ART 229A.01: Ceramics I

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Course and Studio Procedures
Spring Semester 2006
Art Department
The University of Montana

Ceramics I
Art 229 Section 01

Instructor Orville Chigbrow, Art Department
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Office Art Annex room 128, Phone, 243-6476. Office Hours: M/W/F 10-12 A.M.

Prerequisite
Art 135, Three-Dimensional Fundamentals; or equivalent

Outline
A course outline will be provided for the entire semester. There will be occasions either by emergency, error or design that assignments or due dates may be altered, which is why the information presented in them is incomplete and void without the appropriate lecture, demo and class participation.

Class-time
Typically each class will start with roll at 5 minutes after the scheduled start time. Parking at UM requires prior planning so don’t be late.

Homework
A minimum of 5 hours work outside of class is needed each week in addition to the 4 hours class time for this 3-credit course (as per N.A.S.A.D guidelines). Assignment due dates are listed in the course outline. Assignments are due at the beginning of class.

Grades
Your grade is based on your class attendance and well as the work you produce during this semester. I will assess the quality of your work in relation to your ideas/concepts, the successful communication of those ideas, originality, craftsmanship, formal resolution of each assignment and participation in discussions and critiques. **Letter Grades** will be awarded after the completion of each required assignment/project, based on a 10-point system. Final course grades will be computed by adding up the numerical point equivalencies for each letter grade, then divided by the number of assignments to achieve a final number grade average that will translate into a letter grade. **All projects and quizzes are weighted equally** and may be affected by the final factors of: Attendance, Tardies, Class Participation, and/or attendance at recommended outside events. **Your project grade will be lowered 1 point for each day that it is late** (unless I am notified in advance of an unforeseen circumstance). **Letter grades and point equivalents in this class are assigned to projects and quizzes and are assessed as follows:**

- A=10, A- =9, B+=8, B=7, B- =6, C+ =5, C=4, C- =3, D+=2, D=1, D-= .50, F=0.

Critiques
We will discuss student work as a group. Critiques are focused opportunities to share insights, verbalize intentions and to assist students in their development. The critique process is meant to help each student understand the strengths and weaknesses in his/her work. Critiques are NOT a personal attack. Critiques in a studio class are as important as exams in a lecture course. Attendance is critical and **REQUIRED**.

Attendance
**Class lectures and demos are vital and cannot be duplicated.** So, attendance is required as well as being in class on time; a tardy means leaving before class is dismissed and an absence means your body is not present in class when roll was taken. Success in a studio art class is dependent upon your participation in the studio activities and interaction with other students. Skill and knowledge is acquired as much by doing and participating as it is by reading and responding. This cannot occur if you are not in class.

Absence
The only excused absences are: a medical emergency (a scheduled appointment during class time is NOT an emergency), death in your family or you are an active participant in an approved university event (which may affect some class cancellations on my end as well). Everything else is unexcused. If you have any questions or concerns see me ASAP in advance. **PLAN AHEAD.** Your final grade will be lowered as follows when unexcused absences and tardies occur:

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On the fourth unexcused absence your final course grade is lowered one full point, on the fifth absence 2 full points, on the sixth absence 3 full points and on the seventh 5 full points, etc. Two tardies equal 1 absence, you do the math.

**Course Drops**

Last day to drop a course with no grade is by the fifteenth day of the semester, between the 16th-30th day a course may be dropped with a "W" grade, and from the 31st day to the end of the semester courses may be dropped with either an "WP" or an "WF" by petition only-please work closely with your advisor. Sometimes by error or design it is better to drop a course and retake it then it is to risk failure. If a student is not in attendance on the first two scheduled class days of the semester then the instructor of record may drop a student to open up a seat.

**Cell Phones**

All cell phones, pagers or any devise that beeps must have the sound turned off during class time. These devises may not be used during class; step out of the studio for emergencies.

**ADA**

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations for this course please contact the Dean of Students at 406-243-6413. Students have a right to privacy by which limited information may be released unless this is blocked in writing by the second week of the semester. Information is available on line.

**Clean up**

You are required to clean up after yourself whenever you work in this studio. A messy, dirty studio is a health hazard for everyone and if the studio becomes unhealthy, it will affect everyone’s health. Clean up will start at approximately 5 minutes prior to the ending time of the scheduled class, so class can be dismissed on time to insure that obligations that follow can be met. Clean up is a shared, as well as required, responsibility. It is vital that we ALL have a clean studio to work in. Failure to clean up will be acknowledged by a warning from me. After that your final grade may be affected i.e. class participation.

**Studio Hours**

This studio is open every day from 7:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. You are welcome to use it for homework any time that another class is not in session. The studio is not normally open on scheduled holidays, during breaks or during finals week.

**Course Fees**

Your course fees are used to purchase materials and supplies for YOUR use in this course. They are not for family, public or general use. The specifics are listed in the course outline.

**Safety First**

You are responsible for the safe use of supplies, materials and equipment at all times. By enrolling in an art/ studio course you accept all responsibilities. If you are sensitive or allergic to any materials or supplies you must also assume all responsibilities. **DO NOT** use any power tools, toxic materials or casting processes unless I have provided the appropriate lecture or demonstration. Please leave pets and children at home. This studio has many chemicals, machinery and toxic materials that could harm inquisitive children and pets. No food or open beverages allowed in the studio when making art. Be aware of your surroundings, especially when working at night. The university has an escort service, use it. Never leave valuables or supplies unattended anywhere, even for a minute.

**Copyrights**

You may not for any reason copy words or visual images already created and/or translate them into your art, this could be plagiarism. The use of visual appropriations is a contemporary visual arts approach in which all intents and liabilities require full student responsibility, don’t copy, create. **All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.**

**Final Exam**

There is no formal final exam in this class. Your final project is intended to meld all that you have learned and absorbed in this class. It is the culmination of months of work, looking at imagery, learning about other ceramic artists, using different clay construction methods, and stretching your imagination. The class critique of your final project will be the last two days of scheduled class. Any artwork or projects left after this time will be discarded. There is simply no storage and the studios must be prepared for next semester.

**Tool loans**

All lent tools are the property of the university and are to be returned when the final project is due; failure to turn in tools may result in a failing grade, frozen transcripts or registration processes or worse yet life-guilt.

**Autumn 2006**

Registration begins April 17th; meet with your advisors a least 1-week prior.