

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Art 194 Advanced Raku**

#### **I. Catalog Statement**

Art 194 is an advanced course in ceramics dealing exclusively with the raku firing process. Students propose and execute an advanced research project in Raku forming and firing techniques. Students develop and select Raku clays, glazes, and firing techniques to use in the execution of their research project. Advanced firing procedures are emphasized.

Total Lecture Units: 2.0  
Total Studio Units: 1.0  
**Total Course Units: 3.0**

Total Lecture Hours: 32.0  
Total Studio Hours: 32.0  
**Total Faculty Contact Hours: 64.0**

Prerequisite: ART 193 or equivalent.

#### **II. Course Entry Expectations:**

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

1. construct ceramic forms for the Raku firing process;
2. analyze and choose glazes suited for Raku firing;
3. apply surface decoration to Raku wares;
4. load and fire their projects using a special Raku kiln;
5. incorporate historical Raku techniques and aesthetics into their projects.

#### **III. Course Exit Standards**

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. construct ceramic forms for the Raku firing process using advanced techniques;
2. analyze and choose glazes suited for Raku firing;
3. apply surface decoration to Raku wares using advanced techniques;
4. develop personal firing procedures for their projects using a special Raku kiln;
5. execute a research project in Raku.

#### **IV. Course Content**

**Total Faculty Contact Hours =64**

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| A. Introduction  | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. History   |                 |
| 2. Philosophy  |                 |
| 3. Practice  |                 |
| <br>   |                 |
| B. Clay Bodies for Raku  | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. Special composition   |                 |
| 2. Special characteristics   |                 |
| <br>   |                 |
| C. Methods of Forming Raku   | Lecture 8 hours |
| 1. Pinch method  | Studio 4 hours  |
| 2. Slab building   |                 |
| 3. Coil building   |                 |
| 4. Wheel throwing  |                 |
| <br>   |                 |
| D. Individual Research Project   | Lecture 8 hours |
| 1. Students propose a research project in Raku                                 | Studio 18 hours |
| 2. Historical background research in Raku                                      |                 |
| 3. Students execute a portfolio of projects based on their individual research |                 |
| <br>   |                 |
| E. Raku Firing   | Lecture 8 hours |
| 1. Descriptions of various kinds of Raku kilns                                 | Studio 10 hours |
| 2. Tools   |                 |
| 3. Heating surface   |                 |
| 4. Loading and unloading   |                 |
| 5. Smoking   |                 |
| 6. Quenching   |                 |

**V. Methods of Instruction**

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. classroom lectures and demonstrations;
2. instructor analysis of student work;
3. peer analysis of student work;
4. individual instruction of students;
5. screening of slides, films and videos.

**VI. Out of Class Assignments**

The following out of class assignments may be used in this course:

1. students are assigned lab practice time (e.g. students create complex Raku vessels to build forming and glazing skills);
2. research report (e.g. students attend a local museum, select one historical Raku vessel, write a 5-page report on techniques used and cultural context of the vessel using primary and secondary sources);

3. notebook portfolio (e.g. students create a portfolio documenting their research project).

## **VII. Methods of Evaluation**

The following methods of evaluation may be used in this course:

1. mid-term and a final project critique;
2. mid-term and final written examination.

## **VIII. Textbook(s)**

Branfman, Steven. *Raku: A Practical Approach*. Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 2001.  
Print.  
11th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-13: 978-0873419116.

## **IX. Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. construct work for Raku firing using advanced techniques;
2. propose and execute an individual research project in Raku;
3. load and fire a Raku kiln using advanced techniques.