

ART 108-4 ( Introduction to Pottery ) - semester 1 or 2

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Duration - 16 weeks

Instructor - Peter Petersen

Text - " Getting Into Pots " - by Wettlaufer

COURSE GOALS

The aim of this course is to develop the student's sensitivity to form, colour, and texture to such a degree that with sufficient technical background, the student will be able to express his/her individual feelings and point of view in connection with works in the clay media.

The course further aims to introduce forming and glazing techniques so that the student will be able to complete projects as described.

COURSE SYLLABUS

Students will be required to:

- a) Have a basic knowledge of ceramic materials, and the various ceramic processes listed in the lesson plan.
- b) Have practical skills to complete the described assignments

COURSE METHODOLOGY

The text is " Getting Into Pots " by Wettlaufer. The course consists of theory and work with practical problems. The theory will include lectures on the material used and on design problems, and will normally be taught ½ to 1 hour per week. In addition to the classroom work, the student will have homework in solving design problems and reading the textbook. The practical part of the course consists of demonstrations, to be followed by the students working under supervision with the demonstrated techniques.

COURSE EVALUATION

Emphasis will be placed on enthusiasm and attentive effort, as well as on the student's performance and attitude towards becoming a serious artist/craftsperson. Studio co-operation is part of the student's responsibility. The student's work habits, attitude towards the work of others and towards studio material and equipment, will be part of the final grade evaluation.

INTRODUCTION TO POTTERY ...

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A grade of " A " will be given to those students who have followed the course 100 % and have completed all projects with good results, and at the same time have shown above-average interest and hard work.

A grade of " B " will be given to those students who complete the main part (or 75 % of the projects) of the course and have shown solid interest and work.

A grade of " C " will be given to those students who have completed 75 % of the projects with acceptable results and have followed the course in a satisfactory manner.

Students who have been absent more than 25 % of the time and have not made up the hours in studio time, will be given an " I " or an " R " grade i.e. Incomplete or Repeat.

COURSE SYLLABUS

Students will be required to:

- a) Have a basic knowledge of ceramic materials, and the various ceramic processes listed in the lesson plan.
- b) Have practical skills to complete the described assignments

COURSE METHODOLOGY

The text is " Getting Into Pots " by Wellauer. The course consists of theory and work with practical problems. The theory will include lectures on the material used and on design problems, and will normally be taught 1/2 to 1 hour per week. In addition to the classroom work, the student will have homework in solving design problems and reading the textbook. The practical part of the course consists of demonstrations, to be followed by the students working under supervision with the demonstrated techniques.

COURSE EVALUATION

Emphasis will be placed on enthusiasm and attentive effort, as well as on the student's performance and attitude towards becoming a serious artist/craftsperson. Studio co-operation is part of the student's responsibility. The student's work habits, attitude towards the work of others and towards studio material and equipment, will be part of the final grade evaluation.

- d) Decorative Design - Decoration, entertainment, aesthetics
- e) Sculptural Design - The artist and his/her process
- f) Design Problems - Scale, balance, variety, contrast, and tension

ART 108-4 (Introduction to Pottery) - Lesson Plan C1 - G1 - DES 1

The practical part of the course consists of demonstrations and working with assignments.

C1 - Introduction to Clay:

- a) Clay formulation: From feldspatic rock to clay  
The life story of clay
- b) Clay types: Kaolin, earthenware, stoneware, ball clay, fireclay, bentonite
- c) Clay bodies: Porcelain, stoneware, earthenware, casting, modelling, throwing, hand-building
- d) Materials: Claytypes, feldspars, whiting, silica, sand, grog, colorants
- e) Preparation: Mining, cleaning, washing, aging, mixing, pugging, kneading
- f) History of Pottery - From Stoneage to modern pots
- g) Ceramic Products - Bricks, tiles, pipes, tableware pottery, sculpture

G1 - Introduction to Glazes:

- a) History of Glazes - Alkaline, ash, salt, lead, and feldspatic glazes
- b) Glaze Formulation - Glaze formulas, glaze formers, fluxes, modifiers, colorants
- c) Glaze Mixing and Application - Batch formula, percent formula, weighing it out, water content, screens, dipping, pouring, brushing, spraying, glaze thickness
- d) Glaze defects - Too thin, too thick, over-fired, under-fired, cracks, and pin-holes

DES 1 - Introduction to Ceramic Design:

- a) History of Pot Design - The craftsman, the designer, the artist, the engineer
- b) Nature as Designer - Nature's measurements, fruits and growing forms, textures
- c) Functional Design - The use of pots, solid food containers, liquid food containers, lids, spouts, handles

ART 108-4 (Intro. Pottery) - Lesson Plan....

DAY	LESSON	DEMONSTRATION	ASSIGNMENTS	NOTES AND READING
11	Des 1 b + c	Lidmaking	4 Essay B	Remember the last glazefiring is Day 14. Read P. 137 to 141.
12	Des 1 d + c + f	Spoutmaking	4 Essay B	
13	No		4 Essay B	Last bisque firing. Essay B is due. Written test.
14	No		4	Last assignment is due.
15	No			Critique of essay B, assignment 4, and written test.

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The plan will be followed as closely as possible, but changes may be necessary during the course.

DAY	LESSON	DEMONSTRATION	ASSIGNMENTS	NOTES READING FROM "GETTING INTO POTS"
1	C1 a + b	Pinching	1	Raku Clay Read P. 17 to 18 and P. 210
2	C1 c	Coiling	1 + 2	2 Rakuclay. Read P. 157 to 163 & P. 10 to 17 All pinchpots finished to bisque fire
3	C1 d + e	Glazing by Dipping	1 + 2 Essay A	All pinchpots to be raku fired. Day 3 or 4. Read P. 75 to 83.
4	C1 f + g	Decoration with brush	2 Essay A	All raku pots to be fired. All raku pots are due. Pinch & Coiled Pots.
5	No	Kneading & Throwing	3 Essay A	Critique & marking of assignment 1 & 2. Read P. 22 to 33 & P. 54 to 58. ( 3 Stoneware)
6	No	Throwing	3 Essay A	Essay A is due. Read P. 211 to 213.
7	G1 a + b	Throwing & Bisque firing	3	Critique & marking of essay A. Read P. 118 to 137.
8	G1 c	Glazemixing & Glazing	3	All thrown pots finished, to be bisque fired.
9	G1 d	Glazing & Kilnloading	3	All pots to be glaze fired. Assign- ment 3 is due.
10	Des 1 a	Handlemaking	4 Essay B	Critique & marking of assignment 3. Read P. 45 to 52. (4 Stoneware)