Course Description: Introduction to hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques, exploration of ceramic processes, as well as decorating and glazing wares. 3 hours credit.

COURSE CONTENT AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Ceramics I is a basic course in ceramics designed to introduce the beginning student to the primary techniques of clay construction and an assortment of firing methods. The course combines instruction in the fundamentals of pottery with a philosophy that encourages personal artistic expression. The following techniques of construction will be covered: slab, coil, pinch, and wheelwork. A variety of firing methods will be covered. Specifically, the student who successfully completes this course should be able to identify and/or demonstrate the following:

A. Define common ceramic terms and use them as part of a working vocabulary;
B. Construct ceramic ware by the following methods: pinch, slab, coil and wheel;
C. Control shape, volume, and texture to produce ceramic ware in which balance, proportion, and variation of the parts create a unified whole;
D. Choose and apply appropriate finishes which enhance the formal and expressive qualities of each piece of ceramic ware produced;
E. Differentiate between the processes and results of firing techniques;
F. Develop critical thinking in the areas of aesthetics, philosophy and freedom of expression.

COURSE STRUCTURE: This course meets for two hours and fifty minutes, two times a week. Lectures, demonstrations, and critiques of work generally occur early in the period, but may last the entire period. It is expected that you will spend a minimum of 6 hours a week outside of class in the lab completing your assignments.
If you have any difficulties in regard to a classroom assignment, I am here to assist you. However, it is your responsibility to inform me about these concerns and be receptive to advice.

STUDENT EVALUATION: Your final grade will be determined by the ability and effort you have shown in these areas:
1. Quality of your completed work.
2. Progress and growth shown in your work.
3. Effort expended in the course. How your time in class is spent and time working outside of class.
4. Freshness and creativity of design idea, craftsmanship, and timeliness.
5. Care and maintenance of the studio will also impact your final grade.
6. Individual meetings at the mid point and a group critique end of semester will be held to discuss your progress in class. A letter grade will be assigned at the end of the semester, which will be based on the content of these meetings.

**Students will be required to complete clay projects that demonstrate an understanding of the following:**

1. Sphere: Pinch pot technique
2. Research project: various hand and wheel techniques, self driven
3. Throwing basics: Cylinders, cups, bowls, lidded jars
4. Coil built vessels: Functional and sculptural
5. Forms in Relation: Slab techniques

**Decoration**
1) Slips and glazes
2) Textures
3) Non-traditional surfaces

**Glazing Techniques**
1) Resist
2) Oxides and stains
3) Pouring, dipping, brushing, spraying

**Firing Procedures**
1) Bisque
2) Oxidation
3) Reduction
4) Raku
5) Salt/soda
6) Wood

**INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY and REQUIREMENTS**
Ceramics II is designed to continue building on the skills developed in Ceramics I. More emphasis will be placed on glaze application and firing procedures. Students will also focus on design and concept development appropriate to the assignments.

A. Bi-weekly assignments dealing with the different techniques and problems
B. Demonstrate various techniques
C. Group critique  
D. Use of Power Point presentations, guest artist, books, films  
E. Individual instruction on concepts and construction of each assignment as needed.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** You are expected to attend regularly and promptly as lectures and demonstrations are of value and cannot be repeated for you individually. Excessive tardiness or absences or leaving early (more than 4) can lower your final grade. You can miss this class 3 times with no grade penalty. The forth and subsequent absences can lower your final grade by a letter grade for each absence. Should you miss class, you are required to get the information that you may have missed from a fellow classmate. **You are responsible for obtaining any information pertaining due dates, demonstrations or information you may be tested on. This means you should not expect me to repeat this information for you and you alone. If you know you will be absent ahead of time, do your best to find out what you will miss so that you can plan ahead and possibly start the work early.**

**STUDIO EQUIPMENT:** Be extremely careful around the studio. Much of the equipment can be dangerous. Always learn the proper and safe use of all machines before attempting to use. Common sense is invaluable. **BE CAREFUL!**

