

**WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE – UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

**OUTLINE OF COURSE OBJECTIVES**

**COURSE NAME:** Ceramic Studio: Hand Building II

**COURSE NUMBER:** ART 243

**CREDIT HOUR:** 03

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** Development of hand building techniques, sculptural and vessel concepts, surface treatment and glazing.  
Repeatable once.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development: we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

**UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ART 243, THE STUDENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO:**

- 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the three basic hand-building techniques and the potential of each as structural and decorative elements.**
- 2. Demonstrate an understanding of two different clay bodies and their potential as structural and decorative elements.**
- 3. Demonstrate an awareness of the varieties of materials and techniques of the glazing and firing processes.**
- 4. Demonstrate innovative and inventive problem-solving. Through creative decision-making and insightful articulation of finished ceramic vessels and sculptural forms.**
- 5. Demonstrate an ability to generate creative ideas through three-dimensional visualization techniques.**
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of color and color theory as it relates to three-dimensional form in the use of glazes and oxides.**
- 7. Demonstrate an understanding of historic and contemporary examples of hand built ceramics.**
- 8. Demonstrate an understanding of drawing as a tool for conceptualization and documentation of personal imagery and technical investigation of the ceramic process.**
- 9. Demonstrate an appreciation for and awareness of ceramic objects.**
- 10. Demonstrate an awareness of the visual elements and the design principles**

while creating ceramic vessels and sculptural forms.

11. Demonstrate an ability to articulate the concepts and intent of a completed piece.

### **DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, [lemke@hawaii.edu](mailto:lemke@hawaii.edu), or you may stop by Hale 'Akoakoa 213 for more information.

#### **REQUIREMENTS COURSE SATISFIES:**

**AT WCC: Meets AA degree elective requirement**

**PREREQUISITES: ART 105B or consent of instructor**

**RECOMMENDED SPECIAL PREPARATION: Art 105B, Art 116, Art 253**

**RECOMMENDED BASIC SKILLS LEVELS: Reading Level of Text(s): 11th grade**

**ACTIVITIES REQUIRED AT SCHEDULED TIMES OTHER THAN CLASS TIMES:**  
Students are required to work an additional three to five hours a week during open lab time.

**PROFESSOR: Paul Nash**

**OFFICE: Palanakila 216**

**OFFICE HOURS: To be announced**

**TELEPHONE: 235-7323 (on campus, x323)  
pnash@hawaii.edu**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2009**

**I. COURSE GOALS**

Intermediate hand building will involve more advanced projects in clay; more familiarity with glazes, clay theory and kiln firings. Goals are to provide the student with an opportunity to advance their creativity, techniques and knowledge in ceramics. To handle clay with authority, broaden their understanding of historical and contemporary ceramic art, the firing processes of stoneware, earthenware, raku and pit fire.

**II. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The student, by the end of the course, should have an understanding of constructing complicated hand building forms, glaze color variation from a base glaze, the different range of clay bodies, and basic sumi brush strokes.

**III. MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

This is a two-semester mode of instruction. The student will pick three assignments to work on. The student can also create his or her own assignment with the professor's consent. (Assignments are subject to change by the professor at any time)

- A. **Glaze Theory. (Student Notebook Required)** The student will learn how to breakdown a glaze formula to its molecular weight. The student will be given a base glaze and will run six glaze tests using different metallic oxides in the base glaze to understand how to change a glaze surface and texture of a glaze. The student will also make tests on Egyptian paste; the first type of glaze which dates back to 5000 B.C. Demonstration and assignment, Sumi brush strokes. Engobe demonstration and assignment. 4 week assignment.
- B. **Clay Theory, how clay bodies are made, and colored clay bodies.** The student will run tests on clay bodies to determine shrinkage and hardness of a clay body. 4-week assignment.
- C. **Demonstration on hand building and other clay techniques. Making clay cookies and the reasons for the cookie, always use a clay cookie with your project.** A clay cookie is a slab of clay 3/8 inches thick by 3/4 inches wider than the base of your pot. The cookie goes under your pot, so if the glaze runs off your pot, it will run onto the cookie and not onto the kiln shelf. Your test pots and or projects will not go into the glaze kiln if there isn't a cookie. Cookie's can be reused if glaze does not run onto the cookie surface.

