

ART 3061, Ceramics 1

****Cell phones, ipods, mp3 players and other technologies are wonderful, but not when disruptive to class, please turn them off and put them away during class time.**

• **Course Outline** website: <http://www.valdosta.edu/~mschmidt>

Although **Technology, Cell Phones, Text-Messages**, and other means of communication are convenient and arguably needed, please have the courtesy and respect to either **A. Leave your phone at home or in your car, B. Set it to vibrate so it does not interrupt the class or distract your classmates & professor. YOUR GRADE WILL BE AFFECTED IF YOUR PHONE BECOMES A PROBLEM!**

**** For your Health and Safety, NO food or drink allowed in the studios. ** Class time is not for breakfast, or lunch!**

**** NO SMOKING AROUND THE STUDIO****

Semester: Fall Semester, 2006

Class Meeting Days: Tuesday, Thursday

Class Meeting Time: 2-4:45pm

Class Location: FA 136

Mid-Term: Thursday, October 5th, 2006 (officially)

Final Exam Date/Time: Wednesday, Dec., 6th, 2006 2:45-4:45pm

Instructor: Michael Schmidt

Office: FA 110

Office Phone: 249-4913

Home Phone: 259-0075

E-mail: mschmidt@valdosta.edu

Office Hours: *Monday-Thursday 10-11am (or by appointment)

Catalog Description: ART 3061 Ceramics 1: *Prerequisite:* ART 1030 or permission of the Instructor/Department Head. A beginning level course including coil & slab construction, wheel throwing techniques, glazing processes, and firing methods.

Purpose: This is a beginning course in working with a variety of clay construction methods for art and non art majors. Emphasis is on the creation of both functional and non-functional forms together with exposure to appropriate supporting materials.

Supplies & Materials:

-Paint brushes

-Sketch paper, drawing supplies

-Cutting wire

-Fettling knife

-Scraper/Metal Rib

-Trimming tools

Bennett Pottery Supply: Pottery Toolkit PTK 1.800.432.0074 \$9+shipping

-Container for tools (a 5 quart bucket works well, Home Depot/Wal Mart)

-Potters rib, rubber "kidney rib"

-Needle tool

-Sponge (elephant ear and large rectangular sponge Home Depot/ WM)

-Plastic bags (clear 15-25 gallon generic kitchen garbage bags work well)

-Clay and glaze materials

Course objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Execute the complete construction of functional and non-functional hand built and wheel thrown forms, with attendant glazing and finishing processes.
2. Use appropriate studio practices, including cleanliness, safety and respect of others.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of ceramic theory.

Evaluation

All assigned work for this course will be evaluated. Final grades will be determined by the cumulative points earned for all examinations and studio assignments given.

Final grades for this course will be assessed according to all of the following criteria:

- Knowledge of key concepts and components of ceramics as demonstrated through the design and execution of all studio assignments.
- Knowledge of key concepts and components of ceramics as conveyed through verbal and written responses in examinations and formal critiques.
- Creative interpretation and resolution of the projects.
- Degree of technical control of the ceramic mediums and processes.(both on the wheel and hand building)
- Adherence to Safety & Equipment Instruction.(This applies to General Studio practices, Equipment use, Kiln Firing and General Studio Clean up!) • Adherence to studio policies and regulations.
- Attendance & active participation in all scheduled course activities including, lectures, demos, and critiques.
- Studio practices (in-class work habits, appropriate time usage, participation, preparedness, clean-up, etc.)

Creative work: To be determined in class. (Wheel and hand projects developed simultaneously)

Grade Penalties

All assignments must be submitted on appointed due dates or the work will be penalized one letter grade for each 24 hour period the work is late.

Written Review: In addition to the creative work produced each student is expected to locate a "Ceramics Monthly", or "Ceramic Art and Perception" magazine and review an article on a noted topic of ceramics. The article should be selected by each student because he/she has a particular interest in that topic. The paper is to be 3 pages in length.

- I. A brief review of the article (3-4 paragraphs)
- II. Response: Your response to the topic. what was interesting? What do you relate to? Why did you choose this topic/article? Why is this subject important to the field? be specific, give examples.
- III. Extensions. How would you extend or improve upon the subject? Where do you think this topic could lead you? How does this topic help you advance creatively?

