and ARTS 309).
- You will begin to master advanced methods of handbuilding, especially for constructing on a larger scale, but will be required to include content and subject matter in all work.

Note: Taking responsibility for all areas of studio management/maintenance is required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To focus upon subject matter, and to incorporate content and narrative in each project in preparation for senior thesis;
- To demonstrate competence in handbuilding techniques on a larger scale, emphasizing good craftsmanship;
- To learn to solve creative problems with originality, imagination and risk, including research and synthesis of technical, aesthetic and conceptual knowledge;
- To become familiar with alternative surface design, color, and firing methods;
- To become responsible for all aspects of studio management and maintenance, in preparation for setting up a future studio.

TEXTS:

- HANDBUILDING CERAMIC FORMS By: Elsbeth S.Woody (McDonald Library) and OHIO Link
- Ceramics Monthly (Magazine) (McDonald Library)
- Ceramics Art and Perception (McDonald Library)
- Ceramics TECHNICAL (McDonald Library)
- Internet and DVDs

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- Prompt attendance is **mandatory**. There will be a grade deduction for absence - for every two (2) absences, your final grade will be lowered one (1) full letter grade. Two (2) "tardies" equals one (1) absence. Arriving late and/or leaving early may result in an absence.

GRADING POLICY:

- **Grade F will be given for:**
 - a) failure to meet course requirements
- **Grade D will be given for:**
 - a) overall poor quality of work, unsatisfactory effort, motivation and improvement during semester
 - b) incomplete or late projects
 - c) absence from critiques, inadequate participation
 - d) lack of ability to receive advice, criticism and to exercise critical judgment in relation to works in progress
 - e) repeated absences from class (**see policy**)
- **Grade C will be given for:**
 - a) overall average (satisfactory) quality of work, satisfactory motivation, effort and improvement demonstrated during the semester
 - b) completion of all projects
 - c) participation in discussions, critiques and classroom exercises
 - d) ability to receive advice and criticism, and to exercise critical judgment in relation to work in progress
 - e) attendance (**see policy**)
 - f) minimum 5 hours per week spent on home and studio assignments
- **Grade B will be given for:**
 - a) consistently high quality of work, motivation, effort, and improvement during the entire semester, and demonstrated attempts to go beyond the required standards of the course.
 - (b-f) same as for grade C
- **Grade A will be given for:**
 - a) consistently exceptional quality of work, motivation, effort and improvement during the entire semester, with results going far beyond the required standards and framework of the course.
 - (b-f) same as for grade C

NOTE: Quality of Work in grade definitions means studio project(s), conceived and started as a concept/idea, materialized with appropriate craftsmanship and with interesting visual, formal, and/or conceptual end results (finished project).

OTHER CLASS PROCEDURES:

- **Studio management and maintenance is a crucial** part of any art class, especially in a Ceramics studio. **Advanced students are expected to take leadership** and to participate in all aspects of this, which includes the timely mixing of clays and glazes, assisting with the stacking and unstacking of the kilns along with other kiln maintenance, and cleaning up after themselves at the end of each class session. It is imperative to set a good example for the beginning levels, and cooperation is expected, and will directly affect the final grade. It is an honor and a privilege having a designated private work space, and respectful usage is required, including mandatory bimonthly cleaning.
- **Xavier students are expected to check their Xavier email on a daily basis for course announcements.**
- **Please turn off all phones, pagers and other electronic devices while in class.** An environment of mutual respect is expected.

- Students are expected to have their work for six (6) designated critiques *completed* on the dates listed below. Grade deduction will occur (one full letter grade) for each class session the project is incomplete. Stacked classes necessitates strict adherence to this policy.
- Students must show evidence of extensive research and synthesis of technical, aesthetic and conceptual knowledge for each critique, including sketches and maquettes.

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Thursday, November 19, 2015
(NO MORE CLAYWORK!)

- **Thursday, November 19, 2015** → → → **Last Day to Work in Clay. No Exceptions!**
- **Tuesday, December 8, 2015** → → → **Last Day to Glaze. No Exceptions!**
- **STUDIO CLEAN-UP:** (mandatory) Thursday, December 10, 2015 11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
- **FINAL EXAM AND CRITIQUE:** (mandatory) Tuesday, December 15, 2015 10:30 A.M. - 12:20 P.M.
- **ACCORDING TO XAVIER UNIVERSITY POLICY, ABSENCE FROM THE FINAL EXAM COULD RESULT IN FAILURE OF ARTS 409**
- **SKETCHBOOK REQUIRED:**
 - to document drawings, thoughts, ideas, journal entries, and inspirations
 - to record research and notes regarding technical, aesthetic and conceptual concepts
 - to collect photo references that provide inspiration
 - to substantiate the evolution and development of your vision and discoveries, which will aid in your clay constructions
- **MAQUETTES REQUIRED:**
 - These small models will help you to visualize your work in 3-dimensions on a larger scale for each project
- The professor reserves the right at all times to add to and/or delete from this syllabus when she deems necessary.