ART 50: BEGINNING CERAMICS Section 2  Instructor: Scott Parady
FALL 2010: class meets 8:00am-10:50am  Office: Kadema 131C  Cell (707)287-2316
Office/studio hours: T,Th 10:50am-12noon; T 5:50pm-6:30pm, appointment encouraged.

LAB FEE REQUIRED: $13. When a student registers for a class requiring a lab fee, the charge will appear on the student’s account on My Sac State. If the student drops the class by Census Date (September 27th), the fee will be reversed. Lab fees can be paid online, in person or by mail. A student will not be dropped from a class due to non-payment of course fees; however, financial services will put holds on records after Census Date for any unpaid course fees. The hold will prevent the student from registering for future semesters and getting transcripts and diplomas. When an overdue lab fee is paid, the hold will automatically be removed from the student’s record.

LOCKER POLICY: Lockers are available in the ground-floor breezeways. Priority is given to ceramics students for the first two weeks. Lockers must be signed out through the Art Department (Kadema 185). To sign out a locker, a student must bring in a current printout of their My Sac State account showing there are no outstanding charges for lab fees. Lockers must be emptied no later than the end of the last week of the semester. Any materials found in lockers after that date will be removed and discarded. Any student unable to empty their locker by the deadline must contact both the instructor and the Art Department office staff in writing prior to the last day of finals week.

ADD/DROP POLICY: Refer to the Fall 2010-Spring 2011 Registration & Advising Handbook. You may access this information online at:
http://www.csus.edu/schedule/fall2010spring2011/change.stm#adds

DISABILITY SERVICES: If you have a disability and require academic accommodation, please provide written verification from SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008 (916-278-6955). Also, please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Studies in beginning ceramics. Projects will familiarize students with basic techniques and approaches to the potter’s wheel and glazing of ceramic ware.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This class will delve into the medium and process of ceramics. Students will gain technical knowledge and experience in the following: wedging, throwing, trimming, decorating, and glazing. Assignments will also explore aesthetic concerns: form, function, color, texture, mass, weight, meaning, etc. Historical, contemporary and multicultural viewpoints of ceramics will be introduced and included in class assignments.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Projects:
1. 10 cylinders thrown in one class period (not to be fired)
2. 10 Bowls
3. 10 Bottles (constricted forms)
4. 10 Tea Bowls

Quality:
We will fire the best examples of what we make in class. In everything you make you are encouraged to focus on the visual and the conceptual qualities of what you make. Your efforts should be directed to increasing your capacity for visual expression.

GRADING STANDARDS:

A. Work completed will be evaluated on the following standards:
   1. Creativity, originality, conceptual integrity, ability to carry through an idea from beginning to end.
   2. Aesthetic integrity: ability to apply basic design principles and solve aesthetic problems.
   3. Technical competence: does the work demonstrate a grasp of the techniques and an understanding of the materials. Ability to solve technical problems.
   4. Craftspersonship (attention to detail)

B. Student Responsibilities:
   1. Enthusiasm, involvement and effort
   2. Ability to follow instructions from demonstrations and from individual help.
   3. Participation in discussion and class exercises.
   4. PUNCTUALITY: Demonstrations, slides, films, and lectures will be given at beginning of class. Be on time to avoid missing important info.
   5. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED: It is your responsibility to know the status of your attendance record and to complete all work missed because of absences. (All of the above responsibilities will suffer when absent).
      Two unexcused absences – no grade change
      Three or more unexcused absences – grade will be affected

C. Class Responsibilities: Each of us is a member of a community of artists which includes not only our own class but all of the other classes that share the studio.
   1. Willingness to share experience. Many students are taking this course a second time. Their experience and insight can save newcomers a lot of time and effort in avoiding common problems. Opportunities to learn from each other abound.
   2. Lend a hand when you see that someone could use your assistance. Students may be asked to participate in various ceramics preparation activities (ie: loading and unloading kilns, mixing clay and glazes, etc).
   3. Be careful when moving around your work and keep moving of other’s work to a minimum. Much of what we make is fragile and we can minimize breakage if we exercise some caution.
4. Resources: We have limited resources. Use what you need conscientiously. Be aware of the needs of others and conserve on materials.

5. **CLEAN-UP**: Students are responsible for cleaning up all work areas before leaving class. This includes wheels, any used table or counter space, wedging tables, sink and any other community tools or space.

D. Grade Definitions:

- A – Excellent
- B – Good
- C – Satisfactory
- D – Less than Satisfactory
- F – Failing

Satisfactory completion of all projects or equivalent effort is necessary for a grade of “C”

**TOOLS/SUPPLIES:**

The students are responsible for marking all tools with their name and providing a lock for their lockers.

**Students must remove all of their materials and pieces of work, including cleaning-out lockers and discarding any items/pieces they do not want. Any items remaining at the end of the semester will be discarded.**

- **Notebook/pencil**
- Kit containing: cutting wire, potter’s knife, pear corer, loop tool, needle on a stick, elephant ear sponge, metal rib, Japanese brush (large), modeling tool, wooden rib.
- **Ruler or calipers**
- **Plastic scraper**
- **Water bucket, plastic or metal (aprox. 1 gallon capacity)**
- **Clean-up sponge (large)**
- **Hand towel**
- **Old fork**
- **Work Clothes**: Clay may stain clothes so dress accordingly. A smock, overalls, apron, or a lab coat may be useful.

**MATERIAL:**

- Cone 10 Clay: 8-11 Red Imaco, 8-11 Buff Imaco or other high fire clay (WSO, Geostone, Silverstone) suitable for throwing.

**Health and Safety Issues**: Potters wheels and electric and gas kilns may pose safety hazards if misused. Raw materials used in glazes as well as clay dust may present a health hazard. Instructor will cover proper use and handling of equipment and materials, which will minimize health and safety issues.

**Sources to Purchase Material:**

1. CSUS Bookstore
2. Industrial Minerals (Florin Rd.)
3. Alpha Ceramics (Rancho Cordova)
4. Leslie’s Ceramics (San Pablo Ave., Berkeley)
5. Clay People (Richmond)
**Resources**: Class assignments will encourage use of the library for research along with visiting exhibitions. Announcements will be made regarding exhibitions in local galleries and museums. The goal is to create a broad understanding of contemporary and historical ceramic art.

**Recommended Text**: See instructor

**FINAL CRITIQUE**: December 9, 2010