End of Term:

Unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor any work or tools left by the student becomes the property of the **VSU Art Department/Ceramics**. All shelves and lockers must be cleaned out at the end of each term.

***Exhibition notices** can be found in Ceramics Monthly, Art Calendar, & other ceramic & sculpture related periodicals.

****Students who abuse** the use of tools and equipment leave messy work areas, and don't follow proper Studio Protocol, or Safety Procedures, etc., will be noted and grades will be affected, and charges levied.

• Grading Standards

- A 100%-90% Excellent work** that exceeds all major criteria for the assignment.
Creative approach to solving problems to produce a unique visual statement.
Skillful control of sculptural medium and technical process.
Work clearly communicates strong conceptual and/or expressive idea(s).
Demonstrated additional effort through experimentation and design development.
Good adherence to all studio practices and course policies.
- B 89%-80% Above average work** that meets all major criteria for the assignment.
Creative approach to solving problems to produce a unique visual statement.
Competent control of sculptural medium and technical process. Minimal flaws in execution.
Work communicates good conceptual and/or expressive idea(s).
Demonstrated fair effort through experimentation and design development.
Good adherence to most studio practices and course policies.
- C 79%-70% Average work** that meets most major criteria for the assignment.
Fair control of sculptural medium and technical process. Distinct problems in execution.
Work communicates mediocre conceptual and/or expressive idea(s).
Demonstrated minimum effort through experimentation and design development.
Inconsistent adherence to studio practices and course policies.
- D 69%-60% Below average work** that fails to meet most major criteria for the assignment.
Minimum control of sculptural medium and technical process. Poor execution.
Work fails to communicate intentional conceptual and/or expressive idea(s).
Lacks involvement with experimentation and design development.
Poor observance of studio practices and course policies
- F 59%- 0% Unacceptable work** that is incomplete or fails to meet all major criteria for the assignment.
Failure to demonstrate adequate control of sculptural medium and technical process.
Lacks involvement with the overall development of the assignment.
Poor observance of all studio practices and course policies

• Attendance Policy

My attendance policy is strict but simple. If you are missing class you are missing time to work, important information from your instructor/peers and you are robbing your fellow students of *your* input (which is important).

Keep me informed, I am very accessible. If you are having problems, personal, health, etc, please see me. Communication!

- Attendance is recorded at the beginning of each class, during class and near the end.
- After your third absence you will lose a letter grade for each additional absence.
- On the 4th absence you lose a letter grade off of your end of semester "total," 5th another letter, etc. **6 you will fail.**
i.e. if you had 5 absences, and your total percentage in this class was 86% you would receive a 66%. (which is a D)
- Keep in mind attendance at critique is mandatory!
- Below is the VSU attendance policy, please read it:

The attendance policy for this course has been established in accordance with University policy. The VSU Undergraduate Bulletin includes the following statements:

"The unexcused absence, or cut, is not regarded as a student privilege." "A student who missed more than 20% of the class work of a course will be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course."

The instructor will only excuse absences for serious events such as a personal illness, medical emergencies, death in the immediate family, court mandated appearances, religious holy days, and/or University-sponsored events or activities approved by the President. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate documentation and/or adequate means of verification for such absences. The student will be held responsible for any information and assignments missed during each absence.

Studio art courses involve experienced based learning and require individual contact and interaction with the instructor. Class attendance is mandatory to ensure that the student performs a major portion of their work under the direct supervision of the instructor. Therefore, attendance will greatly affect academic performance.

Attendance records will be recorded for every scheduled class period for this course. All students are required to arrive promptly and must remain for the duration of the class period. Roll will be taken promptly at the beginning of each class and those students not present will be marked absent. It is the responsibility of the student who arrives late to have their attendance record corrected. Students who arrive late for class not only miss important information and instruction but also cause a disturbance and distraction for the instructor and other students.

Excessive tardiness and frequent absences will not be tolerated. All scheduled examinations, demonstrations, and project critiques demand each student's presence and participation; compensatory work of another kind cannot be accepted in lieu of missed instruction in these areas.

• Students with physical or learning disabilities:

Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in room 1115 Nevins Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (voice) and 219-1348.

****See the instructor as soon as possible, if special arrangements need to be made.**