

COURSE OUTLINE

Art 193 Raku

I. Catalog Statement

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 will be fired by the Japanese raku process. Students prepare Raku clays and glazes to use in the execution of their projects.

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 186 or Art 190 or equivalent.

Recommended preparation: Art 130.

II. Course Entry Expectations:

Skill Level Ranges: Reading 5; Writing 5; Listening/Speaking 5; Math 2

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

1. create ceramic vessels using a variety of methods including wheel throwing and hand building;
2. apply surface design to a pottery form by methods such as stamping, carving, and painting;
3. glaze pottery forms by a variety of techniques including wax resist and oxide design;
4. identify the various types of clays and their working properties;
5. identify the main ingredients in ceramic glazes and explain their individual functions;
6. identify the main types of kilns and explain how they function;
7. evaluate classmates' work through oral critique.

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;
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.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours =64

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|--|-----------------|
| A. Introduction | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. History | |
| 2. Philosophy | |
| 3. Practice | |
| B. Clay Bodies for raku | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. Special composition | |
| 2. Special characteristics | |
| C. Methods of Forming raku | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. Special attitudes and sensitivities | Studio 6 hours |
| 2. Spontaneous, unrefined effects | |
| 3. Enjoyment of ordinary and accidental | |
| D. Practice in Forming Raku | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. Pinch method | Studio 8 hours |
| 2. Slab building | |
| 3. Coil building | |
| 4. Wheel throwing | |
| E. Production of Pieces | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. Traditional | Studio 4 hours |
| 2. Non-traditional | |
| 3. Original | |
| F. Decorating Raku | Lecture 4 hours |
| 1. Slips (engobes) | Studio 4 Hours |
| 2. Surface treatment | |
| 3. Glazes | |
| G. Bisque Firing | Lecture 2 hours |
| H. Glazing Work - Apply and dry | Studio 4 hours |
| I. Glaze Firing | Lecture 6 hours |
| 1. Descriptions of various kinds of furnaces | Studio 6 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 Raku vessels to build forming and glazing skills);
2. notebook portfolio (e.g. students create a portfolio documenting their project assignments).
3. 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);

VII. Methods of Evaluation

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

1. students participate in a mid-term and a final project critique;
2. students complete a mid-term and final written examination.

VIII. Textbook(s)

Branfman Steve *Raku, A Practical Approach* Second Edition 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;
2. load and fire a Raku kiln.