ARTS 2346 Ceramics I Syllabus
Mountain View College

Instructor Information
Name: Nancy Neergaard
DCCCD Email: nneergaard@dcccd.edu
Office Hours: TBA
Division Office and Phone: 214-860-8680

Course Information
Course Title: Ceramics I
Course Number: ARTS 2346
Section Number: 63001
Semester/Year: Spring 2020
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meeting Time/Location: MW 9:30am – 12:20pm  W74
Certification Date: February 3
Last Day to Withdraw: April 16 with a grade of W

Course Prerequisites
For art majors the following courses are recommended as prerequisites: ARTS 1311, 1312, 1316 and 2346.

Course Description
This course focuses on the building of pottery and sculptural forms by coil, slab and use of the wheel. Glazing and firing are also included.
Mountain View College WILL ONLY FIRE WORK THAT IS DIRECTLY TIED TO ASSIGNMENTS.

Student Learning Outcomes
Ceramics I is a course in ceramics designed to instruct 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 OUTLINE
A. TOPIC: Methods of working in clay
   1. Pinch
   2. Coil
   3. Slab
   4. Wheel thrown forms

B. TOPIC: Uses of clay
   1. Traditional
   2. Non-traditional
   3. Sculptural

C. TOPIC: Glazing Techniques

D. TOPIC: Firing – Procedures may include the following:
   1. Oxidation
   2. Reduction
   4. Bisque

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY
A. Assignments which incorporate the elements and principles of design;
B. Instruction on concept and construction of each assignment;
C. Demonstrations on various techniques;
D. Group and individual critiques
E. Classroom use of power points, books, films, visiting artists.
Texas Core Objectives
The College defines essential knowledge and skills that students need to develop during their college experience. These general education competencies parallel the Texas Core Objectives for Student Learning. In this course, the activities you engage in will give you the opportunity to practice two or more of the following core competencies:

1. **Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. **Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
4. **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
5. **Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making
6. **Social Responsibility** - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Required Course Materials
Text not required by recommended: Hands in Clay by Charlotte Speight
In addition, a free online source of information, subscribe to Ceramic Arts Daily at www.ceramicartsdaily.org

Note: A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.
SUPPLY LIST:

Kemper Tool kit or the equivalent
Fettling knife or paring knife
1-2 gallon plastic bucket with handle
Brushes, suggested: Japanese brush, 1" flat brush, ¼" round brush
Large utility sponge
Tool box
Old bath towel
Newspaper donations
Dry cleaning pl
Dust mask
Serrated edge metal rib
Small containers to hold slip
Standard size plastic bat for pottery wheel
Nylon green kitchen scrubber pad
Sketchbook & folder or notebook for handouts
Red or White Stoneware, cone 10

Trinity Ceramics, 9016 Diplomacy Row, Dallas (for clay and tools)

Mark all tools and supplies with your name in permanent marker.

Graded Work

The tables below provide a summary of the graded work in this course and an explanation of how your final course grade will be calculated.

Summary of Graded Work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Five Projects</td>
<td>5 @ 100 points</td>
<td>500 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions/critiques</td>
<td>5 @ 15</td>
<td>75 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Participation/attendance</td>
<td>28 @ 10</td>
<td>280 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Critique</td>
<td>1 @ 145</td>
<td>145 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 1,000 points
Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>900-1,000</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800-899</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700-799</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-699</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-599</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Graded Work

A= Excellent work: Requirements for the course have been more than fulfilled and the art work
has been developed beyond previous levels. The work must show excellent intellectual skills
and concepts, technical skills, and control of the medium.
B= Very good work: The art work and the student’s class participation shows competence in
skill development, craft, and control of the medium with an understanding of conceptual
concerns in the context of ceramics.
C= Average work: Requirements for the course have been fulfilled adequately with satisfactory
work quality. Class participation is adequate.
D= Poor work: Requirements for the course are not adequately fulfilled.
F= Failure: No attempt has been made to fulfill requirements for the course.

Each project will be graded on the following criteria:
1. Craftsmanship/Technique (40%)
2. Concept/Objective (40%)
3. Attendance and Participation (10%)
4. Completion of project by due date (10%)

Attendance and Your Final Grade
- 10 points for participating in designated class time for each project
- 5 points when tardy or leaving early
- 0 points when absent

Late Work Policy
Projects made be re-made and assigned a new grade subject. Late assignments will be accepted but 10 points will be deducted from the project grade.
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:
A. All students are to function in a safety-oriented manner while working at Mountain View 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 Mountain View 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.

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

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

NOTE:
1. Students are expected to follow the Code of Conduct as published in the Student Handbook.
2. Theft of other students’ projects, school equipment, or tampering with school equipment or supplies will result in expulsion and possible charges.
3. Cell phones must be turned off during class.
4. The student is responsibility for cleaning up after themselves.
**Institutional Policies**

Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed using the link below. These policies include information about tutoring, Disabilities Services, class drop and repeat options, Title IX, and more.  
[Mountain View Institutional Policies](http://www.mountainviewcollege.edu/syllabipolicies)

All Ceramic I Critiques will be in the greenware stage unless otherwise specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critique</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Greenware Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pinch</td>
<td></td>
<td>2/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft Slab Sculpture</td>
<td></td>
<td>2/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slab Box</td>
<td></td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheel</td>
<td></td>
<td>3/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glazing</td>
<td></td>
<td>4/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final critique</td>
<td></td>
<td>5/11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fall Academic Calendar**

1/22  Classes Begin  
2/3   12\(^{th}\) Class Day (Certification Date)  
3/16  Spring Break Begins  
3/23  Classes Resume  
4/16  Last Day to Withdraw  
4/10  Easter Holidays Begin  
4/13  Classes Resume  
5/11  Final Critique Ceramics all levels  
5/14  Semester Ends  
5/18  Last day for faculty to submit grades electronically through eConnect to the Registrar.