

San José State University
Department of Art and Art History
ART 46, Introduction to Ceramics, Section 06, Fall 2021

Instructor(s): Jackelin Solorio

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Office Hours: MW 12:00-1:00 (zoom) Days and time)

Class Days/Time: MW 9:00 Am-11:45 Am

Classroom: IS 165

Course Description

Studio work in ceramics; a survey of methods used by contemporary artists. Includes use of the potter's wheel, hand building techniques, clay preparation, glazing and firing for utilitarian and sculptural work. This course is designed for beginning students in ceramics. Through demonstrations, discussions, and lectures, you will be provided a general introduction to a wide range of ceramic techniques and concepts, including

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

Announcements and all 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 at <http://sjsu.in-structure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at <http://my.sjsu> to learn of any updates.

Technology is changing quickly and influencing the development of new models of teaching and learning. At the same time, these new technologies are playing an increasingly important role in society. The purpose of this policy is to provide continuity in the quality of education and transparency in the use of instructional modes and technological tools as we move forward to incorporate technology intensive, hybrid, and online instruction into the mainstream of instruction at SJSU.

The faculty has final responsibility for determining the pedagogies and instructional methods most appropriate for the courses and academic programs that the university offers. The review process for technology intensive, hybrid, and online courses and programs will follow the same criteria, guidelines, and processes as those used for the review of in-person courses and programs, thus taking into consideration

issues of curricular quality and infrastructure needs (e.g., reliability and sustainability of technology, student support services, assessment of student learning outcomes, faculty workload). Technology intensive, hybrid, and online courses and programs will be held to the same student learning outcomes, assessment requirements, and credit hour assignments as in-person courses and programs when reviewed by department, college, and university curriculum committees.

The maintenance and continued enhancement of an appropriate infrastructure to support technology intensive, hybrid, and online courses and programs are basic university responsibilities (not those of departments and colleges). All technology and infrastructure required to support high-quality course delivery, such as enhancement in areas of access to library resources and information technology, support for instructional design and development, faculty development, computer and network support, and student services is the responsibility of San José State University.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/firstname.lastname> and/or on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on [Spartan App Portal](#) (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](#).

Course Goals

Studio work in ceramics; a survey of methods used by contemporary artists. Includes use of the potter's wheel, hand building techniques, clay preparation, glazing and firing for utilitarian and sculptural work.

This course is designed for beginning students in ceramics. Through demonstrations, discussions, and lectures, you will be provided a general introduction to a wide range of ceramic techniques and concepts, including studio practice in various hand building techniques, introductory wheel throwing, low and high-fire surfaces and glazes, and firing procedures. Other relevant videos and "slide" presentations linked to assignments in Canvas will provide an overview of both historical and contemporary ceramics. Studio assignments will vary in length and involvement and will be followed by group critiques/peer feedback. Engaged participation in critiques/peer feedback is mandatory and essential for your progress. This semester, those critiques will take place through Canvas, with required peer feedback as a graded assignment. I expect all students to challenge themselves within the parameters of each assignment, as well as to adopt a collaborative, engaged, and helpful attitude in the classroom. There will be one quiz to test your knowledge of basic concepts and ceramics terminology. Basic studio maintenance and cooperative kiln loading/unloading is normally considered part of the class, participation in those activities this semester is TBD due to Coronavirus restrictions.

Other Requirements: Ceramics is a medium that demands sustained attention outside of "regular" class hours, so expect to spend significant additional time **outside of class** working on your projects (3 hours per week is baseline, this will vary from week to week). **Regular "attendance" is crucial to your success in this class.**

Course Learning Outcomes

CLO 1- 2 - Select and apply appropriate surface treatments (glazing)

CLO3 - Demonstrate an understanding of some physical characteristics of clay and the firing process

CLO4 - Safely use ceramics lab equipment and observe general lab policies

CLO5 - Apply a general knowledge of historical and contemporary ceramic art to class assignments (studio and written)

CLO6 - Practice and develop critical skills (critiques, class discussions)

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

1. Students are expected to acquire knowledge on treating clay this includes hand building and wheel throwing techniques.
2. Students will obtain knowledge on how to recognize stages of clay body's, while obtaining knowledge of the rich history of ancient ceramic techniques
3. Students will be able to name ceramic tools

Required 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, I recommend Kemper brand A22 wood modeling tool and K23 cleanup tool) would be helpful but are not necessary, these can be found at Clay Planet or some general art supply stores. You will also need a metal fork and some paintbrushes of various sizes (watercolor brushes work best). A spray bottle is very useful but optional.