- D. To create a head, hand or foot. Any hand building techniques. Bigger than life size. All clay projects must have a clay cookie 3/4 inches wider than the base. 4 week assignment.**
- E. Pinch and Coil Assignment. To create a functional vessel not less than two feet in height. To create a sculpture not less than two feet in height using concepts of open form and closed form. 8 week assignment.**
- F. Slab Construction. To create a form functional or non-functional with the introduction of water to relate to the form. 4 week assignment.**
- G. Final Project. Three legged base form, functional or non-functional using colored clay and any of the hand building techniques. 4 week assignment.**

**\*\* All projects and ideas must be pre-approved by the professor. \*\***

#### **IV. EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS**

**You must inscribe your finished projects and cookies with your name, no initials. Projects with initials or no name will be thrown out at the instructor's discretion.**

**Abandoned clay projects: there are designated areas in the kiln area and the studio (you will be shown these areas). Your clay artwork will be set-aside in these areas, which have not been claimed. Two weeks notice will be given to students to claim their works. After that period the pieces will be considered abandoned and will be thrown away.**

**I also reserve the right not to fire and/or throw out any project if I feel it doesn't meet basic design and form concepts or any other reason. Clean up of the studio will begin 15 minutes before the end of class, cleaning up your area and then cleaning up the studio. No one leaves early.**

**Students are required to work an additional three to five hours a week during open lab time. Open lab time does not replace class time.**

**Lab assistants monitor the open lab time. They will assist you if you have questions. If your questions are beyond their scope, then you will need to wait until class time for me to answer your questions. The open lab time is for working on your clay projects only. There is no loading or unloading of any kilns. There is no firing of kilns during open lab, raku, bisque, etc.**

**There is a pottery sale at the end of the semester. All students enrolled in ceramic courses can participate in the sale.**

## V. EVALUATION

Grades will be based on completion of 4 projects in the greenware stage, glaze or clay theory, stacking and unloading kilns, maintenance of kilns, understanding the firing of bisque and glaze kilns, understanding of space and form, punctual attendance, work habits, final critique, open book homework test and ceramic notebook. You must have at least two finished ceramic pieces for final critique on the last day of class.

Work habits and effort are an important part of the evaluation process of your grade. The effort you put into working around the studio is just as important as the development of your talent and skill. If you come late, leave early, sit around the studio when kilns need to be stacked, shelves need to be organized, etc., you will be losing grade credit towards your final grade in the course. Grades will be given pertaining to work habits and effort on a weekly basis. Helping in the ceramics studio is mandatory and is part of the course.

- A = Completion of all projects and activities, show excellent skill in design, creativity and craftsmanship, and work habits. Good attendance, not more than four absences. After four absences, grade will drop one level.**
- B = Completion of all projects and activities, show better than average skill in design, creativity and craftsmanship, and work habits. Good attendance.**
- C = Completion of all projects, shows average skill and understanding of concepts and good attendance.**
- D = Completion of 75% of all projects and shows average skill.**
- N = Less than minimal passing achievement**
- \*Cr = Credit, completion of at least "C" grade requirements**
- \*NC = No credit, completion of less than "C" grade requirement**
- I = Incomplete - temporary grade given when a student has failed to complete a small part of a course because of circumstances beyond his or her control.**  
**\*Credit, No Credit must be declared by the end of the 10th week of classes.**

**Attendance:** For every four unexcused absences, there will be a drop of one letter grade. If you are late four times, it is equal to an unexcused absence. Excused absences are doctors note, traffic ticket, court summons. To many excused

absences will also affect your grade. If you're having personal problems consult with me, so we can try to work something out.

## **CERAMICS LAB PROCEDURES**

The ceramics lab is an environment for serious research, no different from a chemistry or engineering lab. Approximately 100 to 120 people are working here each semester; cooperation is the key to creating a situation where everyone can be personally productive. These guidelines have been established for your benefit and safety, to help all of us accomplish our individual goals within a group context.

