



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Fall
Course Prefix: Art 3800

Year: 2025
Course and Section #:001

Course Title: Low-Fire Ceramics

Credits: 3

Course Description

Explores low-temperature clay and glazing techniques, as well as the practical and aesthetic considerations of their use. Addresses the operation and maintenance of electric kilns.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- ☐ General Education Requirements
- ☐ Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- ☐ Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- ☒ Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- ☐ Elective Core Requirements in Program
- ☐ Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Jensen, Brian

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Develop an understanding and appreciation of ceramic art.
 2. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic formation of clay bodies.
 3. Demonstrate skills in critical thinking and creative problem solving.
 4. Produce works that reflect knowledge of glazes and glaze types.
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Course Materials and Texts

Ceramic tool kit – available for purchase at the bookstore, craft stores...
Plastic bucket – 1 gallon or smaller – no glass or metal
Old towel
Protective clothing/ apron
Large sponge
Sketchbook/ Notebook
Clay

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

OBJECTIVES/ GRADING

- A) The first portion of each class will be devoted to lectures, announcements and demonstrations. All information included on the written test will come from lectures/ demonstrations given by the instructor. Note taking is highly suggested. The remainder of the class time will be for individual work time. **(Don't be tardy... you will miss the class instruction)**
- B) Attendance is the most important component of this course. **For every three absences, students will lose one letter grade.** (Excused absences will not be counted against a student's grade.) Roll will be taken during the first portion of class.
- C) Students should plan on at least two hours per week working/ practicing during open-lab hours.

Beginning Ceramics Presentation

Students will be expected to give a 5-10 minute presentation on a significant ceramic artist using some PowerPoint-type presentation software.

Please choose an artist that has substantial information published about their life and the work they produce(d). You may focus on biographical information about the artist, the techniques they used and/ or criticism of their ceramic work.

You are expected to include quality imagery of the artist and their work in your presentation. Make certain that the imagery you are presenting is quality, **accurate** and represents the artist you've chosen. (Don't trust a "Google" image search... do some research.)

The following ceramic artists would be good choices for your presentation:

Adelaide Robineau	Victor Spinski
Maria Martinez	John Glick
Shoji Hamada	Richard Shaw
Bernard Leach	Marilyn Levine
Charles Fergus Binns	Lucie Rie
Marguerite Wildenhain	Hans Coper
Peter Voulkos	Rudy Autio
Paul Soldner	Betty Woodman
John Mason	Ruth Duckworth
Ken Price	Jun Kaneko
Beatrice Wood	Warren MacKenzie
Stephen DeStaeblcr	Don Reitz
Ron Nagle	Robert Arneson
Ken Ferguson	Adrian Saxe
Richard Notkin	George Ohr
Frank Boyden	Tom Coleman
Val Cushing	Viola Frey
Chris Gustin	David Shaner
Robert Sperry	Toshiko Takaezu

If you want to choose an artist not found on this list, please get approval from your instructor. (Once you choose an artist, let your instructor know so we won't have redundancy in our presentations.)

Grading will be based on accuracy and professionalism of your presentation. Points will be deducted for misspelling, punctuation problems, inaccurate imagery and misinformation.

The presentations will be given the last two weeks of the course. (Not finals week.)

Grade Definitions

A plus and minus system is used in grading at UVU and I will do so as well. Below are verbal definitions of what a grade means.

A= Excellent 90% answers all course requirements and performs at a level which is visibly outstanding.

B= Above Average 80% answers all course requirements and performs at a level measurably above average.

C= Average 70% answers all course requirements and performs adequately in doing so. This is the standard of competence.

D= Below Average 60% answers all course requirements but performs at a level measurably below average.

F= Fail 50% does not answer all course requirements or does so inadequately.

Breakdown of Grades by %

95-100% = A

90-94% = A-

87-89% = B+

84-86% = B

80-83% = B-

77-79% = C+

74-76% = C

70-73% = C-

and so fourth

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

- 1 Introduction to Clay, Wedging, the Potter's Wheel and Throwing
 - 2 Centering and Cylinders
 - 3 Making Bowls
 - 4 Trimming
 - 5 Mugs and Glazing
 - 6 Trimming Mugs and Pulling Handles
 - 7 Making Bottles
 - 8 Trimming Bottles
 - 9 The Three Basic Lids
 - 10 Trimming Lids
 - 11 Finishing Wheel Work
 - 12 Hand-building Demo./ Coil Assignment
 - 13 Coil Assignment
 - 14 Glazing and Cleaning Assignment
 - 15 Written Test and Sign Up for Final
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Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

AI programs are not a replacement for your human creativity, originality, and critical thinking. Writing, thinking, and researching are crafts that you must develop over time to develop your own individual voice. At the same time, you should learn how to use AI and in what instances AI can be helpful to you. The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Gemini, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Brainstorming and refining your ideas;
- Fine tuning your research questions;
- Finding information on your topic;
- Drafting an outline to organize your thoughts; and
- Checking grammar and style.

If you can figure out how to use AI to sculpt your work for you I would be impressed. But it would defeat the purpose of taking the class.

Using Remote Testing Software

☒ This course does not use remote testing software.

☐ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.