In addition, if you plan on working from our studio this semester, you will need to **immediately provide a lock for your provided locker, and plastic to wrap your wet work** (dry cleaning plastic or lightweight garbage bags work well). Clay is available through the Ceramics Guild for \$10 a bag; most students will use two bags of clay in a semester, but you can start with one bag and purchase more as needed if you prefer. Check with me if you're interested in bringing in any other type of clay, to ensure that it is compatible with our studio. **So, unless you have outside supplies, most of you should bring in a total of \$25 to the day designated to purchase materials. Bring cash (EXACT CHANGE ONLY), or checks, made out to SJSU Ceramics Guild. (\$15 for tool kit, \$10 for one bag of clay).**

If you plan on working from home, I would still suggest purchasing materials through our studio on the designated day to purchase materials. If that's not feasible, purchase your clay directly through Clay Planet (info above). The clay we use in this class is called "Orion Stout", and you could also purchase their "Kemper Pottery Tool Kit". (You can also purchase similar tool kits on Amazon or most art supply stores, the 8 or 9-piece Kemper kit is best quality).

Estimated cost: \$60

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

Other Readings & **Websites of Interest:** cfileonline.org (you should subscribe to this!) For images- artaxis.org, accessceramics.org, ceramicsnow.org, ayumiehorie.com (primarily her links page). For criticism, technical information, current events, exhibition opportunities criticalceramics.org and criticalceramics.org/old site, ceramicstoday.com, lindaarbuckle.com, ceramicartsdaily.org,

Library Liaison

Gareth Scott

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Telephone : [\(408\) 808-2094](tel:(408)808-2094)

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 4th Floor Administration Offices

Course Assignments (and percentage of grade)

Studio assignments (totals 90% of grade):

- 1. Pinch bowl and name stamp (10%):** Using wet clay, students will create a pinch bowl while also creating a symbol for imprinting work to create a signature name stamp while getting familiar with the clay. The material will be Low fire underglaze and raku glaze surfaces. (CLO 1-6) Due **8/30**
- 2. Egg shape project (20%):** Using reference material, sculpt an egg /oval shape lantern or vessel, highly detailed. Introduction of various hand building techniques, learn to control form and texture, and to observe and model high levels of detail. High fire stain surfaces or underglaze. (CLO 1-6) Due **10/11**
- 3. Greek Vessel (20%):** Construct a Greek vessel using elements of design from Ancient Greek pottery using red and black design. using terra sig (CLO 1-6) 10/13
- 4. Bag project (20%):** Construct a hybrid bag created from elements of two to three bags using the slab method as well as coil and pinch construction methods. Emphasis on realistic, accurate sculpture of functional bags developed by original sketches and imagery. Low fire underglaze and glaze surfaces. (CLO 1-6) Due **11/8** .
- 5. Wheel Throwing (20%)** Students will explore wheel throwing processes, with a focus on cylinders/cups and bowls using a potter's wheel. High fire glazes. Due **12/1**

Due 11/08 quiz (5%): basic construction and materials used in the industry (CLO 3) Due **9/29**

Class participation (5%): overall improvement and growth, studio maintenance/kiln loading and unloading, preparedness for assignments, quantity and quality of your effort in studio, engaged and constructive participation in class critiques/peer feedback, responses to online surveys. (CLO 1-6) Due **12/6**

- **Class cleanup day 12/3**

Final Examination/Evaluation

Class Final ,Thursday December 9th at @ 7:15am -9:30am in room 165

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 described within each assignment, but generally include 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 until the **last instructional day of the semester, but they will be downgraded by one full letter grade.** The exception to this policy is “checks for work in progress”, attendance survey, and the quiz,

which will not receive any credit if submitted late. Assignments late due to medical/personal reasons may be exempt from penalty pending appropriate medical documentation and/or permission of instructor. **Please note:** Except in cases of documented emergencies, incomplete grades are not given in this course.

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):

Pinch: 10% Coil: 30% Slab: 30% Wheel work: 20% Quiz: 5% Participation: 5%

A plus = 100 to 97 points

A = 96 to 94 points

A minus = 93 to 90 points

B plus = 89 to 87 points

B = 86 to 84 points

B minus = 83 to 80 points

C plus = 79 to 77 points

C = 76 to 74 points

C minus = 73 to 70 points

D plus = 69 to 67 points

D = 66 to 64 points

D minus = 63 to 60 points

F = 59 points or lower

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

Classroom Protocol: As a courtesy to all, **use of cell phones or any other electronic media is generally prohibited** during class meeting times. You have considerable flexibility this semester on either working from home or in the studio, but when you are in the studio. I expect you to be prepared and focused on your work. No attendance will be taken this semester, you are free to come and go within your designated class times. Strict adherence to outlined safety protocols is absolutely required, if you fail to meet these requirements you will be asked to leave the studio and campus.

