

**Camosun College Visual Arts
Pottery 144 ~ Winter 2004**

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projects/timelines/evaluations

Course Outline

Pottery 144 will be a survey of the evolution of ceramics from historical works of 7th Century China to the functional and non-objective artwork of North America. With slides and video the class will study this evolution and how it applies to ceramics today.

This course will be divided into two periods of studio instruction. Each period will be followed by an evaluation: midterm and final. Grades will be assigned using the Camosun grading schedule. Midterm and the final evaluation will each be awarded 45% with 10% for attendance and participation.

Grading: student work will be evaluated based on technical skill and expertise in the execution of the work, the finish applied to the piece and the personal artistry and inventiveness that the student brings to the completed work.

Instruction: within the studio, students will be will be instructed in specific skills of construction and joinery as it applies to clay. Through this process, students will discover the importance of understanding the physics of clay during construction; the use of relevant hand and mechanical tools; adhesives; drying; firing and finishing.

Up to mid-term, the class will explore hand building as it applies to all aspects of building with clay. This will include slab work, coil building and sculpting. This portion of the class will also look at surface treatment with glazes as well as non-traditional forms of finishing works in clay.

Following mid-term, instruction will concentrate on the potters wheel: throwing, trimming, adding accessories to the pottery, combining hand building and thrown work and surface treatment. The same criteria used in evaluating hand building will be applied to the work done on the potters wheel.

In addition to the technique and artistry of ceramics, students will be instructed in the process of how to load and unload a kiln; how to recycle clay and how to prepare glazes for application.

You will learn how to work most of the stages involve in safely operating within a ceramics studio.

What you will need for this class:

- 1. A bucket with a lid**
- 2 A loop tool**
- 3. A wire cutting tool**
- 4. A pin tool**
- 5. A large sponge/a small sponge**
- 6. Coverall or apron/optional**
- 7. Hand towel**

PLEASE NOTE: Ceramics is a technically complex medium requiring patience and specific knowledge applied to the many stages and processes before works are complete.

Attendance: in stating the obvious, I am reminding you of a requirement for this course: you will need to be here to receive instruction during class time and attend the lab to develop your work. With this harmonious formula all will be well, you can only win.

**** Studio Hours:** during this semester, the studio is open until 9:00 p.m. weekdays and can be accessed on weekends. This is a situation you will likely never come upon ever in your life. Use it to your advantage. You will not be penalized for doing extra work.

Important Dates:

Mid-term group critique

February 20

-all students must make appt. for
Interview during this week

Last day for wet clay

March 12

Final interviews

TBA