

ART 189 - ADVANCED CERAMICS

INSTRUCTORS: [MARK POORE](#) or [RICHARD MCCOLL](#)

COURSE SYLLABUS

PREREQUISITE: [ART 188](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will be one which you design for yourself. You will set your own goals depending on your interests, strengths, and deficiencies. I will expect you to concentrate on one medium: earthenware, stoneware, or porcelain; one forming technique, slab or wheel, and to primarily use glazes of your own composition. After a minimum of three semesters of ceramics, you should be developing a glaze palette which reflects your own sensibilities. You might choose to concentrate on a specific type of glaze, you might choose to polish your production techniques, or you might prefer to work on more 'one of a kind' pieces in which surface embellishment is increasingly important. Give this careful thought as this proposal will constitute a contract by which you will be graded.

TEXT: Clay and Glazes for the Potter, by Daniel Rhodes, Chilton Books, THIRD Edition. Required text for Art 189.

TOOLS:

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cut-off wire * | <input type="checkbox"/> Small sponge for throwing * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic sheets for drying ware | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamois * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small brushes for underglazing * | <input type="checkbox"/> Needle tool * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fettling knife * | <input type="checkbox"/> Wooden modeling tool * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling pin | <input type="checkbox"/> Trimming tools * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canvas covered clay board | <input type="checkbox"/> Loop tools for sgraffito * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Texture tools | <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing ribs, metal or wood * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Old cloth towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Calipers * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bowl for water | <input type="checkbox"/> Bamboo brushes * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic jars for glaze testing | <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber spatula |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dust mask to mix or spray glaze* | <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing bats for plates * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean up sponge * | |

***** Tools marked with an asterisk are available at the Bookstore

LABORATORY MATERIALS FEE: There will be many glazes and other materials provided to you for use in glazing and firing your pottery. The lab materials fee will pay for

all glazing and firing costs. This fee will be discussed fully by your instructor, but basically you have two choices:

1. Purchasing a laboratory materials voucher from the College Bookstore. This voucher entitles the student full access to our studio glazes, glaze chemicals, and firing. Vouchers will be passed out at the first class meeting, filled out by the student, and taken to the Bookstore for payment and returned to the instructor by the next class meeting.

OR

2. If you choose not to purchase the voucher, you will not be allowed to use studio glazes or glaze chemicals, and must purchase your own from ceramic supply houses. By purchasing our glaze materials in large quantity, we are able to reduce the cost to you significantly with the lab materials voucher. A full list of the available glaze chemicals and firing supplies provided by the voucher may be viewed by clicking on [CHEMICALS LIST](#).

PURCHASE OF CLAY RECEIPTS: Clay is purchased at the College Bookstore in 25lb. bags. Due to the extreme variations in clay quality, workability, and firing temperatures it is essential that you use only clay purchased through the Bookstore. Bringing in clays from outside sources can easily result in your pottery melting in the very high temperatures we fire our kilns. We will not fire pottery made from unknown clay sources. Pay for the clay at the bookstore, save the receipt they give you, bring the receipt to us here in the lab and we will issue you the clay here. We can not issue clay without a receipt, so please don't ask. Here are the clays we will be using in this class:



B-MIX STONEWARE WITH GROG, Cone 10: Gray-white, medium fine-grained clay, suitable for wheel or slab. Glaze colors show brightest color on white clays.

FAT RED STONEWARE, Cone 10: Dark brown, fine-grained clay, suitable for wheel and slab. Glaze colors will be somewhat more muted on a darker clay.

BABU PORCELAIN, Cone 10: Gray-white, extremely fine-grained clay, throws with difficulty, hand-builds with even greater difficulty. Its main advantage is the beautiful results most glazes show over it.

MCRB EARTHENWARE, Cone 06: Brick colored, fine grained terra cotta. Good for throwing or handbuilding. Great clay body for underglazing and majolica.

STEVE'S WHITE EARTHENWARE, Cone 06: Gray-white, medium-fine grog, fine for handbuilding, but not so plastic for wheel throwing.

LOCKERS: Lockers are available in the hallway outside the lab. You provide your own lock, find an empty locker, put your lock on it, and then sign the locker sign-up sheet in my office. See the lab assistant to sign up: [Richard McColl](#) in the daytime, [Roger Porter](#) in the evenings. Failure to sign the locker list will result in your lock being cut off! This is done to

ensure that only art students use the lockers.

LABORATORY HOURS: You are welcome and encouraged to use the open lab hours we provide. These hours are exactly that, lab hours, unstructured. This is valuable time you will need to complete your projects required in the class. Four hours minimum per week in addition to class time seems necessary if you wish to have any real success. If your schedule does not permit such a time commitment you might find the class difficult and unrewarding. Lab hours will be announced by your instructor at the first class meeting.

LAB RULES: Due to insurance regulations, we are unable to accommodate your children or friends, so please do not bring them with you to class. They may stop in for a brief visit, but cannot stay with you. If you need to make a phone call, please use the pay phones at the Campus Center snack area or at the Library. Do not use our phones to make or receive personal calls. If you have a family emergency, we will accept incoming calls for you. Our phone number is 818-240-1000 ext. 3059. No radios/tape/CD/MP3 players. No bare feet! You are responsible for cleaning your own messes. Students who do not will have their lab privileges revoked. All work you make in class must be signed legibly with your last name only. Unsigned work will not be fired or graded. If you attempt to turn in work for grading without a signature, I will not accept it. Any student caught stealing work from another student will be dropped from class immediately.

