

ART 18A (38176) & 18D (37577)

Ceramics & Ceramics Handbuilding

SATURDAYS 9:30am-3:20pm Class and Lab

WINTER 2024 4 UNITS

De Anza College Room A-51

Instructor: Gustavo Martinez

Email: martinezgustavo@fhda.edu

Office: Room A-51 Office Hours: Saturdays 8:30am-9:30am

Prerequisite: Arts 18A

Course Description: This is an introductory ceramics class that will cover materials, methods and strategies for the successful creation of ceramic vessels and sculpture. A survey of ceramic construction techniques including basic design principles and creative development. Through demonstration, discussions and lectures you will be provided with a general introduction to a wide range of ceramic techniques and concepts, including studio practice in various hand building techniques, introductory wheel throwing, surface decoration including colored slip, mid fire oxidation glazing techniques and raku firing processes. Students will build a working knowledge of ceramic processes as a means to communication and self-expression within the ceramic medium and creative process. Studio assignments will vary in length and involvement and will be followed by group critique. Engaged participation in critiques is mandatory and essential for your progress. Students are expected to challenge themselves within the parameters of each assignment, as well as to adopt a collaborative, engaged, and helpful attitude in the classroom. There will be one quiz to test your knowledge of basic concepts and ceramics terminology. Basic studio maintenance and cooperative kiln loading/unloading is considered part of the class. At the end of the quarter, there will be one mandatory, in-person studio cleanup, final critique and potluck.

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)

Students will be able to demonstrate competency in hand construction techniques; pinch, coil, slab.

Students will be able to demonstrate competency in glaze and slip application.

Course Objectives:

Develop skills in hand building ceramic construction.

Develop an understanding of hand built ceramic art making as a process.

Develop an understanding of hand made ceramic work.

Develop a body of hand built clay finished pieces.

This Course will be offered in person with face-to-face instruction:

This means all lectures, demonstrations and critiques will take place in person in the classroom. The studio on campus will be open for your use during our class time, and I will be in class to assist you.

There will be NO synchronous online instruction or zoom or use of Canvas. Email will be used to communicate course announcements and materials.

THERE IS NO REQUIRED TEXT FOR CLASS

Some useful reference books include:

Craft and Art of Clay Peterson, Susan or *Working in Clay* Peterson, Susan & Jan

Mold Making and Slip Casting Martin, Andrew

The Ceramic Glaze Handbook Burleson, Mark

Make It in Clay: A Beginner's Guide to Ceramics, Speight & J. Toki

Art & Fear, Bayles David & Ted Orland

Contemporary Ceramics Peterson, Susan

Hands in Clay Speight, Charlotte & Jon Toki

History of American Ceramics Levin, Elaine

Postmodern Ceramics Del Vecchio, Mark

Sculptural Ceramics Gregory, Ian

Contemporary Ceramic Techniques Conrad, John

The Potter's Dictionary Hamer, Frank

Periodicals: Ceramics Monthly, Ceramics: Art and Perception, Clay Times

Websites of Interest: cfileonline.org, artaxis.org, accessceramics.org, ceramicsnow.org, lindaarbuckle.com, ceramicartsdaily.org, ceramicartsnetwork.org, talesofaredclayrambler.com, ceramicsfieldguide.org

Criteria for Evaluation: A high degree of commitment to this class is expected. Persistence, imagination, and level of involvement in solving visual problems determine the quality of your work. Regular attendance is crucial to your success in this class. Grading criteria for studio assignments include the quality and complexity of the ideas being explored (including preparation, research, and preliminary sketches) and your success in executing these ideas (problem solving, craftsmanship, attention to detail and presentation). Highest grades will be reserved for work that goes beyond minimal compliance with an assignment and show superior creativity, insight, and craftsmanship.

Please note: Incomplete grades are not given in this course.

