

ART F401 F71
ADVANCED CERAMICS
Summer 2018 3credits
Meeting times: M-Th 2-5pm
Fine Arts Bldg room 415
Instructor: Teresa Shannon
Office hours by appointment
Phone: 378-0966
Email: tdshannon@alaska.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advanced Ceramics provides opportunities for the student to develop as an aesthetically perceptive and technically proficient ceramic artist. Throughout the semester, I will give demonstrations and lectures appropriate for each assignment and as requested. As advanced student you are expected to be developing your own direction in clay and a dedication to spending the necessary time and energy on your work.

TEXTBOOK: There is no required textbook for this course; however, as advanced students you should be developing your own reference library. Books to start with: Working with Clay by Susan Peterson; Craft and Art of Clay by Susan Peterson; Hands in Clay by Charlotte Speight; Functional Pottery: Form and Aesthetic in Pots of Purpose by Robin Hopper; A Potter's Workbook by Clary Illian; Ceramics by Phillip Rawson.

I recommend following <https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/> This website is a great resource for techniques and concepts

I may at times direct you to different web sites for videos and/or articles and for some projects you may be required to do some research either on the internet or at the library.

ASSIGNMENTS: Advanced students are expected to be developing their own ideas and directions with their work. You will be expected to have **5 main projects** for the semester each of them due on the scheduled critique days. For each new project you must work out your plans in your sketchbook and meet with me before you begin.

Complex forms: 3 forms created from various forming techniques. e.g. thrown parts and hand-built parts combined together like oval forms with lids. or **Sets or groupings:** 3 or more objects that relate. This can be sets of mugs, place settings or a sculptural grouping.

Historical Ceramics or Art movement interpretation: work that is inspired by an historical object or tradition. You will give a 5 minute presentation on your inspiration

Current events: work that is inspired by current events. could be political but not necessarily.

Self-portrait/personal narrative: a piece that is inspired by you and your life.

Final free choice assignment: You can develop your own project. Think about your successes (and failures) through the semester and develop a project that is a culmination of your experience. I can work with each of you to develop your ideas for this project.

Artist Statement: in order to create art that is truly your own it helps to be able to discuss your ideas in a coherent manner. To this end you will write a one page artist statement. This statement can be about one specific piece or about a whole body of work. Due at end of semester.

DEMONSTRATIONS AND LECTURES: Advanced students are welcome and encouraged to sit in on all demonstrations and lectures. I will also be presenting demonstrations specific for the advanced students as appropriate to your projects.

TECHNOLOGY EXPECTATIONS: I have set up a private Facebook group for this class. You will be required to photograph your projects and post them to this group in order to receive a grade for the

project. Most of you should be able to do this directly from a smartphone. If you do not have a smartphone, you will need to have access to a digital camera and a computer. I will post notifications and links of interest to this group but any required information will either be presented during class time or via email.

A google calendar has been set up for the class. This will be updated throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to check the calendar for important dates.

You will be receiving an email invitation for both the Facebook group and the google calendar.

All emails will be sent to your your official alaska.edu e-mail account.

SKETCHBOOK: You are required to keep a sketchbook for this class. This should contain idea development, drawings and technical info. Do not begin a project without working out ideas in your sketchbook first.

FINISHING/FIRING YOUR WORK: Firing and Glazing are an integral part of ceramics. The more control and understanding you have about the firing process, the more successful your work will be. As advanced students you will be responsible for firing all your own work including bisque and glaze firings.

of the semester we will discuss proper kiln firing techniques. My role is to guide and direct you through this process, not to fire your work for you.

If you have never fired a kiln before, don't worry; I will instruct you in the firing of the kilns and by the end of the semester you should have a basic understanding of how each kiln is fired. The gas and wood kilns are generally fired as a group.

CRITIQUES: We will have critiques at the start of class on Thursdays. You should present your best work from each assignment. Critiques are when I grade your work; they are the equivalent of an exam. ***Do not miss critiques.*** It is your responsibility to know when critiques are to be held. You should have your assignment finished and ready for critique at the start of class on critique days.

*** If you miss a critique your grade for that work will drop one full letter grade and it is your responsibility to contact me about evaluating your work. ***

GRADING:

Assignments will be graded during 5 individual or group critiques held every Monday. Each project will be graded on the following criteria: Production level and/or completion of assignment: technical skill: progress in skill: effort: creativity and sketchbook.