HOW TO REACH US: The ceramics department phone number is 818-240-1000 ext. 3059. Your instructor will give his email and voice mail contact information and office hours at the first class meeting.

INTERNET: The GCC Ceramics Department may be accessed on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.glendale.cc.ca.us/ceramics/>

ART 189-GRADING CONTRACT:

You will be graded based upon your successful completion of the work specified in your contract. By the third class meeting, turn in to me your proposal. Avoid the common mistakes of a contract that is either overly ambitious or woefully inadequate. I will review the proposed contract and return them to you with comments if revisions are necessary. Projects must be turned on the due date. Any requests for an alternate date must be arranged in advance.

WORK IN PROGRESS CRITIQUE : (20% of your grade). One week before mid term there will be a work in progress critique for 189 students. At this time you should have approximately one-half of your contract work completed. You may also show leatherhard and bisque ware but I expect to see finished work as well. See the calendar below for the exact dates for grading for your particular section.

WRITTEN PAPER: (30% of your grade). A typewritten, five page paper is due at mid term (see calendar below for exact date for your section). This paper is to be a gallery report based on your visiting a local museum or gallery. The paper should include a description of the show, such as the media used, techniques explored, as well as a discussion of the artist's philosophy. You should also relate the work to the continuing ceramic tradition. What innovations, if any, has this artist contributed? I am interested in developing your powers or written analysis, not in determining how well you can copy material from a book. Please

don't insult me (and short change yourself) by turning in a paper taken verbatim from a reference book. It will be obvious to me and your grade will suffer. If you wish to quote an author, follow standard practice and use quotation marks. Illustrations may be used, and are encouraged, but do not count towards the 5 page minimum.

FINAL PROJECTS: (30% of your grade). One week before final week, final projects are due for critique from all 189 students. Since you are firing much of your own work, I expect you to plan your firing schedules so that you can complete the work by the grading date (see calendar below for the exact date).

KILN FIRING REQUIREMENT: (10% of your grade): You will be expected to work with the lab assistants to load and fire at least one kiln with your own work. This should be a glaze firing, high or low fire depending on your contract. See Mark Poore to schedule a kiln. You may choose to work with another student for a firing if you feel you cannot fill a kiln by yourself. If the schedule permits (and it often does), you may be able to do more than one firing. Should you reserve a kiln, and then not show up to load or fire, you will not be able to reserve another kiln all semester as a penalty.

IF YOU NEED TO RESCHEDULE YOUR KILN RESERVATION, YOU MUST DO SO AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE, SO WE CAN LET ANOTHER STUDENT USE THAT TIME SLOT.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: (10% of your grade): This portion of your grade will be based on your class attendance and on your completion of your clean up assignments. To summarize:

WORK IN PROGRESS CRIT 20%

WRITTEN PAPER 30%

KILN FIRING PROJECT 10%

CLASS PARTICIPATION 10%

FINAL PROJECTS 30%

KILN SIGN UP PROCEDURES and FIRING GUIDELINES

- 1. Students must be currently enrolled in Art-189**
- 2. Students must reserve the kiln in advance. See Mark Poore or Roger Porter.**
- 3. Students must make up their own cone pads. Cone pads should be made up at least one day in advance.**
- 4. Students must be here at 8:00 a.m. on the day to fire and return at 10:00 a.m. the next working day to unload.**
- 5. Students must be here the for the entire firing.**
- 6. Students may share a firing with other students. If you share a load, make sure you share all responsibilities amongst yourselves. The Lab Assistants will not fire the kiln for you.**

- 7. Students that have reserved the kiln and can not make it on that day must let Richard or Roger know at least 24 hours in advance.**
 - 8. Students that have reserved the kiln and do not show up without letting us know will lose all kiln privileges.**
 - 9. Students are responsible for the kiln and kiln furniture. Shelves are to be ground as needed. Shelves ruined by student fired work are to be paid for by the parties responsible.**
 - 10. After unloading the kiln, students must put all furniture away and sweep up the kiln area.**
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SERVICE LEARNING OPTION:

Service learning can be a beneficial learning tool for students who wish to apply their classroom experiences to 'real world' environments. Students who wish to teach may find out if the classroom setting feels right to them. Students gain real job experience which can be used on a resume or application for admission to 4-year colleges or graduate programs. Students also gain the valuable experience of sharing their knowledge with others and building their self esteem. Students may also gain extra credit towards their semester grade in the ceramics class. This option is available to students enrolled in Art 187, 188, or 189. The option is not available to students enrolled in Introductory Ceramics (Art 186.) Service learning will benefit the intermediate and advanced students in such a technical field as Ceramics. The following agencies are available for service learning placements:

Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena

Free Arts for Abused Children, Monterey Park

Glendale High School, Glendale

Hoover High School, Glendale

Horace Mann Elementary School, Glendale

Jefferson Elementary School, Glendale

John Marshall Elementary School, Glendale

Kidspace Museum, Pasadena

RDWhite Elementary School, Glendale

The student wishing to do service learning for an extra credit assignment will need to perform 14 hours of community service work with one of the above agencies, and keep a journal of his/her reflections on the experience. Students successfully completing the above extra credit assignment will receive an extra 10% bonus in computing their grade.

To sign up, students need to complete an application at the Service Learning Center, and attend an orientation. Next the student chooses 3 placements from the above list of service locations. After a telephone contact with the agencies, the student chooses a placement and can then begin. Student hours will be tracked using a Volunteer Sign In/Out form. The

student will be evaluated by their supervisor at the placement site.

