

COURSE OUTLINE

Art 193 Raku

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: 2.5

Total Laboratory Units: 0.5

Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 40.0

Total Laboratory Hours: 24.0

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 64.0

Prerequisite: ART 186 or ART 190 or equivalent.

Recommended Preparation: ART 130.

Course Entry Expectations

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

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

Course Exit Standards

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

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

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 64.0

Course Content

Introduction (5 lecture hours)

History
Philosophy
Practice

Clay Bodies for raku (5 lecture hours)

Special composition
Special characteristics

Methods of Forming raku (5 lecture hours, 4 lab hours)

Special attitudes and sensitivities
Spontaneous, unrefined effects
Enjoyment of ordinary and accidental

Practice in Forming Raku (5 lecture hours, 4 lab hours)

Pinch method
Slab building
Coil building
Wheel throwing

Production of Pieces (5 lecture hours, 4 lab hours)

Traditional
Non-traditional
Original

Decorating Raku (5 lecture hours, 4 lab hours)

Slips (engobes)
Surface treatment
Glazes

Bisque Firing (4 lecture hours)

Glazing Work - Apply and dry (4 lab hours)

Glaze Firing (6 lecture hours, 4 lab hours)

Descriptions of various kinds of furnaces
Tools
Heating surface
Loading and unloading
Smoking
Quenching

Methods of Instruction

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

- classroom lectures and demonstrations;
- instructor analysis of student work;
- peer analysis of student work;
- individual instruction of students;
- screening of slides, films and videos.

Out of Class Assignments

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

- students are assigned lab practice time (e.g. students create Raku vessels to build forming and glazing skills);
- notebook portfolio (e.g. students create a portfolio documenting their project assignments);
- 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).

Methods of Evaluation

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

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

Textbooks

Branfman Steve *Raku, A Practical Approach* Second Edition Krause Publications
2001. Print.

11th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN-13: 978-0873419116

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- construct work for Raku firing;
- load and fire a Raku kiln.