

ART 190 - INTRODUCTION TO HANDBUILDING

INSTRUCTOR: [BILIANA POPOVA](#)

COURSE SYLLABUS

PREREQUISITE: NONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to Handbuilding introduces the student to four basic ceramic forming techniques: coil, wet slab, stiff slab, and basic mold forming. The class will explore both high and low fire temperature ranges. There will be a series of six required assignments and one optional project.

TEXTS:

THE CRAFT AND ART OF CLAY, by Susan Peterson, available at the College Bookstore. Recommended for Art 190, required for Art 191.

CERAMICS, A POTTER'S HANDBOOK, by Glenn C. Nelson, 6th edition, available at the College Bookstore. Recommended for Art 190. Required for Art 187, 188, 189.

TOOLS:

(***** TOOLS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) ARE AVAILABLE AT THE COLLEGE BOOKSTORE.)

Canvas covered clay board, (approx.
24"x30")

Old cloth towel

Cut-off wire *

Elephant ear sponge *

Fettling knife *

Sponge for clean-up *

X-Acto knife *

assorted Japanese Brushes *

Metal rib - smooth *

Needle tool *

Rubber rib - stiff *

Shur-form rasp

Sheets of soft plastic

Color bottle

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:

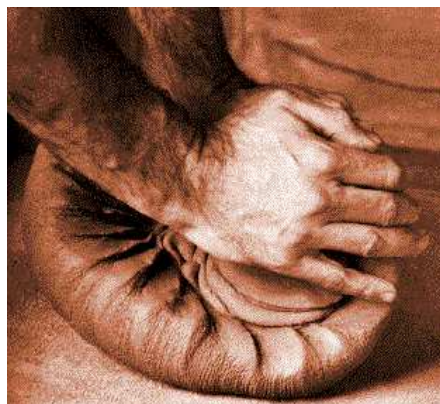
1. Purchasing a laboratory materials voucher from the College Bookstore. This voucher entitles the student full access to our studio glazes, glaze chemicals, and firing. Vouchers will be passed out at the first class meeting, filled out by the student, and taken to the Bookstore for payment and returned 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 reddish-brown, clay with grog, suitable for wheel and slab. Glaze colors will be quite a bit darker on this clay.

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, uninstructed. 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 are will be announced at the first class meeting by the instructor.

LAB RULES: Due to insurance regulations, we are unable to accommodate your children or friends. 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 ME: My office phone number is 818-240-1000 ext. 1411. Leave message. My email address is:

bpopova@glendale.edu

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

<http://www.glendale.edu/ceramics/>

Course syllabi, faculty profiles, lecture handouts, demonstration handouts, and a student art gallery may be viewed by clicking on highlighted words to view the linked pages.

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PROJECTS, TESTS, GRADING POLICY

1. Students will be graded on the completion of their assigned and optional projects. A complete list of class assignments and optional projects will be discusses at the first class meeting. First semester students will not be graded down for flaws that are inherent to ceramics and the learning process, for example cracking, glaze crawling, etc. The projects will constitute 60% of your final grade in the course.
2. There will be weekly group progress discussions, a mid-term review, and a final review. Student attendance and participation in class is essential, and will constitute 10% of your final grade.
3. There will be one mid-term quiz and a written final which together will constitute 30% of your final grade.
4. Three unexcused absences will be grounds for your being dropped from the class.