- **USE OF FACILITIES** - only students currently registered in ceramics may use facilities; children, family or friends are not allowed in the studio.
- **MUSIC, CELL PHONES, PAGERS** - may not be used when class is in session. Cell phones and pagers must be in silent mode.
- **SMOKING** - of any kind is not allowed in the studio.
- **LOCKERS** – Lockers will be assigned to you. Lockers are to be vacated by the last day of instruction for each semester and will be cleared and cleaned prior to the beginning of the following semester.
- **WORK SPACE** - please make it your responsibility to help keep the lab clean.
- **SAFETY** - “Assumption of Risk and Release Forms” are required from all students. Before using the equipment for a class project, your instructor will review safety procedures. It is also your responsibility to review those procedures before using the equipment.

Activities that create dust from clay or other silica-bearing materials require the use of an OSHA - approved particle mask. These activities include: 1) scraping kiln shelves (protective eye-wear is also required), 2) mixing dry glazes, 3) using the dry glaze room, 4) mixing, grinding, or sanding clay, and 5) spraying glazes. Please ask for a respirator when needed.

## **VI. TEXTBOOKS**

**Hands in Clay** by Speight (required)

**The Art and Craft of Clay** by Susan Peterson (Required)

**Clay and Glazes for the Potter** by Daniel Rhodes (optional)

**Kiln Book** by Fred Olsen (optional)

**Raku Pottery** by Robert Piepenburg (optional)

**Complete Potters Companion** by Birks (optional)

**Ceramic Faults and Their Remedies** by Harry Fraser (optional)

**The Sumi-E Book** by Yolanda Mayhall (optional)

**CERAMIC NOTEBOOK: REQUIRED**

**You must have a ceramic notebook for taking notes and filing ceramic information handed out to you. It is required that you hand in your notebook for review at the end of the semester.**

**Cell phones and pagers must be in silent mode. No music of any kind.**

**It takes about two years of hard work to get a good understanding of how clay works and understanding the firing processes of ceramics. The different low fire processes of pit fire, raku, low temperatures earthenware, and high temperature earthenware. The high fire processes of stoneware, porcelain, and the understanding of oxidation and reduction. It is not uncommon for a beginning student to lose 50% to 70% of their clay work from the mistakes you are going to make. You need to be patient.**

**This course focuses on the high fire Stoneware process and the low fire earthenware process of raku.**

**May the force be with you!**

**GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN!  
Paul Nash - Professor of Ceramics/Art**

**List of tools and supplies needed: You need to have all supplies and ceramic books by the end of the second week. If you do not have your supplies by then, it will affect your grade. If you cannot have all supplies and ceramic books by the end of the second week you should withdraw from the course.**

- 1. Clay: Brown Stoneware, White Stoneware, or Porcelain, Cone 10**
- 2. 1 water bucket – 1 gallon size and clean up sponge**
- 3. 1 elephant ear sponge – large or natural sea sponge**
- 4. 1 metal flexible rib or rubber rib or wooden rib**
- 5. 1 needle tool and a cutting wire**
- 6. 1 wooden tool**
- 7. 2 trimming tools – R-2 and loop**
- 8. 1 fettling knife**
- 9. 2 sumi brushes – any size.**
- 10. 1 Bull’s Eye Level or Disc Level**
- 11. 1 ruler – clear plastic, medium thickness**
- 12. 1 kitchen knife. From home**
- 13. 1 serrated rib, and or metal fork. From home**
- 14. 6 plastic trash bags 13 gallon sizes (kitchen size). From home**
- 15. 1 Spray bottle for water and 1 spray bottle for vinegar. From home**
- 16. Small towel (must be by your work area all the time)**
- 17. Pad lock. A locker will be checked out to you.**
- 18. Tackle box for holding your tools**
- 19. Old shirts or apron or change of clothes. You are going to get dirty.**

**Clay, tools, and textbook may be purchased at the Bookstore. Label all your tools with indelible ink marker.**

**Use only Stoneware Clay, Cone 10 and choose the softest bag of clay**

**Bookstore is open Monday – Friday, 8a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**Bookstore Phone: 235-7418. On Campus: X418**

**Utility Pail Pottery Tool Set – The tool set will give you items #2,3,4,5,6,7,8.**

**BEFORE YOU CAN START WORKING IN THE CERAMICS STUDIO, YOU  
MUST HAVE ALL 16 ITEMS AND REQUIRED CERAMIC BOOKS FROM  
THE ABOVE LIST.**