Your final grade for the class will be based on:

80% Work presented at critique

20% Class Participation.

A: (90-100%) An honor grade; indicates originality and independent work, a thorough mastery of the subject and the satisfactory completion of more work than is regularly required.

B: (80-89%) Indicates outstanding ability above the average level of performance.

C: (70-79%) Indicates an average level of performance and completion of all assignments.

D: (60-69%) Indicates work of below-average quality and performance

F: (59% and below) Indicates failure

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Ceramics is a community activity. Through mixing clay and glazes to firing kilns, you will rely on each other to complete your projects. This part of your final grade will be graded in relation to your fellow students. Each time you mix clay, glazes, load kilns, etc. you will earn 5 points. At the end of the semester those with the most participation points will receive an "A" in participation with everyone else being graded in relation to them. For example, if StudentA has 100 participation points for an "A" then StudentB with only 70 participation points would have earned a "C"

ATTENDANCE: This is a studio art course and there is a direct relationship between your

attendance and your success in this class. **Attendance is required.** I will be taking attendance at the start of each class. If you are late or leave early you will only get half credit for that class. If you have 3 unexcused absences your final grade for the course will drop one letter. Excused absences include only illness with a doctor's note or official university functions with a note. If you miss a significant number of classes, even if they are excused, you will find it difficult to pass this class. If you do miss class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. I will allow you to make up 2 absences by attending approved art related functions and writing a 1 page (200 word) response

TOOLS REQUIRED

- Tool packet from the bookstore
- Serrated rib (available at bookstore) or fork
- Variety of brushes
- Small bucket for water
- Large sponge to clean up
- Clear plastic to cover your work.
- Sketchbook
- You may need to purchase additional tools for some projects.
- You might want to have an apron, towel and ruler

MATERIALS: Your lab fee covers a reasonable amount of clay, glazes and firings for the semester. If you use an excessive amount of clay you may be asked to pay an additional fee.

Mixing Clay: Clay is only to be mixed during class time or with prior approval from instructor. You must fill out the mixing log posted by the mixer each time you mix clay.

**** You will be making clay as a class; no special clay bodies will be mixed in this class.**

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

- Clean up when you are finished. This means cleaning off the tables with a sponge, sweeping up the floor if necessary, and putting your work away on the shelf. Make sure to cover clay bin. Do not put clay down the sink. Do not leave your work on the tables.
- **Leave the studio cleaner than when you found it.**
- Everyone will be expected to help mix clay during the semester
- You are expected to work hard and show progress. To complete the projects you will need to work outside of class time. Expect to spend at least 8 additional hrs a week.
- You will have 24hr access to the studio. Use it.
- If at any time you do not understand an assignment, expectation or use of equipment, it is your responsibility to contact me. **Do not use any equipment that you have not instructed in the proper and safe use of by the instructor.**
- Absolutely no clay, glaze materials or equipment can be removed from the building.
- Only currently enrolled ceramics students have access to the ceramics studio. This means no kids, spouses or friends. Your friends and family can visit you outside of class time, but they cannot use any materials or equipment.
- No cell phones during class time.
- iPods: you must be able to hear me at all times during class time. You may listen to your iPod on work days as long as you can still hear if I make an announcement. No iPods during critiques or demonstrations. If I feel that it is becoming an impediment to the class I will require that you put them away,

On the final day of class all work must be removed from the studio and lockers cleaned out.

Work and tools left in the studio after this date will be thrown away.

ACADEMIC & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR COURSES OFFERED THROUGH THE UAF ART DEPARTMENT

This is a college level course and although UAF welcomes and celebrates students of a wide range of ages and life experiences, a certain level of intellectual, emotional, and behavioral maturity is expected of students who participate in this course. Please read through the following list of expectations. We encourage any student with questions to discuss the course with their instructor.

Imagery: Sexuality, nudity, violence, and war have been central themes in the visual arts for over 40,000 years. Artwork featuring these topics will most likely be included and discussed in this class.

Nude Models: Nude models are part of many drawing and painting classes. Students are expected to follow the departmental guidelines and exhibit the utmost respect for models at all times, failure to do so will result in permanent dismissal from the course.