Coronavirus Course Adaptations

The university has allowed those areas within the Art Department that require specialized equipment and materials (in ceramics that means kilns, studio equipment, glazes, etc..) to offer limited in-class instruction to our students. In order to maintain this privilege and personal and community safety, it is crucial that all students on campus strictly observe all safety protocols. This semester, in order to provide maximum flexibility for students, you will also have the opportunity to do your studio work either partially or completely from home. All assignments, evaluative processes, and technical demonstrations will be posted on Canvas to facilitate this option, ensuring that all students will receive the same technical instruction. However, even those students who are working primarily from home will need to make arrangements to transport their work periodically back and forth from the studio (contactless drop-off and pickup will be available) in order to get work fired, glazed, and finished, as well as to pick up tools and/or materials. For those students working in the studio, I will be able to provide (socially distanced) help and advice with your work in progress. Students working entirely

from home should take advantage of my Zoom office hours for assistance with their work.

Coronavirus Safety Protocols:

To allow for appropriate social distancing at our current enrollment within the facility, **we will split the class alphabetically into two groups (A and B) who will be able to use the studios on alternate days** to receive in-person instruction and use the facilities. If you are picking up/dropping off work or materials to the classroom, you can come either/both days. **This policy is subject to change as conditions, university policy, and in-person attendance change throughout the semester.** There will be no access to the studio outside of these faculty supervised class times/days.

All students on campus must wear face masks that completely cover the nose and mouth. Students who are not compliant with PPE expectations will be asked to leave campus. You must maintain at least 6-foot distances from other students and the instructor at all times. Refrain from coming to campus if you feel sick or have a fever. If you test positive or think you have been exposed to the coronavirus, inform me ASAP and use this link to report

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SanJoseStateUniv&layout_id=15

Using the link to report will connect you to case managers who will offer support resources as well as engage in contact tracing to ensure our community is kept safe.

Students using the studio will be provided sponges for use in cleaning their workspace. Students will be provided hand sanitizer in the classroom and wipes to clean their own immediate areas and equipment. Indoor spaces will be maximally ventilated, opening all windows/outside doors when possible. Outdoor workspace in the ceramics courtyard will also be available, weather permitting. Equipment and tools may not be shared before being sanitized.

University Policies

ART 46, Number, Fall 2021

Per University Policy S16-9 ,relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on Syllabus Information web page (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Art: 46 section: 50309 Beginning Ceramics Fall 2021 M/W 9:00Am -11:45AM

Course Schedule

Week/Lesson/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
1	8/23	Syllabus/ Course introduction and tour of facility Materials introduction	

Week/Lesson/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
2	8/25	Feeling the clay (name stamp) & Pinch method bowl demo fees due \$25 with kit & clay	
3	8/30	Joining multiple parts demo (Oval project); review sketches; begin the first project	
4	9/1	Mid-process class review -introduce Cut outs on oval shapes	
5	9/6	Labor Day No class	
6	9/8	DUE: Oval forms carving (leather hard); Raku bowls; demo,	
7	9/13	DUE: Oval forms project due (bone dry) (low fire/ underglaze demo)	
8	9/15	Coil-building demo; Slip and terra sig Demo/Ancient Greece vessels RESEARCH video Raku; Terra Sig	
9	9/20	Oval Glaze day /work on coil	
10	9/22	Workday Greece Vessels	
11	9/27	demo sgraffito and Stencil /Work-day	
12	9/29	mid-process one-on-ones/ quiz	
13	10/4	Demo high fire/workday	
14	10/6	Underglaze/surface demo/ workday/Vessel due in green-where	
15	10/11	CRITIQUE: Egg Shape project	
16	10/13	DUE: Greek vessel ready for Bisque (beginning of class); intro; Slab demo/ Bag project	
17	10/18	Introduce Slab project	
18	10/20	Sketches due/ workday Bag project workday	
19	10/25	bag workday	
20	10/27	Bag/Work day	

Week/Lesson/Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
21	11/1	Bag/Work day	
22	11/3	Wheel demo: cylinders/cups/handle	
23	11/8	CRITIQUE: Vessels Dry out bags	
24	11/10	VISITING ARTIST: Joseph Battiato(subject to change). Wheel demo in class, bowls and cups	
25	11/15	Spray low-fire clear glaze on Vessels	
26	11/17	Wheel work day	
27	11/22	Work on cups/bowls crunch time	
28	11/24	Thanks Giving- No Class	
29	11/29	FINAL WET CLAY Day – ALL WORK UNCOVERED all work due	
30	12/1	Work day /final glaze day	
31	12/6	Class Clean up – part of participation point	
32	12/9	IS Thursday December 9 th at @ 7:15am -9:30am in room 165 Final examination	