

**School of Arts & Science**  
**Visual Arts**

**ART 240- POTTERY**  
**Fall 2008**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

---

**The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ \_\_\_\_\_**

---

---

**1. Instructor Information**

(a) Instructor: Tom Severson \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Office hours: 2:00pm - 4:00 Tuesday

(c) Location: Pottery Studio \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Phone: 370-3386 \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative: 370-3458 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (e) E-mail: severson@camosun.bc.ca

\_\_\_\_\_ (f) Website \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Integrate the varied means of surface development, mark making, construction and presentation into modern and contemporary ceramics.
2. Competence in the technical aspects of the processing of clay in the making of art.
3. Familiarity with the decorative use of ceramic glazes and colorants in the completion of works made in clay.
4. Understand the use of form making tools and equipment through exploration and the artistic development of functional and non-objective forms created with clay.
5. Explore ways to combine other media, mechanics and innovative processes to ceramic image making.

**3. Required Materials**

(a) Texts The complete potter, Steve Mattison

(b) Students must have complete ceramics tool kit available at the bookstore. Sketch book and notebook required.

#### **4. Course Content and Schedule**

Building upon the technical skills acquired from previous course work, students will integrate their artistic concepts into the clay medium. Projects will be less directive encouraging students to work independently using the instructor and technician for support and technical assistance. Individual meetings with students will assist in problem solving and interpretation of the artistic process previous to each critique.

Two group critiques will bring completed works to the classroom for consideration and contemplation. Students will be encouraged to consider works presented for form and content and the implication or impact of the presentation. Discussions of artistic and technical discovery will be a focal point.

A midterm and final evaluation will be held at midpoint and the end of the semester. Technical demonstrations, videos/slides and guest artist workshops will be presented throughout the year.

Readings from the text and student presentations will be scheduled throughout the semester.

Students will be present for each class on time. Because of the time sensitive nature of clay, lab time will be dispersed throughout the week.

#### **5. Basis of Student Assessment**

Grading of student work will be based on the degree and sincerity of involvement during the semester and the extent to which the student explores their artwork.

Student involvement is multi-faceted. Active participation in all classes, labs, workshops and critiques is vital to the personal growth and subsequent evaluation of works created.

- 1) Students will present ideas and concepts previous to execution. The questions and discoveries during development are of equal value to the realization of the original plan. The subsequent critique will describe your

artistic and technical discoveries and the impact or outcome in the making of your art.

- 2) Personal exploration into the technical aspects of fusing glass to ceramic. Innovation and inventiveness in the use of synthetic colours and organic materials combined with form and texture in the surface treatment of the ceramic construction.
- 3) Use of studio equipment and found resources with which to implement artistic outcome. Students will become familiar with the slab roller, extruders, airbrush, potters wheel as well as casting moulds. More important, the exploration of external resources and their incorporation into student work. This will include non-ceramic materials, photographic or computer image transfers, printmaking materials and so on.
- 4) Ceramics is a three-dimensional medium requiring technical know how and inventiveness to bring about skilful joinery in the execution and completion of artwork. Architectural, mechanical as well as ceramic knowledge will be required to see projects to completion.

Ninety percent (90%) of grade will be evaluated using the above criteria. Ten percent (10%) will be based on active attendance during class and lab time and critiques.

## 6. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

**7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course**

**LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS**

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

**ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY**

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

[www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html](http://www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html)