ARTZ 231A.01: Ceramics I

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Ceramics I
Spring 2024 - 3 Credits
Ceramics I ARTZ231A 01

Professor: Lily Bennett
Email: lillian.bennett@umconnect.umt.edu
Assistant: Anna Johnson
Office Hours: Friday 10-12

Course Description: Ceramics I -
Introduction to class as a historical and contemporary art-making medium. Basic methods of building with clay with an emphasis on wheel throwing and hand building: elementary solutions of glazing and surface treatment.
First half of the semester will be an introduction to wheel throwing vessels and learning the skills of the wheel. The second half of the semester will be an introduction to basic hand building techniques such as coil building and slab construction. These techniques will be used to fabricate ceramic sculpture.

-Some ideas that we will discuss include form, tension, balance, texture, glaze and content.
-The majority of the class scheduled meeting times will be yours to work on your pieces except for demo’s and slide lectures.

Course Objectives-
Begin to develop a thorough understanding of the material and its possibilities.
Develop a vocabulary that will enable students to discuss their work.
Become aware of contemporary ceramic artists and their work.
Begin to develop an individual aesthetic with clay.

Text: None required!

While not required I strongly recommend that each student take advantage and become involved in the University and greater Missoula Art community by attending shows, lectures, etc. This will enable you to become more aware of what is happening in the contemporary art world as well as influence and improve your own body of work.

- MAM (Montana Art Museum, downtown Missoula)
- MMAC (Montana Museum of Art and Culture - ON CAMPUS!!)
- Radius Gallery (Downtown Missoula)
- Zack (Downtown Missoula)
- Lovechild Gallery (Instagram - @lovechildgallery, Open only on 1st Friday!)
- Wild Fire Ceramic Studio!
- The Clay Studio of Missoula
Grading Policy:

Three Factors will be considered in the determination of grades.
1.) The quality of the piece, including inventiveness, sensitivity to materials, technical comprehension, compositional effectiveness, and idea development in relation to the assignment.
2.) The Quality of the learning process, including risks taken, range of ideas explored, contributions to class, attendance, effective use of class time, enthusiasm and the amount of work done.
3.) Professional demeanor in ceramics as evidenced by clean work habits, the proper treatment of equipment, attention to the studio space, and participation in the weekly studio clean up.

A= Excellence in all assignments, highly motivated, extremely innovative solutions to projects.
B=Above Average in all work, demonstrates technical growth and visual maturity.
C= Completion of all projects, satisfactory class participation.
D= Below Average quality in work and/or Incomplete on some projects, inadequate class participation.
F= Poor Quality of Work and/or Incomplete on many projects, poor class participation, several absences.

Critiques: We will have major critiques following the completion of every project.

Late Work: I will accept late pieces however you will be penalized on letter grade. I understand that special circumstances arise, and this will be taken into consideration.

Work Required Beyond Class: I expect you to work at least five hours a week outside of designated class time. Open studio time will be posted outside the studio door. The studio is closed on Holidays.

Attendance: Attendance at all classes is mandatory. After three unexcused absenses, your grade will drop by one letter grade per absence. If you are absent from class it is your responsibility to get any missed information from another student and contact me if you have further questions. Please keep in mind that you will be required to meet any deadlines set.

Note: If you are going to miss more than one class, please notify me in advance. If you feel like you are falling behind, let me know so that we can get you back on track.

Access/Special Needs: Students with special needs should see me after class if we havent spoken already.
Health and Safety:
Physical Safety: for the most part, ceramics is a very safe and user friendly studio. However, please keep in mind that the kilns could be hot, give them a wide girth, no gushing wounds when using glaze materials, the metal rib in your tool kit is very sharp and NEVER EVER raise dust in the studio, only use a sponge or wash cloth when cleaning your table – NEVER a dust broom. No animals allowed in the ceramic studio.

Personal Safety: Everyone is welcome in the course, this is a safe place to work and you are welcome to express yourself and your ideas in your artwork.

Please join SVMA social media to stay informed about events at our school. Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/umt_svma/

College of Arts and Media equality statement:
The College of the Arts and Media at the University of Montana, has chosen to actively pursue equity and access for all persons. In this charge we will be researching, planning, and implementing ways in which our culture can be more accessible, inclusive, equitable, sustainable. It is not enough to be anti-bias in principle without being equitable in action. We will implement these actions organized by a group of students, faculty, and staff across the entire College in an ongoing way.

SVMA images statement:

- “Art scholarship and art practice along with teaching and learning involve a critical exploration of ideas, theories, art-making practices, and art movements that encompass such things as the human body, sexuality, race, gender, religions, and cultures. This course can touch upon any of the above categories with an expectation that students will actively participate in all course assignments, discussions, and tests. Given this information, it is the student’s obligation to determine that the requirements conflict with his or her core beliefs. If the student determines that there is a conflict with his or her beliefs, one of the following actions needs to be taken: 1) drop the class before the last day to drop a course without penalty; 2) meet with the instructor within the first week of classes to determine if an accommodation can be made. ”

School Statements Land Acknowledgement:
The Séliš-Qlîspé Cultural Committee created the language, “The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people Today, we honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come.”

