

Art 193 - Raku

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor : Mark Poore

Prerequisite: Art 186 or Art 190

COURSE DESCRIPTION: ART 193 is an introductory course in ceramics dealing exclusively with the raku firing process. Projects are drawn from a variety of forming methods including coil, slab, pinch, and wheel, which are fired by the Japanese raku process. Students also prepare raku clays and glazes to use in the execution of their projects.

TEXT:

Raku, A Practical Approach

Steve Branfman, Author

Chilton Books, Publisher

LIST OF NECESSARY TOOLS:

cut off wire	fettling knife
natural sea sponge	needle tool
throwing ribs	calipers
chamois	glaze brushes (assorted sizes)
dry cleaning plastic	bats
rolling pin	glaze containers
texture tools	Ajax or Comet household cleaner
green scouring pads	work gloves, cotton or leather

AVAILABLE CLAYS:

Big White, B-Mix with sand, Long Beach, Dave's Porcelain. Available for purchase at the GCC Bookstore.

LOCKERS:

Lockers are available in the hallway outside the ceramics lab. Bring your own lock, select a

locker, put your lock on the locker, then come sign up with the instructor or lab tech.

SUPPLY FEE:

The supply fee is due by the second class meeting. The instructor will discuss this fee with you at the first class meeting. Please pay at the business office in the bookstore and bring the paid receipt to me.

LAB HOURS:

Monday -Thursday 8:00 am - 10:00 PM

alternate Fridays 8:30 am - 12:30 PM

other Friday CLOSED

ATTENDANCE:

A limit of 3 unexcused absences is permitted, but not encouraged! All student enrolled in the Raku class, whether you fire or not, must stay until 10pm to help with cleanup.

RAKU WEAR:

Students Raku firing must wear long pants, long sleeve shirts, a hat or bandana and closed toed shoes (no sandals). Make sure clothes are natural fiber and not synthetic. Students that wear contacts may want to glasses due to the extreme heat.

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. No radios/tape/CD players. No bare feet! 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. You are responsible for cleaning your own messes. Students who do not will have their lab privileges revoked.

HOW TO REACH ME: My office phone number is 818-240-1000 ext. 5543. My email address is:

mpoore@glendale.cc.ca.us

GRADING:

Grades will be based on completion of class projects, class attendance and participation, and satisfactory completion of the term paper.

Required Projects:

1. *Tea Bowls (6) thrown or handbuilt*
2. *Vase (2) thrown or handbuilt*
3. *Plate (1) thrown or handbuilt*
4. Extruded form (1)
5. Student choice (2)
6. Term paper, typed, double spaced, three pages

These projects must include:

1. *Glaze tests (4)*
2. Glaze inlay (2)
3. Shadow slip (1)
4. Overlap (2)
5. Lizard skin (1)

projects in italics due at midterm

FIRING PROCEDURE:

First firing (cold kiln) :

Load, then light kiln (with the lid off) gas pressure on 1/4". Replace lid and turn up gas pressure to 1", damper open. Fire on 1" for 10 minutes. Then, turn gas to 3", damper 1/4 closed. Hold for 5 minutes, then turn gas to 5", damper 1/2 to 3/4 closed for the remainder of the firing. At maturity, turn off gas, remove lid, and remove pots.

Second firing (hot kiln) :

Load, then light kiln (with lid off), set gas pressure at 1/4". Replace lid and turn gas to 1". Hold for 5 minutes with damper open, then turn gas to 5", damper at 1/2 to 3/4 closed. When mature, turn gas off, remove lid and remove pots.

