

Minnesota State University Moorhead

ART 203A: Introduction to Ceramics and Clay Processes

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours/Week: 2

Lab Hours/Week: 4

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

An introduction to the technical and aesthetic issues involved in working with clay. The course covers the fundamental techniques used on the potter's wheel and in handbuilding with clay. Slip work and glazing are also covered.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 05/08/2003 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. All major Handbuilding construction techniques including: pinch, coil, hard and soft slab.
2. All major fundamental throwing techniques including: centering, throwing cylinders, shaping on the wheel, forming bowls, trimming feet and pulling handles.
3. Decorating techniques including: glazing, wax resist, majolica overglaze colors, sgraffito, and the slip decorating techniques of, inlay, painting, stenciling and trailing.
4. Principles of design as they apply to functional and non-functional ceramic form and how they contribute to the psychology of form.
5. Ceramic form, design, color and how they combine to make a creative statement.
6. Introduction to contemporary and historic ceramic works.
7. Clay mixing procedures and methods.
8. The uses and differences between earthenware and stoneware clays.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Working knowledge of the major handbuilding construction techniques including: pinch, coil, hard and soft slab.
2. Understanding of the primary throwing techniques including: centering, throwing cylinders, shaping on the wheel, forming bowls, trimming feet and pulling handles.
3. Knowledge of the decorating techniques: glazing, wax resist, majolica overglaze colors, sgraffito, and the slip decorating techniques of, inlay, painting, stenciling and trailing.
4. Understanding of the use of the principles of design and color, as applied to ceramic objects.
5. Develop critical thinking skill through the analysis of ceramic objects.
6. Understanding of sound craftsmanship and how it contributes to a successful creative statement.
7. Begin to develop an appreciation for the length and breadth of ceramic history and contemporary ceramic expression.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted