

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Art 134-01, Advanced Ceramics, Fall 2017

Instructor:	Monica Van den Dool, Lecturer
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Email:	Monica.vandendool@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	MW 11-11:45
Class Days/Time:	MW 3-5:50
Classroom:	IS 124
Prerequisites:	Art 132, Art 133, or instructor consent
Department Office:	ART 116
Department Contact:	Website: www.sjsu.edu/art Email: art@sjsu.edu

MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, assignments, etc., as well as access to your grades, can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at <http://my.sjsu> to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Focus on personal stylistic development, individual critiques and portfolio preparation. Includes gallery and studio visits.

Through studio assignments, lectures, presentations, demonstrations and directed research and proposals, ART 134 is designed to increase the technical, critical, and conceptual skills necessary for developing an accomplished and individualized body of work in the field of ceramics. As advanced students, your work this semester will be in the form of self-directed independent study, based on your own (instructor approved) proposals. Detailed guidelines will be provided to help you develop intentional, clear, and thoughtful proposals that will evolve into meaningful artist statements by the end of the semester. To provide manageable structure, critiques for your independent study projects will align and mingle with the timeline for critiques in the concurrently taught section of 133 (Ceramic Sculpture). Constructive participation in critiques is mandatory, and essential for your progress in articulating the formal and conceptual intentions of your work. You will also be expected to be involved and participate in any new technical instruction and PowerPoint/lectures regularly scheduled for ART 133. These events are listed in the syllabus.

I expect all students to adopt a collaborative, engaged, and helpful attitude in the classroom. As advanced students, I also expect a higher standard of mentorship towards other students in ceramics and a greater sense of responsibility and ownership of all studio areas.

Students will be instructed in kiln-firing procedures (if necessary), and **will be expected to schedule and fire their own work**. This will require your advanced planning and collaboration. Basic studio maintenance and cooperative kiln loading/unloading is considered part of the class. Students might occasionally be required to visit on-campus galleries or attend relevant lectures. **3 units**.

Other Requirements: Ceramics is a medium that demands long hours and constant attention, so expect to spend **significant** additional time outside of class working on your projects (six hours per week is baseline). **Regular attendance is crucial to your success in this class.**

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO1 - conceptualize and complete a series of work demonstrating a synthesized approach to concept, material, process, and form

CLO2 - practice and refine relevant and appropriate fabrication techniques in ceramics

CLO3 - research, select, and apply appropriate surface treatments

CLO4 - safely use ceramics lab equipment and understand general lab policies

CLO5 - properly load and fire gas and/or electric kilns

CLO6 - apply a general knowledge of historical and contemporary ceramic art to class assignments

CLO7 - practice and develop critical skills (individual and group critiques, readings/written response, class discussions)

Recommended Reference Books for Purchase (all serious students in ceramics should own these!)

Craft and Art of Clay Peterson, Susan

Mold Making and Slip Casting Martin, Andrew

The Ceramic Glaze Handbook Burleson, Mark

Websites of Interest: cfileonline.org (you should subscribe to this!) For images- artaxis.org, accessceramics.org, ceramicsnow.org, ayumihorie.com (primarily her links page). For criticism, technical information, current events, exhibition opportunities- ceramicstoday.com, lindaarbuckle.com, ceramicartsdaily.org, juliagalloway.com (her field guide)

Recommended Reading: (available in the King library)

Periodicals: Ceramics Monthly, Ceramics: Art and Perception

Books:

Contemporary Ceramics Peterson, Susan

Hands in Clay Speight, Charlotte

History of American Ceramics Levin, Elaine

Postmodern Ceramics Del Vecchio, Mark

Contemporary Ceramic Techniques Conrad, John
The Potter's Dictionary Hamer, Frank

Tools and Materials:

Don't wear nice clothes to class (or bring an apron/work shirt), since you will be getting dirty. You'll need an assortment of tools (needle tool, trimming tools, ribs, fettling knife, small sponge, cutting wire, etc.) Normally sold as a kit, these items are available through the SJSU Ceramics Guild (easiest! \$15), some general art stores, or Clay Planet. (Clay Planet is a local supplier located in Santa Clara, clay-planet.com). A few additional tools (such as small inexpensive carving tools) would be very helpful, these can be found at Clay Planet or some general art supply stores. You will also need a spray bottle, a metal fork, and some paintbrushes of various sizes (watercolor brushes work best).

In addition, you will need to **immediately** provide a lock for your locker and plastic to wrap your wet work (dry cleaning plastic or lightweight garbage bags work well). Clay is available, as needed, through the Ceramics Guild for \$10 a bag, you will also have the opportunity to mix recycled clay this semester (at cost), or to mix your own clay bodies (you purchase materials at Clay Planet). Check with me if you're interested in bringing in any other type of clay, to ensure that it is compatible with our studio.

Estimated cost of class: \$70.

Hazardous Materials (Hazmat): Many materials used in this course require special handling. A Hazmat tutorial and training will be conducted by instructor/staff.

Course Requirements and Assignments (and percentage of grade)

Studio Assignments (totals 90% of final grade)

- 1. Glaze Tests (5%):** Create glaze test tiles in preparation for surfacing studio assignments. (CLO 3). **Due 10/2**
- 2. Project 1 (25%):** For your first project, you will propose and execute a body of work that pays explicit attention to the themes of concept, material, process, and form. (CLO 1-7) **Proposal Due: 8/28, Project Due: 10/11**
- 3. Project 2 (30%):** The second project will build upon your exploration of the first project. After analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of your first project, propose the next distinct but related body of work. Emphasis is on presentation and display. (CLO 1-7) **Proposal Due: 9/25, Project Due: 11/29**
- 4. Project 3 (30%):** This culminating project will gather the self-identified cumulative strengths of your previous efforts, resulting in one last distinct body of work. This proposal will identify the transitions that have been undertaken over the course of the semester. (CLO 1-7) **Proposal Due: 10/25, Project Due: 12/13**

General class participation (10%, ongoing): Hazmat quiz, overall improvement and growth during the semester, basic studio maintenance and etiquette, preparedness for assignments, the quantity and quality of your

effort during studio work time and outside of class, and your engaged and constructive participation in class critiques. Includes participation in all ceramics area studio cleanups. (CLO 1-7)

Grading Policy

I expect a high degree of commitment to this class. Your persistence, imagination, and level of involvement in solving visual problems determine the quality of your work. Be sure to challenge yourself within the parameters of each assignment. The criteria I use in assigning grades for studio assignments are the quality and complexity of the ideas being explored (including preparation, research, and preliminary sketches) and your success in executing these ideas (problem solving, craftsmanship, attention to detail, presentation).

All work must be finished and turned in according to described deadlines and instructions. **I will accept late assignments at any time until the end of the semester, but they will be downgraded by one full letter grade.** Assignments late due to medical/personal reasons may be exempt from penalty pending appropriate medical documentation and/or permission of instructor.

Access to your grades throughout the semester will be made available through the SJSU Canvas system. I will assign you a numerical grade for each of your projects in this class, as follows (a “C” and above constitutes a passing grade for the course):

97-100 = A+
 93-96 = A
 90-92 = A-
 87-89 = B+
 83-86 = B
 80-82 = B-
 77-79 = C+
 73-76 = C
 70-72 = C-
 67-69 = D+
 63-66 = D
 60-62 = D-
 59 and below = F

A= Excellent work
 B= Above average work
 C= Average work
 D= Below average work
 F= Unsatisfactory work

Classroom Protocol

You are required to come to class prepared and on time and expected to stay and work for the duration of the class. As a courtesy to all, use of cell phones or any other electronic media is generally prohibited during class meeting times. If you are ill or unable to attend more than one class, I expect you to contact me (e-mail preferable) as soon as possible. Do not schedule work time or other obligations during our class time.

Clean up begins 20 minutes before class ends. It is crucial that ALL areas that you have used must be cleaned before you leave the studio. For the safety of everyone sharing the studio, take care not to generate excessive

dust (no dry sanding) and do not use any toxic materials in the studio. All clean up of dry materials will be done with a **wet sponge**. As needed, we will do group cleanups during class time. An additional and mandatory department wide cleanup will take place on the last day of class. All finished work must be promptly removed from classroom after critiques/end of semester.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

Library Liaison

Elisabeth Thomas (elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu)

Website: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/collectiondevelopment/CDhumanities>

Art 134, Advanced Ceramics, Fall 2017, Course Schedule

(subject to change with fair notice by announcement/email)

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	W 8/23	Introduction to class, explain format for first proposal
2	M 8/28	SUBMIT 1ST PROPOSAL , begin wet work
2	W 8/30	Individual meetings to discuss 1 st proposal
3	M 9/4	Labor Day, no class
3	W 9/6	Wet work
4	M 9/11 T 9/12	Wet work Visiting Artist lecture: Lauren Gallaspy 5-6 in Art Building
4	W 9/13	Wet work
5	M 9/18	Wet work, PPT for 133 assignment/multiples, demonstration: kilns (studio rules and usage), make test tiles for glazes, Introduce format for 2nd proposal
5	W 9/20	Wet work
6	M 9/25	Load test tiles for bisque. Wet work. Demo: slip casting and press molding, working solid. Demo: glazes, SUBMIT 2ND PROPOSAL
6	W 9/27	Wet work. Glaze test tiles . Individual meetings to discuss 2 nd proposal
7	M 10/2	glaze tests due , class review of results.
7	W 10/4	Wet work
8	M 10/9	Wet work

8	W 10/11	CRITIQUE 1ST PROJECT
9	M 10/16	PPT for 133/ mixed media, wet work
9	W 10/18	Introduce format for 3rd proposal. Wet work
10	M 10/23	wet work
10	W 10/25	SUBMIT 3RD PROPOSAL
11	M 10/30	Individual meetings to discuss 3 rd proposal
11	W 11/1	wet work
12	M 11/6	Wet work
12	W 11/8	Wet work
13	M 11/13	Wet work
13	W 11/15	Wet work
14	M 11/20	Last class day for wet work
14	W 11/22	No class, Thanksgiving break (classroom open)
15	M 11/27	Wet work
15	W 11/29	CRITIQUE 2ND PROJECT
16	M 12/4	-glaze firings
16	W 12/6	-last glaze firings
17	M 12/11	-last class day, mandatory all studio cleanup
Final Exam*	Friday 12/13	Potluck and FINAL CRITIQUES 12:15-2:30