

WEST VIRGINIA AT PARKERSBURG
UNIFORM COURSE SYLLABUS
Updated May 2003

Name of Course: Ceramics II

Course No.: Art 241

Department: Art

Division: Humanities

I. Course Objectives:

1. This course will refine and increase the student's ceramic skills, particularly in throwing (on the potter's wheel), glazing, and in firing (kilns).
2. The course will increase the student's appreciation and/or understanding of clay objects, both functional and sculptural.
3. The course will increase the student's sensitivity to design elements.
4. The course will aid the student in developing a personal and more advanced ceramics and sculptural vocabulary.
5. The course will increase the student's grasp of some of the relationships between Modern Art and contemporary clay work.

II. Topics to Be Studied:

I. Forming Methods

A. Handbuilding

1. Pinch, coil, slab, extrusion, pulling
2. Plaster molds
3. Clay molds
4. Texture mats (from linoleum cuts)
5. Paper clay
6. Creating textures in and on thrown forms
7. Spouts and handles
8. "Popcorn" clay
9. Sprayed Clay
10. Armatures

B. Wheel Work

1. Cylinder, bottle, bowl, plate and donut shapes
2. Templates, shaped ribs, roulettes
3. Trimming
4. Coil and throw
4. Combining forms (wet and leatherhard)
5. Faceting, piercing, modifying when wet
6. "Compound" forms (lidded)
7. Throwing with bats
8. Cutting and assembling thrown forms

C. Mixed Media and "Tricks"

1. Cane, wood, leather, wire, feathers

2. Sand blasting
- II. Glazing and decorating
 - A. Glazes
 1. Empirical method
 2. Developing a family of glazes (cone 9-10 reduction)
 3. Salt Glazing
 4. Underglazes
 5. Advanced application techniques (air brush, spraying, masks and resists)
 6. Sandblasting
 - B. Decorating
 1. Engobes and slips
 - a. Sgraffito
 - b. Mishima
 - c. Trailing
 - d. Marbeling
 - e. Feathering/Combing
 2. Color theory
 3. Crackle glazes
 4. Surface contrasts
 5. Paint
 6. Flocking
 7. Gesture
- III. Kilns and firing
 - A. Firing a Gas kiln (cone 9-10 reduction)
 - B. Firing a Salt Kiln
 - C. Firing Electric kilns (cone 05 Bisque and low fire Glaze)

III. Special Projects to Be Included in Course:

Each student will present an oral presentation on an assigned topic in ceramics.
Each student will keep an annotated sketchbook of designs for ceramic sculptures and pots.

Each student will fire their own pieces in the kilns.

IV. Methods of Evaluation:

There will be an oral presentation. The content, organization, illustrations, and actual presentation to the class will be evaluated.

The annotated sketchbook will be examined every two weeks; it will be checked to see that designs are becoming better rendered and more sophisticated.

Clay projects will be assessed throughout the semester while in progress, and at the end of the semester in the final critique.

Critiques and firings will be conducted throughout the semester. Students will be expected to participate actively in all critiques, and will be checked off as having completed a firing of each of the major firing types

V. Assessment of Outcomes:

The student's final grade will be determined as follows:

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|------------------------|-----|
| 1) Assigned projects* | 85% |
| 2) Class participation | 5% |
| 3) Sketch book | 5% |
| 4) Oral presentation | 5% |

The scale will be the usual 90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D, and below 60% is failure.

*Kiln firing will be checked off as having been completed. Clay projects will be examined for technical mastery of the material and technique, and for design sophistication and success.

VI. Other Information