**TOOLS AND SUPPLIES:** You should collect all the tools necessary for you to make your work. At the very minimum, you should have the following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bucket (small, 1-2 gallon)</td>
<td>small lidded container (about pint size)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponge, large and small</td>
<td>sketch book/journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Towels (2 hand towels)</td>
<td>foam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apron or work clothes</td>
<td>Shur Form / Rasp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trimming tools (loop tools) large and small</td>
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<td>Fedling knife</td>
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| Assorted wooden tools (pointed stick, wooden thumb, wooden knife, wooden block, etc.) | 100 lbs of clay  

*50lb white stoneware  
*50lb Soldate 60

| Rubber rib                                             |                                                 |
| Plastic, clear (dry cleaner bags work best)            |                                                 |
| Soft bristled brush (bamboo)                           |                                                 |
Classroom Rules

- Clean up after yourself
- Be **respectful** of me, the lab assistants, your fellow classmates and yourself.
- Be respectful of the studio, tools and materials.
- Come to class on time and prepared to work.
- You will receive an absence if you are not working during class and using yours and my time to the fullest potential.
- You will get dirty, so wear or bring along appropriate clothing every day.
- You will not receive a grade for late, cracked, broken or soaking wet pieces.
- You should not answer your phones or be texting during class. Silence your phones when you arrive. No laptops in the studio, unless you are doing approved research.
- **PLEASE DO NOT HANDLE ANYONE’S ARTWORK OR TOOLS BUT YOUR OWN.**
- Please do not speak while another is speaking during critique. Be Respectful!

**CARE OF STUDIO:** Use the studio and the equipment to full advantage, but do not abuse it. It is a facility shared by over a hundred students each semester. If you make a mess, clean it up. If you use a tool, put it back. Habitual abusers can have their grade lowered and in extreme cases, can be dismissed from the class. Orderliness and Safety must be everyone’s concern.

**BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE WILL ONLY FIRE WORK THAT IS DIRECTLY TIED TO ASSIGNMENTS OR INSTRUCTOR APPROVED.**

Note the following: Students are expected to follow the Code of Conduct as published in the Student Handbook

**NOTICE OF POTENTIAL DANGER**

The construction and execution of some projects will require the use of power equipment and hand tools. Students will be instructed in the safe operation and utilization of these tools. However, the students should be aware that these tools can be dangerous. Therefore, although all reasonable and prudent precautions will be taken to insure that the tools, equipment, and work environment reflect the College’s concern for student safety, **each student is ultimately responsible for the safe operation of the power equipment and hand tools that he/she uses.** Students who are unable or unwilling to accept this responsibility are strongly encouraged not to take this course. Students with special concerns or needs regarding the operation of power equipment and hand tools should contact the instructor.
COURSE SAFETY POLICIES:

All students are to function in a safety oriented manner while working at Brookhaven College.
This includes:

1. Safety glasses or other eye protection used at all times with power tools
2. Dusk mask or respirator when working with dry materials
3. Latex gloves to protect skin as needed
4. Proper dress for protection
5. Students must only use the equipment when mentally and physically well.

Students must NOT use the equipment at Brookhaven College when:

   a. They are under the influence of drugs – illegal or legal (cold medicine or other prescription medication, as they can dull your senses)
   b. They are emotionally distraught
   c. They are physically impaired (broken leg, etc.)

Any questions concerning this must be answered by the instructor, and only the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to pass judgment on the students’ condition at all times.

Equipment which is broken or seems to be faulty must not be used. Report all such conditions to the instructor immediately.

Equipment must be used only for the purpose for which it was designed.

A FINAL NOTE: Clay can be an unforgiving medium and frustrating to work with; it shrinks, it cracks, it breaks, it can blow up in firing. There are many technical issues that can go wrong, so be prepared for disappointments.

Learning to throw on the potter’s wheel takes time and a lot of practice; hang in there and it will come. Be prepared to use your class time wisely. Be prepared to spend many hours in and out of class in the studio and to learn both through your success as well as your failures.

Where there is great risk there is great reward. Don’t be afraid to try new things. This is the time to experiment! Good luck to you.

PART B: INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES and ADA ACCOMODATION INFORMATION

Link to Institutional Policies
Link to Academic Calendar