Course Number: ART 145

Course Title: Beginning Ceramics-Handbuilding

Credits: 3

Hours: 1 Lecture/4Studio

Co- or Pre-requisite: None

Implementation: Fall 2022

Catalog description:

Introduction to basic clay experience through clay handbuilding techniques: pinch, drape, press, slab, and coil. The technical aspects of color slips and glazing are introduced, and development of a personal appreciation of form is stressed.

General Education Category: Not GenEd

Course coordinator: Professor Michael Welliver, wellivem@mccc.edu

Required texts & Other materials:

- Library holdings
- Slide lectures and demonstrations during class sessions
- Project handouts, materials lists and grading rubrics
- Formal critiques and group discussions during class sessions
- Individual assistance from instructional staff and open studio time

A materials list will be assigned on the first class meeting.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate technical proficiency in handbuilding processes to produce a finished ceramic object. [Supports ILG #6,11 ; PLO #2 ]
2. Demonstrate technical proficiency in glazing and slip decorating techniques to produce a finished ceramic object. [Supports ILG#6,11 ; PLO #2,4 ]
3. Demonstrate an understanding the of materials, equipment and studio procedures. [Supports ILG #6,11 ; PLO #2 ]
4. Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills to successfully navigate from preparatory sketches/activities through completed ceramic objects. [Supports ILG #6,11 ; PLO #2 ]
5. Develop an understanding and utilization of standard vocabulary to verbally analyze completed ceramic objects clearly and effectively. [Supports ILG #1,6,11 ; PLO #1,2,3,4 ]
Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Program Learning Outcomes for Visual Arts (PLO)

1. Identify and explain the significant events in the history of art as well as contemporary practices;
2. Discuss and/or integrate different techniques and approaches to art making;
3. Analyze and evaluate artwork verbally and in writing;
4. Create a portfolio for education transfer, employment, or artistic venues.

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I Pinch Techniques [Supports Course SLO #1,3,4,5]

Learning Objectives
The student will be able to:

• Demonstrate an understanding of the properties of clay.
• Demonstrate an understanding of clay preparation and recycling processes.
• Demonstrate technical proficiency in the pinch forming technique.
• Demonstrate technical proficiency in combining and finishing pinched forms.
• Demonstrate technical proficiency in slip decorating techniques.
• Demonstrate an understanding of drying and firing procedures.
• Demonstrate an understanding and utilization of standard vocabulary to verbally analyze completed ceramic objects clearly and effectively.

Unit II Coil Technique [Supports Course SLOs # 1,3,4,5]

Learning Objectives
The student will be able to:

• Utilize organic abstraction as a basis for coiled object design.
• Demonstrate technical proficiency in the coil forming technique.
• Demonstrate technical proficiency in finishing and surface techniques.
• Demonstrate an understanding of drying and firing procedures.
• Demonstrate an understanding and utilization of standard vocabulary to verbally analyze completed ceramic objects clearly and effectively.

Unit III Glazing Techniques and Kiln Procedures [Supports Course SLOs # 1,2,3]

Learning Objectives
The student will be able to:

• Demonstrate technical proficiency in glazing techniques.
• Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between form and glazing strategies.
• Demonstrate an understanding of drying and firing procedures.
Unit IV  Slab Construction [Supports Course SLOs #1,2,3,4,5 ]

Learning Objectives
The student will be able to:

- Utilize template technique as a basis for slab constructed object.
- Demonstrate technical proficiency in slab construction techniques
- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between form and function
- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between form and glazing strategies
- Demonstrate an understanding of drying and firing procedures
- Demonstrate an understanding and utilization of standard vocabulary to verbally analyze completed ceramic objects clearly and effectively

Unit V  Combined Techniques [Supports Course SLOs #1,2,3,4,5 ]

Learning Objectives
The student will be able to:

- Demonstrate technical proficiency in combining two or more handbuilding techniques
- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between form and function
- Demonstrate an understanding of drying and firing procedures
- Demonstrate an understanding and utilization of standard vocabulary to verbally analyze completed ceramic objects clearly and effectively.

Evaluation of student learning:

- Successful completion of required projects: 70%
- Participation in classroom activities, critiques and discussions: 10%
- Attendance and professionalism: 10%
- Preparatory sketches/activities: 10%