

9-2014

## ARTZ 231A.03: Ceramics I

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**tyler.nansen@umontana**      Office hours: Wednesday 4:00-5:00 or by appointment

**Class meets      Monday & Wednesday      2:10 – 4:00      Art Annex Room 128**

Course Description and Objective: ARTZ 231A - Ceramics I Offered autumn and spring. Prereq., ARTZ 108A. Introduction to clay as a historical and contemporary art-making medium. Basic methods of building with clay, with emphasis on handbuilding; elementary solutions to problems of glazing and surface treatment.

#### Course Requirements:

N.A.S.A.D. requires at least five hours studio “homework time” per week in addition to the scheduled class time for this course. You will need this amount of time to get the projects done. The studio will be open daily from 7am to 11pm. (You may work during another class if you get permission from the instructor, but priority for wheels and work space will be given to the class is session.) Assignments will be given periodically and class critiques will follow. Participation in critiques will help your grade! Assignments must be turned in on time for full credit. Late assignments will be accepted for reduced credit.

#### Resources for Pottery class:

- The Craft and Art of Clay, Susan Peterson
- Clay and Glazes for the Potter, Daniel Rhodes
- Pottery Form by Clary Illian

#### Materials needed for class:

Tool kit from the book store, Sureform, old towel, two india ink paint brushes (slender like pencil, plastic bucket, note book for keeping notes.

#### GRADING AND ATTENDANCE:

Assignments will be given four times during the semester and class critiques will follow. Assignments must be turned in on time for full credit. Grading for each project will be based on fulfillment of the assignments based on the quality of work done. Criteria for assessing quality will be idea, formal resolution, craftsmanship and originality. *\*\*\*idea development and craftsmanship are key\*\*\*\** Final grades will be also be affected by your energy (which includes attendance), thoughtfulness, participation and improvement.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Attendance, participation in critiques, attitude and your work energy will be major factors of your final grade. ANY unexcused absence can affect your grade. THREE unexcused absences amounts to a losing full grade. TWO "extremely late" or "leaving classes early" marks equal an unexcused absence.

#### Grade Percentage Break down:

“Big Big” Hand building project	“Making Pottery” Wheel Throwing Cups, Bowls	“Sculpture and Surface” Making Ceramics sculpture	“Fourth Project” Majolica?	Attendance and studio participation
20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

**PLEASE NOTE: I WILL ONLY CONTACT YOU THROUGH THE MOODLE PAGE OR YOUR UNIVERSITY ADDRESS. I WILL NOT EMAIL YOU DIRECTLY TO A GMAIL, YAHOO, HOTMAIL OR ANY OTHER ACCOUNT. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ACCESS TO AND TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL. I EXPECT YOU TO CHECK IT ON MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SUNDAY NIGHT.**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTES:**

Many of the materials used in the ceramic process are toxic or harmful. There is a materials data notebook (gray binder) attached to the glaze area. We will be discussing health hazards during the first class. No food or open beverage containers are allowed in the art department facilities when art making is in progress.

**CLEAN UP IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. YOU WILL NEED 10 MINUTES TO CLEAN UP AT THE END OF EVERY CLASS, AND ONCE EVERY MONTH WE WILL DO A MAJOR STUDIO CLEAN UP. IF YOU COME IN AFTER HOURS CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF!!!!!!**

Your clean up practices will also affect your grade!!!! No creatures or children will be allowed in studios during class time or open studio times. No food or open beverage containers will be allowed in School of Art facilities when art making is in progress. (In fact, there should not be any food or beverages consumed in Art facilities, as faculty will be liable if injuries occur. When needed, students may take breaks by simply stepping out of the studios.)

In addition to the regular clean up, there are two other clean-up obligations for this class:

- Each student must sign up for TWO clean-up shifts this semester. This time is TBA - Every student in ceramics will be taking clean-up shifts! See the sign-up sheets by the office door.
- Each student will also sign up for two shifts cleaning up before or after class. See sign-up sheets by the office door.

End of semester clean up: All work must be taken home at the end of the semester. We will have a studio "throw-out" at the end of the semester. (Monday after finals week) Lockers must be cleaned out by this date unless you are registered for the next session, in which lockers must be labeled accordingly.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND THE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

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 <http://life.umt.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>

**IMPORTANT STUDIO DATES:**

Wood Kiln:      Loading Kiln - Saturday November 9, Sunday November 9  
                     Firing Wood Kiln – Tuesday November 11 - Sunday November 16

Holiday Sale:    Friday December 5 – Sunday December 7

## CERAMICS STUDIO RULES AND POLICIES

1. Clean up after yourself! This includes work tables, wheels, splash pans, floor around wheels and tables, table surfaces, studio tools and bats, sinks.
2. We will be trimming pots in this class – you MUST sweep the floor gently after your trim your bowls – every time! Trimmings can make a lot of dust – Bad! Bad!
3. Do not raise dust. Use sponges and scrapers rather than hand brooms. Turn on overhead vents when necessary.
4. Deal with your clay in an appropriate manner, conserving materials for maximum efficiency. Do not waste clay and glaze materials. No clay goes in the slurry bucket larger than a walnut! Only clay in good shape goes into the clay bucket!
5. Never leave work out on wheels or tables. Remove it to a shelf. Always remove boards and bats from your work when it is dry. Wash them and put them back in their proper locations.
6. Never mess with anyone else's property!
7. Use dust masks when using any powdered materials (clays or glaze materials.) You all will get a dust mask and gloves provided by the division, please put your name on the zip lock page, keep them in this bag when not being used. Also the First Aid Kit by the phone.
8. Use rubber gloves when handling toxic materials or if you have an open wound.
9. Use the kiln sign up sheets and abide by the time limits. Never take anyone else's kiln. If you choose not to use your kiln, remove your name from the chart!!!
10. Be aware of hot kilns! NEVER open a kiln unless you are sure it is cool. Use gloves when handling hot materials.
11. Clean your kiln and kiln wash your shelves after use. Replace kiln furniture in proper places.
12. Wear protective eyewear when cleaning kiln shelves or using the grinder.
13. Plaster and Clay do not mix!!! When working or mixing plaster, always put down paper on the tables or floor where you are working. If plaster chips get into the clay, it can cause your piece to explode either in the kiln or even after it's been fired. NEVER ALLOW ANY WET PLASTER TO GO DOWN THE DRAIN. When mixing plaster always have a rinse bucket nearby to wash your hands and tools in. Use a dust mask when using powdered plaster.
14. Use class glazes. Ask permission to mix your own glazes, and only mix as much as you can personally use.
15. Materials Hazard Book located in gray binder, attached to the glaze area.
16. No unattended children or animals in the classroom

If you have a bad back, can not lift heavy things, have asthma or any kind of medical situation that I should know about, please meet me at the end of class to discuss this privately.