Inclusion Policies:
The University of Montana values leadership, engagement, diversity, and sustainability, because our institution is committed to respect, welcome, encourage, and celebrate the differences among us. As members of the University of Montana community, we aspire to:

- Respect the dignity and rights of all persons.
- Practice honesty, trustworthiness, and academic integrity.
- Promote justice, learning, individual success, and service.
- Act as good stewards of institutional resources.
- Respect the natural environment.

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“Art scholarship and art practice along with teaching and learning involve a critical exploration of ideas, theories, art-making practices, and art movements that encompass such things as the human body, sexuality, race, gender, religions, and cultures. This course can touch upon any of the above categories with an expectation that students will actively participate in all course assignments, discussions, and tests. Given this information, it is the student’s obligation to determine that the requirements conflict with his or her core beliefs. If the student determines that there is a conflict with his or her beliefs, one of the following actions needs to be taken: 1) drop the class before the last day to drop a course without penalty; 2) meet with the instructor within the first week of classes to determine if an accommodation can be made. (Note, faculty, are not required to grant content accommodations.)”

**Student Support Resources**

COVID-19 / FLU / Sick policy: If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, please don’t come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330. If you are required to isolate or quarantine, you will receive support in the class to ensure continued academic progress – how this happens could change depending on what project, please email Lily as soon as possible to make arrangements. UM recommends students get the COVID-19 vaccine. Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center.

**Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code:** “This Code of Conduct embodies and promotes honesty, integrity, accountability, and duties associated with citizenship as a student in our community at the University of Montana. This Code exists to protect the interests of the community and dignity of its members, and to challenge those behaviors which are not in accordance with our policies”. The Code is available for review online at https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-Of-conduct-2021-pdf

**Accommodations:** “Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting the DSS office. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction
through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). For more information, please consult [http://www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability)."

**Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy:**
At UM, we value every student's wellbeing and believe that taking care of yourself is imperative to your success as a student. College students often experience issues that may interfere with academic success such as academic stress, sleep problems, juggling responsibilities, life events, relationship concerns, or feelings of anxiety, hopelessness, or depression. If you or a friend is struggling, we strongly encourage seeking support. Helpful, effective resources are available on campus.

- If you are struggling with this class, please visit during office hours or contact me by email. Check-in with your academic advisor if you are struggling in multiple classes, unsure whether you are making the most of your time at the University of Montana.
- Reach out for Counseling Support at Curry Health Center Counseling. To make a counseling appointment call 406-243-4712 or go online to the Curry Health Portal to schedule an appointment.
- If you feel you need accommodations for a mental health concern, reach out to the Office of Disability Equity (ODE) at 406-243-2243.
- If you feel that you would benefit from general wellness skills to support your overall stress reach out to CHC-Wellness at 406-243-2809.
- If you have experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, bullying, intimidation, or discrimination contact the Student Advocacy Resource Center (SARC) 406-243-4429 *24/7 support line 406-243-6559.
- If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and seeking immediate help, call 911, go to the nearest hospital emergency room or call Campus Safety at 406-243-4000.

**Cultural Leave Policy**
Cultural or ceremonial leave allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes to meet the student’s customs and traditions or to participate in related activities. To receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious or ceremonial event the student or their advisor (proxy) must submit a formal written request to the instructor. This must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of the cultural event or ceremony and the importance of the student’s attendance or participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor. Appeals may be made to the Chair, Dean or Provost. The excused absence or leave may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays). Students remain responsible for completion or make-up of assignments as defined in the syllabus, at the discretion of the instructor.

**Food & Housing Insecurity**
Any student who faces challenges securing food or housing, and believes that this could affect their performance in this course, is urged to contact any or all of the following campuses resources. Food Pantry Program: UM offers a food pantry that students can access for emergency food. The pantry is open on Tuesdays from 12 to 5 PM and Fridays from 10 AM to 5 PM. The pantry is located in UC 119 (in the former ASUM Childcare offices). Pantry staff
operate several satellite food cupboards on campus (including one at Missoula College). For more information about this program, email umpantry@mso.umt.edu, visit the UM Food Pantry website or contact the pantry on social media (@pantryUm on twitter, @UMPantry on Facebook, um_pantry on Instagram).

**ASUM Renter Center**
The Renter Center has compiled a list of resources (https://medium.com/griz-renter-blog) for UM students at risk of homelessness or food insecurity. Students can schedule an appointment with Renter Center staff to discuss their situation and receive information, support, and referrals.

**TRiO Student Support Services**
TRiO serves UM students who are low-income, first-generation college students or have documented disabilities. TRiO services include a textbook loan program, scholarships and financial aid help, academic advising, coaching, and tutoring. Students can check their eligibility (www.umt.edu/triosss/apply.php) for TRiO services online. If you are comfortable, please come see members of the teaching team. We will do our best to help connect you with additional resources.

**UM Information Technology**
Get the technology, tools, and services you need, whether you are a student, faculty, staff, or someone partnering with the University of Montana. Visit the UM IT webpage for services and self-help articles, or contact the help desk directly by calling 406.243.HELP (4357) or emailing ithelpdesk@umontana.edu.