

ART 19M Ceramics Low Fire (27650) 4 units

Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30-12:15

Class and Lab Room A-51

De Anza College Fall '24

Instructor: Gustavo Martinez

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Office Hours: MW 3:15-4:15, TTR 12:15-1:15 (open Lab)

Prerequisite: Art 18A

Course Description:

This course is a survey of earthenware as a ceramic material. Use of surface decoration, glazes and ceramic kiln firing. Students will build a working knowledge of ceramic processes as a means to communication and self-expression within the ceramic medium and creative process. Studio assignments will vary in length and involvement and will be followed by group critique. Engaged participation in critiques is mandatory and essential for your progress. Students are expected to challenge themselves within the parameters of each assignment, as well as to adopt a collaborative, engaged, and helpful attitude in the classroom. Basic studio maintenance and cooperative kiln loading/unloading is considered part of the class. At the end of the quarter, there will be one mandatory, in-person studio cleanup, final critique and potluck.

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)

Demonstrate competency in selecting low fire materials and incorporating them into ceramic work.

Identify low fired ceramic work from a variety of cultures.

Course Objectives:

Demonstrate knowledge of tools and techniques associated with the low temperature ceramic process.

Identify and describe earthenware used by a variety of cultures.

Adapt and use contemporary low fire materials and techniques.

Evaluate the nature and importance of earthenware today.

Develop a series of clay forms to test surfaces on.

This Course will be offered in person with face-to-face instruction:

This means all lectures, demonstrations and critiques will take place in person in the classroom. The studio on campus will be open for your use during our class time, and I will be in class to assist you.

There will be NO synchronous online instruction, zoom or use of Canvas. Email will be used to communicate course announcements and materials.

THERE IS NO REQUIRED TEXT FOR CLASS**Some useful reference books include:**

Watkins, James and Wandless, Paul. "Alternative Kilns and Firing Techniques," New York: Lark Books., 2006

Lazo, Eduardo, "Naked Raku and Related Bare Clay Techniques." Westerville: American Ceramic Society, 2012

Peters, Lynn. "Surface Decoration for Low-Fire Ceramics," New York: Lark Books, 2002

Periodicals: Ceramics Monthly, Ceramics: Art and Perception, Clay Times

Websites of Interest: Andy Ruble YouTube channel, cfileonline.org, artaxis.org, accessceramics.org, ceramicsnow.org, lindaarbuckle.com, ceramicartsdaily.org, ceramicartsnetwork.org, talesofaredclayrambler.com, ceramicsfieldguide.org

Criteria for Evaluation: A high degree of commitment to this class is expected. Persistence, imagination, and level of involvement in solving visual problems determine the quality of your work. Regular attendance is crucial to your success in this class. Grading criteria for studio assignments 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 and presentation). Highest grades will be reserved for work that goes beyond minimal compliance with an assignment and show superior creativity, insight, and craftsmanship.

Please note: Incomplete grades are not given in this course.

Grading system is as follows for this course:

A+ = 100-98% A = 97-94% A- = 93-90%
B+ = 89-87% B = 86-83% B- = 82-80%
C+ = 79-77% C = 76-73% D+ = 69-67%
D = 66-63% D- = 62-60% F = below 59%

Grade Descriptions

A - Excellent technical mastery, Demonstrates excellent aesthetic decisions and presentation. A complete and concise execution of the assignment. Exhibiting outstanding creativity: going above and beyond the performance standards. Meets all deadlines and requirements

B - Demonstrates above average aesthetic decisions, and presentation. A concise execution of the assignment. Exhibits above average creativity and performance standards. Meets all requirements and deadlines.

C - Average technical mastery. Satisfies the basic requirements of the assignment. Satisfies the requirements for creativity and performance standards. Meets all deadlines.

D - Meets below average requirements of the assignments. Incomplete and late projects.

F - Unable to meet the basic requirements.

Grading

CLASS PROJECTS (3) 60 Points

TOTAL 60 Points

**Mandatory FINAL (No Late Attendance) No show earns F grade
Monday DEC. 9th 9:30-11:30**

No Class or Open Lab on these dates:

November 11th Veterans Day

November 28th - Dec. 1st Thanksgiving

Tools:

You may borrow all tools from the studio. More tools can be purchased from Clay Planet

To bring:

Apron or Smock (Oversized shirt you don't mind getting dirty)

Sketchbook (minimum width 8")

Small spray bottle

\$10 Bucket fee

Clay

We are using earthenware terracotta clay. This quarter De Anza will be providing your first bag of terracotta clay for free. If you are prolific with your pottery making, you will be able to use recycled clay for free or purchase from De Anza. After your first clay bag from De Anza is \$20

Need help? Student Success Center peer tutors can relate and are ready to help! Go to the [SSC homepage](#) and click on the yellow links for on-campus schedules and Zoom links.

- Individual Weekly or Drop-in Tutoring: Come with assignments or questions, or just drop by to see how tutoring works.
- Workshops, group tutoring and group study: Most people learn better with others...give it a try!
- Support for online learning: Speak with a friendly peer tutor or SSC staff member about motivation and organization strategies for online classes. We get it and are going through the same things, so let's support each other!
- Need after-hours or weekend tutoring? See the [Online Tutoring](#) page for information about NetTutor (via Canvas) or Smarthinking(via MyPortal).

Classroom Etiquette

Respect yourself, other class members, visitors, and the space we share.

Please arrive on time and stay for the scheduled class period. If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so with as little disruption of the class as possible.

Come to class prepared, with any needed supplies and books, and with homework completed. I will do my best to notify you in advance of supplies you will need.

During class work time, please keep personal conversation to a minimum, and use a quiet voice. You may listen to music devices with earphones, but be prepared to remove them to communicate with the instructor or to resume class discussions.

Clean up after yourself. This includes the worktables, floor, and shared counters and sink. Each class may also have an assigned weekly cleanup task for the classroom.

Please turn cell phones off during class. If you must stay in contact with work or family, turn off the cell phone ringer. Use your phone outside the classroom during break or after class.

When anyone is addressing the class as a whole, please listen attentively. All in the room appreciate others not having personal conversations during lectures and discussions.

During critiques, please keep all comments respectful. Honest and constructive criticism, without voicing negative judgments, can be very useful to the artist.

It is not appropriate to bring children or pets to class.

Please consider that there are people with sensitivities to strong odors, such as fragrant colognes or oils. All would appreciate minimizing your use of strongly odorous substances.

No flip-flops, sandals, or open shoes, only close-toed shoes. There is loose glass in the studio.

No food or sugar drinks in the classroom.