Topics and subject matter: Artists frequently make work about difficult and challenging topics. Students often have strong feelings and opinions about the topics that come up in discussion. The classroom needs to be an emotionally safe environment to explore ideas and students are expected to debate and discuss these ideas in a thoughtful and respectful manner.

Ability to sustain attention: Many studio art courses meet for a significantly longer period of time than what students may be familiar with in high school. Students are expected to participate fully in the entire duration of the course session, to work on assignments outside of class time, and to independently manage course deadlines with minimal reminders from the instructor.

Critical thinking: Students are expected to think critically about their own artwork and examine their own practice as developing artists in the context of written reflections, individual critiques and group critiques. Students are expected to provide and receive constructive feedback as part of the course. Students are expected to think for themselves and not to simply recite answers they've gotten from a textbook. Students will need to examine their own observations and go beyond simple statements such as "I like it" or "I don't like it".

Time and work ethic: Most art assignments at the college level require a significant investment of time. Students are expected to work independently outside of class and to manage their time on extended projects.

Written and verbal communication: Students are expected to write and speak about their own artwork and the work of others.

Creative risk taking and experimentation: Students are expected to challenge their technical and intellectual abilities and to try new working methods and materials. Students are expected to identify areas of weakness in their artistic ability and seek opportunities to develop new skills to expand into those areas.

Responsibility for health and safety: Many of the studio areas work with tools or materials that have the potential to be dangerous. Students are expected to practice safe and responsible studio practices at all times to protect themselves and others from harm.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As described by UAF, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments without attribution. Collusion includes unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of any course requirement. Scholastic dishonesty is punishable by removal from the course and a grade of "F." For more information go to Student Code of Conduct. (<http://uaf.edu/usa/student-resources/conduct>)

DISABILITIES SERVICES: The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and ensures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. UAF is obligated to provide accommodation only to the known limitations of an otherwise qualified student who has a disability. Please identify yourself to UAF Disability Services by applying for accommodations. To be considered for UAF Disability Services accommodations, individuals must be enrolled for at least one credit as a UAF student. For more information contact Disability Services at uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu, 474-5655 or by TTY at 474-1827.

TITLE IX PROTECTION AND DISCLOSURE OPTIONS

University of Alaska Board of Regents have clearly stated in BOR Policy that discrimination, harassment and violence will not be tolerated on any campus of the University of Alaska. If you believe you are experiencing discrimination or any form of harassment including sexual harassment/misconduct/assault, you are encouraged to report that behavior. If you disclose sexual harassment or sexual violence to a faculty member or any university employee, they must notify the UAF Title IX Coordinator about the basic facts of the incident. Your choices for disclosure include:

1. 1) You may confidentially disclose and access confidential counseling by contacting the UAF Health & Counseling Center at 474-7043
2. 2) You may access support and file a Title IX report by contacting the UAF Title IX Coordinator at 474-7599
3. 3) You may file a criminal complaint by contacting the University Police Department at 474-7721

For more information about disclosure options for victims of sexual violence please see <http://www.uaf.edu/files/oeo/Victim-Disclosure-Options.pdf>

RESOURCE & ADVOCACY CENTER: The Resource and Advocacy Center at UAF provides advocacy and resources referral to students, staff and faculty survivors of power-based personal violence. The office is staff by a confidential Advocacy Services Coordinator and volunteers. The center provides a confidential resource on campus for survivors. The coordinator is a full time staff member of the [Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living](http://www.iacnvl.org/). <http://www.iacnvl.org/>

Location: Wood Center 130

Phone: 907.474.6360

Email: uafadvocate@iacnvl.org

Website: <https://uaf.edu/woodcenter/services/rac/>

The Resource and Advocacy Center and the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living provides confidential support to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence and can help with the following:

- Support through exploring options, safety planning, crisis intervention, providing referrals, accompaniment to appointments etc.
- Emergency shelter is available to survivors (and their children) who are in need to safe housing. Emergency transportation is also available.
- Assists with applications for housing, public assistance etc.
- The following support groups are available: [H.O.P.E.](#) (Hold on Pain Ends), a student led support group for survivors at UAF
- Title IX information and support, advocates are not mandated reporters to the Title IX office but can provide information about the Title IX and support survivors who want to go through the process.