

Department of Art Syllabus

- I. ART 5462 *Ceramics Studio II*, 3 Credit Hours
- II. PREREQUISITES
ART 5461
- III. TEXTBOOK
None
- IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course structure focuses on both wheel-thrown and hand-built processes, with emphasis on advanced techniques and skill development. It is intended to be a continuation of Ceramics Studio I. (Lab fee required)
- V. RATIONALE
The goal of this course is to provide students with opportunities to concentrate on advanced wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques. Wheel-throwing is a skill that takes years of practice to master. A focus on wheel-throwing is necessary to help students: develop control over pleasing pottery shapes, create pottery forms with walls of uniform thickness, and apply appropriate trimming and glazing techniques to their work. Hand-built ceramic work presents its own set of challenges and opportunities. The student must develop a greater understanding of the process of creating complex hand-built pieces, including the relationship between clay thickness, form, and the drying process. This course will pursue further depth in the complexities of process concerning ceramic form construction and the utilization of different firing processes.
- VI. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES
 - A. Advanced in wheel throwing and hand-building techniques.
 - B. Utilize preparatory sketches to construct preplanned sculptural pieces.
 - C. Advanced in complexity of form with throwing or building a variety of pottery shapes such as open, enclosed, organic, and sculptural forms.
 - D. Elaborate and add to an artist's statement drafted in Ceramics Studio I, which is pertinent to the student's work in ceramics.
 - E. Research American Folk pottery of the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries.
 - F. Explore further the functional aspects of ceramics.
 - G. Explore further the sculptural aspects of ceramics.
- VII. COURSE TOPICS
 - A. Advanced throwing techniques: tall cylinder, rounded

bowl/hemisphere, choking/collaring cylinders, rim treatment/scalloped and pinched, handles.

- B. Hand-building techniques: application of scale, use of positive/negative shapes, organic vs. geometric forms.
- C. Decorating and glazing: slip decoration
- D. Highlights of ceramic history: Folk patterns of American Southeast, Japanese Mengei philosophy, Bernard Leach.

VIII. EVALUATION

See Department of Art Syllabus Addendum for Grading Scale and Evaluation.

IX. REFERENCES

- Birks, T. (1993). *The complete potter's companion*. Canada: Bulfinch Press Book, Little, Brown and Company.
- Conrad, J. W. (1979). *Contemporary ceramic techniques*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- Flight, G. (1991). *Introduction to ceramics*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Gonen, R. (1993). *Fired up! Making pottery in ancient times*. Minneapolis, MN: Runestone Press.
- Hamer, F. (1986). *The potter's dictionary of materials and techniques*. New York: Watson-Guption.
- Kenney, J. B. (1976). *The complete book of pottery making*. Radnor, PA: Chilton Book Co.
- Nelson, G. C. (1994). *Ceramics: A potter's handbook*. St. Louis, MO: Harcourt Brace College Publishers.
- Peterson, S. (2000). *The craft and art of clay*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Peterson, S. (1999). *Working with clay: An introduction*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Woody, E. S. (1975). *Pottery on the wheel*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Zakin, R. (1995). *Hand-formed ceramics*. Radnor, PA: Chilton Book

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