

## **Art K161 Ceramics I**

Day/Time: Mondays 12:30 - 3:15

Instructor: Mark Williams

Office Hours: by appointment

E-mail: livepaint@gmail.com

### **Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to various methods of working with clay as an artistic medium. Students will explore artistic themes while solving various design problems. The class will include discussions and demonstrations on various glazing and finishing techniques.

You may have to nurture your piece through various drying stages, depending on your design, so take it into consideration when planning your projects. Work in progress can occasionally sustain damage either by you or by others. You should build in time for these unfortunate events. Upon completion of critique and grading, all work needs to be removed from the studio in order to retain ample workspace. At the end of the semester, all work left behind will be discarded.

### **Responsibilities:**

This class requires regular attendance and effort. In addition to regular attendance you will need to focus in class. Studio time is valuable. Set up and clean up takes time and must be considered. Please arrive promptly and use the entire period to your maximum advantage.

Students are required to attend classes, be punctual, prepared to work with necessary supplies, and willing to participate in all group discussions and critiques. If a class is missed, the student is responsible for making up the material missed and is expected to be prepared for the next class. Assignments must be turned in on time or the grade for the project will be affected.

### **Evaluation:**

Students are graded on creativity and quality of work, class participation and involvement, and development of work. The timeliness of completion of assignments will be taken note of. There will be individual and group critiques and students will be evaluated on their ability to listen to and respond to suggestions and criticism. In addition, the ability and willingness to push further and take risks will be evaluated.

All work must be completed on time and appropriately presented. Attendance is mandatory. If you have any problems you wish to discuss with me, do not wait until the end of the semester.

### **Grading Policy:**

- A** The student has more than fulfilled the requirements of the course showing excellence in aesthetic, skills, and ideas
- B** The student has moved beyond the basic requirements of the course. Work has presented shows competence in skill, craft, and aesthetic. The student has begun to challenge him or herself and move beyond their own expectations.
- C** Course requirements are fulfilled adequately. Projects presented are beginning to show an understanding of the medium.
- D** All requirements are not completed, or completed adequately; a general disregard for the course and its participants is demonstrated.
- F** Totally inadequate work, attitude, attendance, and participation.

### Course Outline

August 27	Introduction, course overview
September 3	NO CLASS
September 10	Introduction to the studio and procedures. Coil building, scoring and use of slip. We begin Assignment 1 (coil built project).
September 17	Assignment 2 introduced (abstract slab assignment). Introduction to making slabs and impressions. Joining slabs. Continue working on Assignment 1
September 24	Work on making slabs and impressions.
October 1	First group critique on the coil built form (assignment 1). Techniques for texture discussed.
October 8	NO CLASS
October 15	Assignment 2 work session and I will be working with individuals on ideas and concepts.
October 22	Introduce assignment 3 (pinch pot/vessel). Continue and finish work on assignment 2.
October 29	Assignment 2 due (abstract slab assignment). Second group critique. Work on assignment 3.
November 5	Introduce assignment 4 (additive portrait/sculpture). Work on assignment 3.
November 12	Continue work on assignment 3.
November 19	Work on assignments 3 and 4.
November 26	Assignment 3 due (pinch pot/vessel). Third group critique. Work on assignment 4.
December 3	Continue working on assignment 4. All work must be completed for final firing date, which will be announced. Work that is not completely finished will receive a grade reduction.
December 10	Last workday for ceramics class. Assignment 4 (additive portrait/sculpture) is due for final exam along with the rest of the assignments.
Exam week	Critique of fired projects