

# Introduction to Ceramics

Art 080 Section 002  
Summer Session I 2008  
MTWRF 12:45-3:35  
Instructor: Teri Frame  
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Office hours: MW 3:35-4:30

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is specifically designed as a summer studio course and emphasizes the making of objects and the processes involved in their physical manifestation. This six-week course consists of five one-week workshops and a one-week long independent project of your choice. We will learn research the history of the ceramic medium through a series of five presentations. These presentations will usually take place on Mondays and will be approximately 30 minutes in length. The content of these presentations will support the techniques learned in the given week and will provide a better understanding of the ceramic medium. There will be a group mid-semester critique as well as individual evaluations. The course culminates with a round-table pot-luck during which we will partake in food together out of the serving objects that each have you have made for a specific dish.

## ATTENDANCE

Please turn off all cell phones or other such devices before class starts. It is PSU policy that if a student is absent more than three times without a medical or family emergency his/her grade will be lowered one letter grade for each day missed above three days. Excessive tardiness will also lower grades.

## NOTE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is Penn State's policy not to discriminate against qualified students with documented disabilities in its educational programs. If you have a disability related need for modifications in this course, make an appointment with me and contact the Office for Disability Services (located in 116 Boucke Building). I should be notified during the first week of classes. You may refer to the Nondiscrimination Policy in the "Student Guide to University Policies and Rules 1997."

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

*University Policies and Rules Guidelines* states that academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at The Pennsylvania State University, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. Consistent with this expectation, the University's Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts. Academic integrity includes a commitment not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the University community and compromise the worth of work completed by others. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to acts such as cheating on exams or assignments; plagiarizing the words or ideas of another; fabricating information or citations; facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others; claiming authorship of work done by another person; submitting work completed in previous classes; and/or submitting the same work to multiple classes in which a student is enrolled simultaneously.

## GRADING

A 100-93, A- 90-92, B+ 89-87, B 83-86, B- 80-82, C 70-79, D 60-69, F 0-59

- |                |      |
|----------------|------|
| 1. Throwing    | 10 % |
| 2. Tile-making | 10 % |

3. Hand-building	10 %
4. Independent Project (with historical reference)	20 %
5. Glazing	10 %
6. Firing and Alternative Processes	10 %
7. Class Participation and Studio Practice	10 %
8. Sketch book	10 %
9. Pot-luck object	10 %

## MATERIALS LIST

Students are not required to purchase a textbook for this class, but be purchasing a set of art tools that will total approximately \$50.-\$100.

Disposable doctor's masks

Apron or old shirt

Towel

Plastic wrap (these are free at the drycleaner or at the front of Lowe's or can be purchased- thin plastic in the paint-drop section at Lowe's)

Ceramic tools kit, uncle eli's (8 tools, \$10)

Bucket

Drywall

Chopsticks

Inexpensive measuring tape

Nice straight edge (metal t-square is ideal)

Inexpensive scissors and/or exacto and/or utility knife

Various carving tools, dental tools, wood-cutting tools, small loop tools

Disposable rubber gloves

Small notebook or sketchbook

Folder for technical handouts

Other miscellaneous tools to be announced at a later date

Decals and luster and paintbrushes

### **Week 1, May 19-23 Throwing Workshop**

Monday- introductions, go over syllabus, Powerpoint presentation- pottery, wedging demo  
Tuesday- throwing demo  
Wednesday- throwing demo  
Thursday- throwing demo, make clay  
Friday- throwing demo  
Weekend homework: finish throwing project

### **Week 2, May 27-30 Tile Workshop**

Monday- Labor day, no class  
Tuesday- Powerpoint presentation- tile, tile demo, make wadding, load pots - bisque  
Wednesday- tile demo  
Thursday- tile demo, make clay  
Friday- unload kiln, glaze demo  
Weekend homework: glaze pots, finish tile project

### **Week 3, June 2-6 Hand-building Workshop**

Monday- finish tile project  
Tuesday- load pots into glaze kiln, Powerpoint presentation- handbuilt ceramics  
Wednesday- (fire kiln) hand-building demo  
Thursday- hand-building demo, make clay  
Friday- unload kiln, Mid-Semester Critique  
Weekend homework: finish hand-building project

### **Week 4, June 9-13 Independent Project**

Monday- decal day,  
Tuesday- load tile into bisque kiln  
Wednesday- (fire bisque kiln)  
Thursday- make clay  
Friday- unload kiln, load hand-built pieces into bisque kiln  
Weekend homework: glaze tile, FINISH WORK WITH WET CLAY

### **Week 5, June 16-20 Glazing Workshop**

Monday- unload kiln, set independent projects in kiln room, glaze demo  
Tuesday- glaze demo, Powerpoint presentation- glaze techniques  
Wednesday- load tile and hand-built pieces into glaze kiln  
Thursday- (fire kiln) glaze demo  
Friday- load independent projects into bisque kiln  
Weekend homework: glaze

### **Week 6, June 23-27 Kiln Firing and Alternative Methods Workshop**

Monday- unload glaze and bisque kilns, glaze independent projects, decal demo  
Tuesday- load glaze kiln- independent projects, Powerpoint presentation- Non-glaze surface techniques  
Wednesday- fire kiln, luster demo and load luster and decal kilns  
Thursday- Clean-up day  
Friday- end of semester discussion and pot-luck