Grading system is as follows for this course:

A+ = 100-98% A = 97-94% A- = 93-90%
B+ = 89-87% B = 86-83% B- = 82-80%
C+ = 79-77% C = 76-73% D+ = 69-67%
D = 66-63% D- = 62-60% F = below 59%

Grade Descriptions

A - Excellent technical mastery, Demonstrates excellent aesthetic decisions and presentation. A complete and concise execution of the assignment. Exhibiting outstanding creativity: going above and beyond the performance standards. Meets all deadlines and requirements

B - Demonstrates above average aesthetic decisions, and presentation. A concise execution of the assignment. Exhibits above average creativity and performance standards. Meets all requirements and deadlines.

C - Average technical mastery. Satisfies the basic requirements of the assignment. Satisfies the requirements for creativity and performance standards. Meets all deadlines.

D - Meets below average requirements of the assignments. Incomplete and late projects.

F - Unable to meet the basic requirements.

Grading

CLASS PROJECTS (4) 160 Points

MIDTERM QUIZ 20 Points

SKETCHBOOK 20 Points

TOTAL 200 Points

Midterm Vocabulary Test:

Saturday, Feb. 10th 9:30am (No late Attendance)

Mandatory FINAL

Saturday, Mar. 23rd 9:30-3:20 (No Late Attendance)

Studio Clean up 9:30am – 11:30pm

Final Critique 12:00-3:20

2/17 no class - February 16-19 Presidents' holiday – campus closed

Tools:

You may borrow all tools from the studio. More tools can be purchased from Clay Planet

To bring:

Apron or Smock (Oversized shirt you don't mind getting dirty)
Sketchbook (minimum width 8")
Small spray bottle
\$10 Bucket fee

Clay

We are using cone 6 or mid range clays and glaze. This quarter De Anza will be providing your first bag of clay (non Porcelain) for free. If you are prolific with your pottery making, you will be able to use recycled clay for free or purchase from De Anza. After your first clay bag from De Anza is \$18 and Porcelain is \$26

Need help? Student Success Center peer tutors can relate and are ready to help! Go to the [SSC homepage](#) and click on the yellow links for on-campus schedules and Zoom links.

- Individual Weekly or Drop-in Tutoring: Come with assignments or questions, or just drop by to see how tutoring works.
- Workshops, group tutoring and group study: Most people learn better with others...give it a try!
- Support for online learning: Speak with a friendly peer tutor or SSC staff member about motivation and organization strategies for online classes. We get it and are going through the same things, so let's support each other!
- Need after-hours or weekend tutoring? See the [Online Tutoring](#) page for information about NetTutor (via Canvas) or Smarthinking(via MyPortal).

Classroom Etiquette

Respect yourself, other class members, visitors, and the space we share.

Please arrive on time and stay for the scheduled class period. If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so with as little disruption of the class as possible.

Come to class prepared, with any needed supplies and books, and with homework completed. I will do my best to notify you in advance of supplies you will need.

During class work time, please keep personal conversation to a minimum, and use a quiet voice. You may listen to music devices with earphones, but be prepared to remove them to communicate with the instructor or to resume class discussions.

Clean up after yourself. This includes the worktables, floor, and shared counters and sink. Each class may also have an assigned weekly cleanup task for the classroom.

Please turn cell phones off during class. If you must stay in contact with work or family, turn off the cell

phone ringer. Use your phone outside the classroom during break or after class.

When anyone is addressing the class as a whole, please listen attentively. All in the room appreciate others not having personal conversations during lectures and discussions.

During critiques, please keep all comments respectful. Honest and constructive criticism, without voicing negative judgments, can be the very useful to the artist.

It is not appropriate to bring children or pets to class.

Please consider that there are people with sensitivities to strong odors, such as fragrant colognes or oils. All would appreciate minimizing your use of strongly odorous substances.

No flip-flops, sandals, or open shoes, only close-toed shoes. There is loose glass in the studio.

No food or sugar drinks in the classroom.

If you're in class with your partner, please keep a personal space. This is a time for you to individually explore your creativity.