WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE – UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

OUTLINE OF COURSE OBJECTIVES

COURSE NAME: Ceramic Studio: Wheel throwing II
COURSE NUMBER: ART 244
CREDIT HOUR: 03

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Development of wheel throwing techniques, vessel and structural concepts, and surface treatment and glazing. Repeatable once for 3 credits for a total of 6 credits.

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 244, THE STUDENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

1. Demonstrate through completed projects, a basic proficiency in wheel throwing techniques.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of color and color theory through the use of various decorated techniques: slips, oxides, engobes, stains, and glazes.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of clay bodies, oxidation and reduction firings, and the basic chemical compositions of glazes.
4. Demonstrate an awareness of the visual elements and the design principles while creating ceramic vessels and sculptural forms.
5. Demonstrate problem solving, through creative decision-making and insightful articulation of finished ceramic vessels and sculptural forms.

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, or you may stop by Hale ʻAkoakoa 213 for more information.
I. COURSE GOALS

Intermediate ceramics will involve more advanced projects in wheel throwing, 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 thrown forms, glaze color variation from a base glaze, the different temperature 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 four assignments to work on. The student can make his or her own assignment with the professor’s consent.

A. The Professor will demonstrate throwing 5 lb. and 10 lb. forms. **Making clay cookies from slab construction (Hand Building) and the reasons for the cookie.** 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 bisque or glaze kiln if there isn’t a cookie.** Cookie’s can be reused if glaze does not run onto the cookie surface.

The student will throw 10 cylinder forms, 5 lbs each, turning into vases, warm-up exercise. The instructor will demonstrate sumi brush strokes and sumi assignment. Engobe demonstration and assignment.

B. Lecture topic. **(Student Notebook Required)** Glaze theory, how to break down a glaze formula to its molecular weight. The student will be given a base glaze and will run six metallic oxide tests 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. [4-week assignment]

C. Lecture Topic. Clay theory, how clay bodies are made. How to make colored clays. The student will run tests on colored clays and clay bodies to determine shrinkage and hardness of a clay body. (Water absorption) [4-week assignment]

D. Professor will demonstrate throwing and construction of forms with covers. The student will create 6 forms with covers. [4-week assignment]

E. Professor will demonstrate throwing clay forms and constructing them to create two sculptures. [4-week assignment]

F. Professor will demonstrate vessels for liquid. The student will make 4 different kinds of vessels for liquid. [4-week assignment]

G. Professor will demonstrate throwing of closed forms and open forms. The student will create 8 closed forms and 8 open forms using 10 lbs. of clay or more. Using engobe treatments and textures. [4-week assignment]

(All projects and ideas must be pre-approved by the professor)
IV. EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

Students are to have their water bucket filled with water, your tools and towel at all work areas all the time. Wheel area, table area and or glazing area. If you do not have all your supplies at your work area, I reserve the right not to help or work with you. It is your responsibility to have your water bucket filled with water, your tools and towel.

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

The instructor reserves the right not to fire and/or throw out any project which does not meet basic design and form concepts or any other reason. All clay projects must show good craftsmanship or I will not fire your clay projects. Your clay projects will be evaluated in the greenware stage before the bisque firing. At this time you might have to discard your clay project in the scrap bucket.

Abandoned clay projects: There are designated areas in the kiln area and the studio (you will be shown these areas). Unclaimed clay artwork will be set-aside in these areas. 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.

Before the end of class, students are responsible for cleaning up his/her 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. If your questions are beyond their scope, then you must wait until class time for me to answer your questions. The open lab time is for working on your clay projects only. There is to be no loading or unloading of any kilns. There is to be 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 are in the ceramics club and can participate in the sale.

V. EVALUATION

Grades will be based on completion of 4 projects in the greenware stage, punctual attendance, good work habits, final critique, open book homework test and ceramic notebook. Final critique is on the last day of class. You must have at least two finished ceramic pieces.
Grade will be based on critique of 3 projects in the greenware stage and one of the research projects, 80 Points to a minus 80 points. Punctual attendance, 260 points to a minus 260 points. Work habits, 260 points to a minus 260 points. Final critique, 60 points to a minus 60 points. Open book homework test and ceramic notebook, 60 points to a minus 60 points. You must have at least one finished ceramic piece for final critique, 130 points to a minus 130 points. I want to see as much finished ceramic projects as possible.

FINAL CRITIQUE IS ON THE LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION.
YOUR THREE-RING BINDER NOTEBOOK IS ALSO DUE ON THAT DAY.

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. Points 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.

Additional points will be earned by helping around the studio. Not helping and/or poor work habits can also affect your grade. I use a point system to evaluate your grade at the end of the semester. A student can earn up to pulse 20 points to minus 20 points each class meeting. Absences count as a minus 10 for the day unless it is a legal excuse. Coming in late to class is a minus 10. Wasting time is a minus 10 to 20 points. Bad Craftsmanship on a project is a minus 10 to 20 points. To many coffee or smoke breaks is a minus 10 to 20. Not cleaning up properly is a minus 20. Not having a complete tool supply kit is a minus 10 each day.

All students start class with a plus 20, I evaluate you through out the session of the class.

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. 260 points to 195 points.

B  Completion of all projects and activities, show better than average skill in design, creativity and craftsmanship, and work habits. Good attendance. 194 points to 175 points.

C  Completion of all projects, shows average skill and understanding of concepts and good attendance. 174 points to 130 points.

D  Completion of 75% of all projects and shows average skill. 129 points to 99 points

F  Less than minimal passing achievement. 98 points to 0 points
N  Completion of all projects. 99 points or more. Check catalog for N grade, Page 25.

Cr  Credit, completion of at least "C" grade requirements. Credit, No Credit must be declared by the end of the 10th week of classes.

NC  No credit, completion of less than "C" grade requirements

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.

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. Too 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.

V.  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. Music of any kind is not allowed.

SMOKING - of any kind is not allowed in the lab.

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—REQUIRED

**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)  
**Raku Pottery** by Robert Piepenburg (optional)  
**Kiln Book** by Fred Olsen (optional)  
**Complete Potter's 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. You are required to hand in your notebook for review at the end of the semester.

All cell phones and pagers must be in silent mode when you are in the ceramics studio.

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 Art/Ceramics
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 – one-gallon size, and a clean up sponge
3. 1 Elephant ear sponge - large or a 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 a loop tool
8. 1 fettling knife
9. 2 Sumi brushes – medium size
10. 1 Bull’s Eye Level or Disc Level
11. 1 ruler – clear plastic (medium thickness)
12. 1 serrated rib, and or a metal fork from home
13. 6 plastic trash bags, 13-gallon size (kitchen size), from home
14. 1 spray bottle for water and 1 spray bottle for vinegar, from home
15. 1 kitchen knife, 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.

Use only stoneware, Cone 10 and choose the softest bag you can find.

Label all your tools with indelible ink marker.

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

Bookstore Phone: 235-7418  On campus: x418

Open from 8a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

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